

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Lebanese American University



**Period covered by this Communication on Engagement** [Ideally the two years prior to this report]

From: [June 2020]

To: [June 2022]

### Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your organization's Chief Executive or equivalent.

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Lebanese American University (LAU) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. LAU as a partner of Global Compact since 2016 is sharing its recent Communication on Engagement report. We welcome feedback on its content.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours.

Best regards,

Michel E. Mawad, M.D.

President

Lebanese American University

Office: +961 1 786456 ext. 1112

## Part II. Description of Actions

Please use the box below to describe the actions your organization has taken in support of the Global Compact. It is strongly recommended that the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested. *Please refer to the complete list of suggested activities for your type of organization found [here](#).*

Examples of actions include:

1. Promoting the Global Compact and its principles through:

- Incorporate the Global Compact principles into internal operations and communicate progress following the COP requirements
- Delivering education on topics related to Global Compact
- Conducting applied research & thought leadership in relation to Global Compact
- Other actions to support the Global Compact and to engage with the initiative

### Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above.

Examples of measurement of outcomes include:

LAU operates on a local and international level in organizing Model United Nations conferences that spread principles of Global Compact: LAU organizes the Global Classrooms LAU Model UN Program (GC LAUMUN)- a program that has been ongoing for the past 18 years. The program brings the UN culture of global awareness and the implementation of peaceful means for conflict resolution Lebanese high schools, middle schools, and the community at large. It consists of training sessions that increase student knowledge of UN procedural rules as well as improve students' ability to research and write position papers and successfully engage in public speaking and role playing, conflict resolution and negotiations, caucusing and resolution writing, among other skills. By the end of the sessions, students become delegates who take part in UN Committee simulations. The simulations occur over a two-day conference where students play the role of ambassadors in UN Committees and discuss a variety of current topics.

On an international level, LAU, a partner of the UNA-USA, operating a model UN program of its own in Lebanon since 2005, took over the management of the Global Classrooms International (GCIMUN) conferences in New York in 2016. Two international conferences, one for middle school students and another for high school students, are held in spring in New York City since then with exception to Year 2021 and 2022 due to pandemic and travel restrictions.

For reporting purposes, in the last two years, LAU conferences engaged more than 4,000 high school and middle school students (with more than 500 school advisors) coming from all over Lebanon to simulate the role of ambassadors in UN Committees and discuss pressing world affairs. The program has been delivered and organized by more than 500 LAU Students who gave more than 300 hours of teaching peace building and diplomacy.

Through LAU Simulation models, high school students, middle school students, and LAU students conduct research and thought leadership in relation to UN topics, culture, rules including principles of the Global Compact. The students acquire education and awareness on topics related to current world affairs and Global Compact.

This year, LAU and the UN Global Compact Network Lebanon collaborated on the SDG Brain Lab Program (a program that took place over 7 months). LAU students took part in the program and have attended all 21 sessions including the 'training hub' and the 'data hub'. The program's main outcomes can be summarized as such: 281 university students impacted on different levels, 6 competing community projects, and 1 report to be published in July studying the "Behavioral change of the youth of Lebanon towards the SDGs amidst the multiple crises Lebanon has faced since 2019". In addition, 15 outstanding participants (out of 50 shortlisted participants) have demonstrated commitment throughout the 7-month journey and have been selected as Ambassadors for the academic year 2022-2023, out of which 4 LAU students were chosen.