



Multidisciplinary
Digital Publishing
Institute

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H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
USA

Basel, 4 October 2016

Letter of Commitment

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

MDPI is an open access, academic publisher, headquartered in Basel, Switzerland. Since its inception in 1996, MDPI has been deeply concerned with sustainability issues. As an academic publisher, MDPI encourages the transition of academic innovations to be implemented effectively into society. MDPI is the organizer of the *World Sustainability Forum*, an academic conference dedicated to discussions and exchanges around broad sustainability issues. Through the *MDPI Sustainability Foundation (MSF)*, MDPI aims to support and encourage the greatest innovators to solve some of the most pressing issues. In this regard, in January 2017, the *MSF* will award its first *World Sustainability Award* to monetarily support new initiatives.

As the CEO of MDPI, I am pleased to confirm that MDPI supports the ten principles of the Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. With this communication, I express our intent to advance those principles within our sphere of influence. We are committed to making the 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 Millennium Development Goals.

MDPI makes this commitment clear in statements to its stakeholders and the general public.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the 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 Global Compact, and *annually* thereafter according to the Global Compact COP policy. This includes:

- A statement signed by the chief executive expressing continued support for the 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 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 Global Compact principles in each of the four issue areas (human rights, labor, 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).

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Franck Vazquez, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
MDPI AG