



UK Network of the UN Global Compact

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan launched the Global Compact in 2000 to harness the power of collective action in the promotion of responsible corporate citizenship. The Compact provides a framework of 10 principles in four different categories within which companies are invited to manage their operations. (For further detail see: www.unglobalcompact.org)

In June 2003 a number of UK based signatories of the UN Global Compact met to explore the value and possible function of a UK Network as part of the Compact's programme of establishing local networks. It was decided to proceed and since then a developing programme of activity has evolved.

The purpose of the UK network of the UN Global Compact is to serve as a focal point of coordination and communication for its members and its key goals are:

- to provide the UK signatories of the UN Global Compact with a facility to consider and advance issues of mutual interest and concern.
- to provide a mechanism through which performance and reporting on UN Global Compact principles can be improved by mutual support.
- to enable participants to share and exchange practice and experience.
- to provide input to the UN Global Compact on its future development and activity.
- to promote the UN Global Compact principles throughout the UK business community.
- to help promote and support the UN Global Compact worldwide.

The UK Network is focused on practical actions to reinforce the impact of the UN Global Compact and currently consists of four working groups that meet regularly throughout the year. The four primary working groups are:

Communication on Progress
Review group

Communications

Small and medium enterprises

Network Liaison

Currently the UK Network has 33 corporate members and 5 observers, including NGOs, governmental institutions and trade unions.

Corporate Members

Achilles Group Ltd	Impact Development Training Group
Aijilon	Littlewoods
Anglo American	Maplecroft
Article 13	Pearson
Arup	Pentland Group plc
Aviva	Royal Bank of Scotland
BG Group	Reed Elsevier
Boc Group	Rio Tinto
BP	Rotork
Cadbury-Schweppes	Salterbaxter Design Ltd
De Beers	Scott Wilson
Diageo plc	Shell
Drum Cussac	Severn Trent
Echo Research	Standard Chartered
F&C Asset Management	The Consortium for Purchasing and Distribution Ltd
Forensic Pathways	The Flour Mill
HSBC	

Observers

Amnesty International
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Transparency International
Trade Union Congress
World Wildlife Fund

Global Compact 10 Principles

Human Rights

- Principle 1: Business should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;
- Principle 2: Make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

- Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- Principle 4: The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- Principle 5: The effective abolition of child labour; and
- Principle 6: The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

- Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- Principle 8: Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

- Principle 10: Business should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.

The secretariat is provided by the International Business Leaders Forum.
For more information please contact:
secretariat@ungc-uk.net or call **Caroline Ersmarker on 0207 467 3602**