

30 April 2024

Ms. Sanda Ojiambo
Assistant Secretary-General
Chief Executive Officer
Executive Director
United Nations Global Compact
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Ojiambo,

The Permanent Observer Office of the International Chamber of Commerce to the United Nations hereby presents its compliments to the United Nations Global Compact.

As a board member of the United Nations Global Compact, I am pleased to confirm that the International Chamber of Commerce 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 yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.W.H. Denton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John W.H. Denton AO
Secretary-General
International Chamber of Commerce

Description of Actions and Outcomes from 2022 - 2024

As the only private sector entity with Permanent Observer status to the United Nations General Assembly, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is committed to the achievement of the [2030 Agenda](#) and the principles of the UN Global Compact. Our work is led by the ICC Headquarters in Paris in close coordination with our National Committees in more than 90 countries and more than 45 million members worldwide.

Human Rights

At leadership level, ICC's Secretary-General openly supports **Human Rights** through the [implementation of the United Nations Global Principles](#), including the need for tools, capacity building and ecosystems needed to allow businesses of all sizes to embed respect for human rights in their operations. ICC also briefs its members on the [United Nations Treaty Process on Business and Human Rights](#) and convenes a working group comprising of more than 75 organizations globally who work in partnership to prevent business-related human rights abuses. In 2023, ICC updated its [website](#) to include a dedicated resource guiding businesses on their role in protecting human rights.

Furthering ICC's aims to enable the economic integration of refugees, ICC continues to collaborate with key partners, including the World Bank, as a leading member of the [Private Sector for Refugees Coalition](#).

In an increasingly digital world, ICC's members recognize that privacy and responsible handling of personal data is also a [human right](#). The responsibilities of businesses and governments in protecting these rights are highlighted in ICC's [White Paper on Trusted Government Access to Personal Data Held by the Private Sector](#). ICC and our members will continue to monitor the potential human rights impacts of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence.

Labour

ICC continues to combat discrimination in all forms and is committed to providing equal opportunities and a non-discriminatory workforce for all. Within the organization, this has manifested with the creation and growth of three [employee resource groups](#): (i) World Business Women; (ii) World Business Pride; and (iii) ICC's Disability Taskforce. Together, these groups help to inform and advocate for staff members, allowing every ICC employee to bring their whole selves to work. In 2023, ICC scored 80 points out of 100 on the L'Index Égalité Professionnelle, a required survey for all employers in France.

Environment

As the focal point for business and industry non-governmental organizations' engagement in UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes, ICC is a leader in [mobilizing global stakeholders in support of ambitious climate action](#).

Since 2022, ICC has expanded the [Standards for Sustainable Trade and Sustainable Trade Finance](#) program. This project aims to align on a consistent definition of sustainable trade and trade finance, set out what specifically constitutes a sustainable trade transaction, and propose a framework and assessment methodology to qualify trade transactions for this purpose. The Wave 2 Framework released in 2023 explores the Standards' feasibility in new sectors, utilizes a more granular grading system and allows for easier automation.

The ICC guide on [Competition Policy and Environmental Sustainability](#) shows how competition law (and, even more, the fear of unnecessarily restrictive or unpredictable competition law enforcement) is standing in the way of cooperation between businesses in the fight against climate change and the promotion of other vital environmental sustainability objectives – particularly in the light of the EU (and other) green deals.

The [ICC Framework for Responsible Environmental Marketing Communications](#) also assists marketers in assuring that 'self-declared' environmental claims are truthful and not misleading and are appropriately substantiated and emphasizes that environmental marketing claims need to be appropriately qualified and substantiated to avoid misleading consumers. In 2023, ICC Academy released a [new course](#) based on the framework, enabling marketers to certify their understanding of the framework.

Anticorruption

ICC champions the fight against corruption through the dissemination of [practical guidance for businesses](#). In 2023, the [ICC Rules on Combatting](#) Corruption were revised to embrace the aim of “doing good while doing no harm.” [ICC Guidelines on Whistleblowing](#) provide practical guidance to help enterprises establish and implement a Whistleblowing Management System, by aiding them in evaluating whether to allow anonymous reporting, whether to accept reporting by third parties and/or the general public and other criteria.