

20 June 2023

H.E. António Guterres Secretary-General United Nations New York, NY 10017 USA

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm that Christian Aid continues to support the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment, and anticorruption. With this letter regarding our Communication on Engagement (COE), we set out our progress towards supporting the Global Compact in advancing these principles.

We have engaged with the UN Global Compact principles in the following ways:

- Over the last two years, we have developed new, organization-wide Economic Justice and Climate Justice strategies that root all our advocacy and campaigning work on international human rights standards and frameworks in the pursuit of rights-based economies and climate action. See, for example, the report we developed with our partner the Center for Economic and Social Rights: <u>A Rights-Based Economy: Putting people and planet first — Center for Economic and Social Rights (cesr.org)</u>.
- Christian Aid supports the full implementation of our commitments to tackle modern slavery including implementing staff training, updating our policy framework, undertaking due diligence on suppliers and partners, and most recently working with Anti-Slavery International to appraise and develop our approach.
- In addition, we are expanding our research, policy and advocacy work on human rights due diligence of companies, including recent reports of companies mining in the Amazon (https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/our-work/profit-people-and-planet and Undermining resilience: climate change, rights and mining Christian Aid). We recently supported the development of the next report of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, extractives and the green transition with a submission. Building on these reports we are expanding our work on an accountable private sector and will publish a report on upholding human rights in the renewable energy sector with engagement planned in UN processes.

PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT
Telephone: 020 7620 4444
Email: info@christian-aid.org
caid.org.uk

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- We have campaigned as part of the Corporate Justice Coalition (CJC) for the UK Government to adopt mandatory human rights due diligence legislation. As part of our expanding work on an accountable private sector, we will work with more partners to campaign for better due diligence standards in the UK, EU and more widely.
- We have supported partners in their work to improve corporate tax transparency and practice.
- Christian Aid is addressing the impact of our operations on climate change. We
 have updated our Environmental Policy <u>christian-aid-environment-policy-</u>
 <u>february-2023.pdf (christianaid.org.uk)</u>, and have a new Carbon Reduction Plan
 <u>christian-aid-carbon-reduction-plan-2023.pdf (christianaid.org.uk)</u>.
- Christian Aid is an accredited Real Living Wage Employer. Christian Aid also continues to be an equal opportunities employer, and takes steps to address our gender pay gap. We have also prioritised improving diversity and inclusion more widely.
- We continue to campaign to businesses and investors to ensure they shift from funding fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy, and disclose their carbon emissions alongside many civil society partners.
- Christian Aid engages with the private sector with a view to aligning their business models with the Paris Agreement of 1.5 degrees of maximum global warming, the SDGs in terms of tackling various intersecting inequalities and working towards decent work.
- Christian Aid campaigns for greater business transparency and accountability on mandatory human rights protection, especially for minority groups. On labour rights, Christian Aid programmes have supported workers to claim their rights. For example, programme partners in Bangladesh have supported women garment workers to organise and claim better employment conditions, and women workers in El Salvador have been supported to hold employers accountable for proper payment of salaries.
- Christian Aid conducts and publishes briefings on the impact of business on human rights, sustainable development goals and climate change targets. We

support public accountability and transparency. We draw on mandatory reporting initiatives that are based on publicly available data on companies' impact on human rights as well as on climate change and environmental protection.

Sincerely yours,

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Patrick Watt Chief Executive Officer