



**Nicholas Read**

Group Chief Executive Officer

27 June 2019

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

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that Vodafone Group plc supports the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. With this communication, we express our intent to implement those principles. We are committed to making the UN Global Compact and its principles part of the strategy, culture and day-to-day operations of our company, and to engaging in collaborative projects which advance the broader development goals of the United Nations, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals. Vodafone will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

Vodafone's purpose is to connect for a better future, which is supported by our commitment to improve one billion lives through an inclusive digital society while halving our environmental impact by 2025. We believe we have an important role to play in helping to create a digital society. Digital services, like the ones we provide, are quickly becoming the new engines of growth in the global race for economic prosperity and sustainable development. As digitisation dramatically increases the rate of change and pace of innovation, it can however, also widen existing divides in our societies. In this fast-paced journey to an exciting digital age, our goal must therefore be to democratise digitisation, making technology truly accessible to everyone while being more mindful of its impact on our planet.

Our strategy continues to help drive impact against the SDGs, and specifically those that relate to quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, industry, innovation and infrastructure, and climate action. We provide more information on our contribution at [Vodafone.com/sdgs](https://www.vodafone.com/sdgs).

We recognise that a key requirement for participation in the UN Global Compact is the annual submission of a Communication on Progress (COP) that describes our company's efforts to implement the Ten Principles. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within one year of joining the UN Global Compact, and annually thereafter according to the UN Global Compact COP policy. This includes:

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- A statement signed by the chief executive expressing continued support for the UN Global Compact and renewing our ongoing commitment to the initiative and its principles. This is separate from our initial letter of commitment to join the UN Global Compact.
- A description of practical actions (i.e., disclosure of any relevant policies, procedures, activities) that the company has taken (or plans to undertake) to implement the UN Global Compact principles in each of the four issue areas (human rights, labour, environment, anti-corruption).
- A measurement of outcomes (i.e., the degree to which targets/performance indicators were met, or other qualitative or quantitative measurements of results).

As we look towards 2030, I look forward to Vodafone working more closely with the UN Global Compact and increasing our contribution towards meeting the SDGs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Read', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Nick Read**

c.c. Amina Mohammed, DSG UN  
Lise Kingo, Executive Director, UN Global Compact