

STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Interstate Corporation for Development remains committed to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-corruption.

For us, this commitment is a sine qua non for taking companies, including ours, beyond the minimum and towards a more substantial impact vis-a-vis society. This was my message to Sanda Ojiambo, the UN Global Compact Executive Director, when we met, in mid-November, at the B20 Summit in Bali. We were in agreement that, at a time when the world is facing unprecedented challenges due to the magnitude and the interconnected nature of multiple crisis, the corporate social responsibility is being put to a severe test.

The negative after-effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, increased pollution and climate-related disasters, rising global inflation and geopolitical turmoil – all these factors call for corporate sustainability to take center stage. In a nutshell, they re-confirm that markets must move beyond the short-termism and a narrow focus on profitability. In this light, the UN Global Compact Strategy 2021-2023 gives us more leverage in raising ambition and achieving stronger private sector accountability.

In terms of delivering the Sustainable Development Goals' promise we at the ICS value particularly the Global Compact's SME Engagement Strategy which – by design – seeks to enhance business opportunities via incentives and directives. In my capacity as the CEO of the ICD, I intend to contribute to SME peer-to-peer learning on operational best practices and capacity building.

Sadly, the last few months have been quite challenging for the Russian economy and the entrepreneurial community. An unprecedentedly wide range of external restrictions have affected key sectors: finance, energy, mining, engineering and transport. The corporate citizenship could not remain untouched.

While the economic damage factor can't be ignored, the Interstate Corporation for Development continue to proactively support initiatives undertaken by the UN Global Compact National Network in Russia. We are going to step up our contribution to its Action Plan 2022-2023 as updated recently. The UN Global Compact's emphasis on further empowering local networks bodes well for this Plan's objectives.

We also commit ourselves to share this standpoint with our stakeholders through the ICD's usual channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

IVAN POLYAKOV

CEO of the Interstate Corporation for Development