

**COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT  
(COE)**

**HIGHER EDUCATION LOANS BOARD**



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

From: [21 February 2022] To: [21 February 2024]

**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.

19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that HELB reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its ten principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

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. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely

FCPA Charles Ringera

## 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.

The actions HELB has taken in supporting the Global Compact aspirations and principles include the following;

1. The HELB Board and CEO issue annual statements on sustainability, governance reporting, risks related to the business mode. This is done through the HELB annual financial reports.
2. The HELB strategic plan has commitments related to Global Compact topics such as human rights, labor rights, environment, and anti-corruption.
3. HELB has a code of conduct in place relating to the Global Compact topics.
4. HELB has established committees tasked with implementing the sustainability topics, these include the following; Sustainability, Disability Mainstreaming, Gender Mainstreaming, Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Corruption Prevention, Guidance & Counselling
5. The organization has risk management measures to address Global Compact topics, through departmental risk register and the Human Resources policy.
6. HELB has instituted processes through which the employees can raise concerns about the organization's conduct related to the Global Compact topics. These include disciplinary processes, CEO's roundtable staff engagements, departmental retreats, end year staff engagement forums, staff welfare committee, and stakeholders' consultative forums.
7. HELB institutes actions which produce sustainability reports aligned to the national ESG agenda e.g., the Government agenda on planting 15 billion trees by 2032.
8. To promote human rights, HELB has instituted and implemented the Workplace Gender Policy.
9. HELB has undertaken environmental conservation activities such as tree planting.

### **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.

HELB has achieved the following outcomes from the initiatives outlined in Part II above.

- HELB has planted a total of 12,627 trees within the reporting period. This has been planted in various high schools and individual staff homes to increase the survival rate of the trees.
- HELB has partnered with two organizations, i.e., Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) and Kenya National Qualification Authority (KNQA) in the tree planting initiatives.
- HELB has released four reports relating to sustainability, i.e., Implementation of Presidential Directive on Tree Growing, Status Report on the Implementation of the United Nations General Assembly 2023 Resolutions, HELB FY 2021/2022 Audited Financial Report & HELB Sustainability Report.
- HELB undertook one training by UN Global Compact on the UN Global Compact Principles and SDG Integration for the Sustainability Committee. This was done in February 2023.

