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12 October, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm that the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC), a Member organization whose Members are the Chairs, Presidents and Chief Executives of the world's leading, private sector Travel & Tourism businesses, supports the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption.

WTTC was established 26 years ago to conduct research to show the value of the Travel & Tourism sector. The success of our sector, which supports 9.8% of global GDP and one in eleven jobs on the planet, is integral to achieving the UN SDGs. Ensuring, through research and partnerships, that the future growth of Travel & Tourism takes place in line with reducing GHG emissions, maintaining healthy destinations, creating peaceful societies and sustainable livelihoods is fundamental to our mission.

With this commitment, we express our intent to support the Global Compact advancing these principles, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

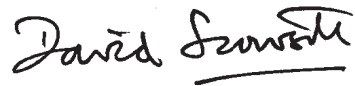
We also pledge to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in the following ways:

- Each year, our Member events showcase new thinking and discourse on sustainability within Travel & Tourism. Our Global Summit in Bangkok in April 2017 will go take one step further as an official event in the calendar of the UN International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. This will provide additional opportunity for Members and senior delegates to engage in issues relevant to corporate sustainability.
- Our flagship sustainability awards, the Tourism for Tomorrow Awards, have now been aligned to the UN SDGs. Communications for the 2017 Awards and the call to entries directly refer to the Goals (see: <https://vimeo.com/181010562>).
- In the years from 2017, we will be engaged in a new research programme and action for sustainability in tourism businesses under our wider Tourism for Tomorrow campaign. Our work will focus on the three critical issues of climate change, destination stewardship and building resilience.

- Through task forces among our Members and with help from the intergovernmental and academic communities, we will be looking to help Travel & Tourism businesses transition to a 2 degree world, incorporate the value of nature in their accounting procedures, and better preserve the places livelihoods of people that our sector relies on. Producing guidance and best practice examples will be among the outputs of these action areas. Each of these individual work streams for this Tourism for Tomorrow campaign aims to show how the sector is making a demonstrable contribution towards the SDGs (specifically Goals 6, 8, 14 and 15).

We recognise that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organisation'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.

Sincerely yours,



David Scowsill
President & CEO
World Travel & Tourism Council