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# COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT - OFYENEDA

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Organization for youth in environmental and educational affairs

## OFYENEDA

FEBRUARY 4, 2022

OFYENEDA

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## 1. Statement of Commitment

I am pleased to reaffirm OFYENEDA's commitment to advancing the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

We continue to engage various players with the aim of ensuring that they meet their respective responsibilities in compliance with the principles of the United Nations Global Compact.

OFYENEDA is committed to mobilizing both local and international businesses and organizations to implement various UN Global Compact Principles with strong emphasis on principles number 10.

Since inception we have been working with companies to not only address various societal problems but ensure that they exercise the highest levels of integrity and transparency and implement best practices in their everyday activities to address all forms of corruption. In our interactions with businesses, we strive to encourage them to not only adopt measures aimed at minimizing instances of corruption but also advance high levels of transparency. As one of the leading non-profit organizations championing education access and environmental conservation, we exploit our vast network of partners including businesses and organizations to promote the 10 Principles of UN Global Compact at various levels.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Kashem', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Kashem

## 2. Description of practical actions

Over the past two years, our activities have greatly been hampered by the Covid 19 pandemic. Our previous activities in support of the Global Compact have non the less continued though on a much smaller scale. Activities include: Education & Training, Corporate Partnerships, and Publications

- **Education & Training**

Since 2008, OFYENEDA has been providing its members and partners with training. Corporate sustainability training that is geared towards making businesses understand best practices in supply chain ethics and incorporate sustainability in the course of doing business has been a major concern for us. To date more than 700 businesses have adopted responsible business practices with regard to the 10 principles of the Global Compact.

As a result of the training, positive change has been witnessed in the areas of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy training done mainly in partnership with corporates and targeting vulnerable youth aged between 14-35 years has been adopted to ensure the establishment and success of SMEs as a way to address unemployment. Over the past four years, this program has been extended to include a course on implementing the 10th Principles.

- **Corporate Partnerships**

We work with a broad spectrum of businesses and organizations both locally and internationally to ensure collective action towards poverty eradication and actualization of the 10 principles. We encourage partnerships at various levels with strong emphasis on companies and small and medium Enterprises (SMEs) to implement the 10 Principles. Recognizing that SMEs often lack the resources to address various challenges, through these partnerships, we have provided more than 700 hundred SMEs with access to vital information which has helped to expose them to the 10 principles while providing them with business development training.

- **Publications**

We regularly publish books, journals and articles to provide members, partners and the general public with resources and guidance on corporate sustainability and compliance with the 10 principles. Through the publications, companies get to understand the value or benefits of sustainability for their businesses and many are driven to make a commitment to sustainability.

We also publish annual reports which further provide detailed analysis of every accomplishment we've had during the year including the number of new and old corporate partners. Also included is the collective as well as the average individual achievement of companies in terms of sustainability and compliance with the 10 principles.

### 3. Measurement of Outcomes

The activities we have undertaken in the last two years in support of the 10 Principles have not produced desired results. We largely attribute this to the Covid 19 pandemic effects. However close to 100 companies both locally and globally have adopted programs and policies that address corporate sustainability and have implemented the 10 Principles by working with OFYENEDA. We continue to establish partnerships and raise awareness through our regular channels to further scale up the impact. Through our training program, we have educated a broad spectrum of audience. Hundreds of businesses meet fundamental responsibilities with regard to the 10 Principles. Most of them are SMEs that have further contributed to the creation of a significant number of jobs for the Kenyan youth.