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

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm that Trócaire supports the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

We pledge to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in the following way(s):

1. Develop guidance on implementing human rights due diligence in Ireland;
2. Promote the values of human rights, gender equality and indigenous rights in business activities;
3. Provide guidance and recommendations to ensure human rights are embedded in corporate practice, through research, briefing papers and advocacy.
4. Consider how the principles can be further applied within our supply chains, with particular regards to modern slavery and trafficking in persons.
5. Continue our commitment to creating equality of opportunity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination within the workplace.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to support the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with the Global Compact. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within two years of joining the Global Compact and *every two years* thereafter according to the Global Compact COE policy.

We are very concerned at the actions of irresponsible businesses that are resulting in the displacement of communities, violent evictions, pollution of land, destruction of livelihoods and loss of shelter, with a disproportionate impact on women and indigenous communities. Killings of land, environmental and indigenous defenders are increasing year on year and human rights defenders are increasingly being labelled as terrorists and criminals. The principles of the Global Compact stand in opposition to this corporate impunity.

Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland and a member of CIDSE and Caritas Internationalis. Trócaire's offices are located at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.  
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A fundamental shift in corporate accountability is needed to address the adverse impacts of corporations and this requires a multi-faceted approach. Trócaire believes that, alongside implementation of the Global Compact and its principles, it is necessary to: (1) develop a legally binding treaty on the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises; (2) to implement existing human rights obligations in relation to corporate activities, taking into account General Comment No. 24 (2017) on State obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the context of business activities and General Comment No. 16 on State obligations regarding the impact of the business sector on children's rights; and (3) to implement the UN Guiding Principles. Stronger regulation is needed internationally to provide a legal framework to ensure corporations do not violate human rights in their operations.

Sincerely yours,



Caoimhe de Barra  
CEO