



Global Compact Network Australia

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Dear Signatories, friends and colleagues of the UN Global Compact Australian Network (GCNA)

SIGNATORIES

I am delighted to announce the most recent Australian Signatories to the Global Compact: **GPC Electronics, Independent Inspections, Dean & Ling Pty Ltd, Banarra Pty Ltd, Friends of the United Nations (Australia) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia** and we warmly welcome them to the growing list of Australian Global Compact Participants.

MEMBERSHIP

We would also like to formally welcome **Transurban Group, Griffith University, La Trobe University and Banarra Pty Ltd** as our most recent members to the Network and thank them for their support. See the adopted [Membership Fees and Benefits](#) schedule for information on how to become a member of GCNA.

INCORPORATION

We are happy to announce that Global Compact Network Australia is now incorporated! We are now in the process of applying for an ABN from which to formalise our own invoicing systems. Meanwhile should you wish to be invoiced via St James Ethics Centre's system (interim measure) please contact me.

NETWORK'S HALF YEARLY REPORT

Click through to read the [GCNA Stakeholder Half Yearly Report \(June - Dec 2010\)](#), documenting an overview of the six months of the Global Compact Network Australia following the Inaugural Annual Meeting held on 4 June 2010 in Sydney.

This has been a period of significant activity for Network members and Signatories, invigorating leadership engagement and furthering momentum.

Highlights include:

- the establishment of an impressive membership fund (including pledged) which bodes well for the future, particularly given competing budgetary demands of the members.
- 130% increase in non-Signatories becoming engaged in GCNA activity in the six months from 1 July 2010 is 32.

We thank you for your support!

http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network_news



FOLLOW-UP:

GCNA HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP FOR BUSINESS

Our highly successful inaugural meeting of this important Working Group took place in Melbourne on 10 December 2010. [Read the media release here](#) and download the [draft U.N. Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights](#) covered in the workshop. http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network_news

The Sub Committee for the Working Group has now met to collate feedback from the event and begin to plan next steps which include:

- The next meeting of the Human Rights Working Group for Business will be in **April 2011, Sydney** with dates and topic based on the inaugural meeting outcomes forthcoming
- The subsequent quarterly meetings will follow in July, October and December.



We look forward to your further participation, and providing you with the next meeting's details shortly. *The Business and Human Rights Working Group Sub-Committee*

UPCOMING:

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY - presented by ACCSR: February 14th-15th – Melbourne (completed), February 17th-18th Sydney (underway), February 24th-25th – Perth (upcoming). Hosted by Westpac Banking Corporation, The Global Compact Network Australia will participate on a multi-stakeholder panel. This two-day program will cover key international frameworks: ISO 26000, OECD Guidelines, United Nations Global Compact and the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines, with international sustainability experts Paul Hohnen and Jonathon Hanks. [Read more here: http://www.accsr.com.au/html/bookworkshop.html](http://www.accsr.com.au/html/bookworkshop.html)

WA WELCOMES THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK AUSTRALIA – Feb 23, 6-8pm

This inaugural evening event hosted by Western Power and supported by ERM will include an overview of the Compact, its Australian activity to date including the launch of the Business and Human Rights Working Group, the business experience of the Compact (Rio Tinto and Westpac) and a discussion on the formation of a West Australian based community of practice. An important event. To download brochure and register [click here: http://thehub.ethics.org.au/event/details/id/81](http://thehub.ethics.org.au/event/details/id/81)

BUSINESS FORUM ON LEADERSHIP FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY – hosted by NAB, Melbourne, 1st March 2011

A Business Forum designed to accelerate the development of Leadership for Sustainability and to confront the particular challenge of climate change- bringing together the best thinking in business and academia and supported by Global Compact Network Australia. [Download Program](#) here. This unique event brings together high profile academics (GRII program), business leaders, public sector leaders and NGOs to address a pressing global issue. Organised by La Trobe University, Registration forms are available at http://www.latrobe.edu.au/sustainability/documents/Registration_form.pdf

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FROM THE REGION

16 local networks from the Asia-Pacific region (including the Secretariat from the Australian Network) met for two days in Indonesia last week to take stock of progress, exchange experiences and plan for the future. It was recognized as the most productive regional meeting so far, with a commitment to further strengthening communication and specific collaboration. I will be circulating a report to Australian participants outlining the breadth of regional activity shortly.

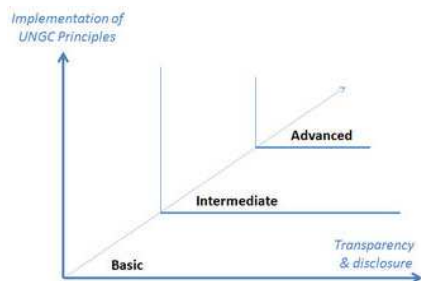
Discussing the plans for the future the networks agreed to gear up towards the Rio +20 conference (2012). This year's Annual Local Network Forum in Cairo (May) will be used for discussing the sustainability agenda in the context of Rio, the commitments and solutions that could be proposed at Rio as well as the practical strategies and steps to take in order to get there. This will also involve an important Australian Network contribution.



GLOBAL COMPACT CHINA CLUB

The Chinese Network of the Global Compact is interested in hearing from Australian MNE signatories and members with operations in China who may be interested in a multinational platform being set up: "Global Compact China Club". This aims to provide a high-end common ground for multinationals (who have subsidiaries in China) and Chinese enterprises to share knowledge of CSR practice in their businesses, eventually leading to collaborative social responsibility projects between members. The Chinese Network are currently working through the planning, and building up an initial member group. There is the possible option to become board members of the club and take part in its governance. This is an outstanding opportunity and if you would like to learn more, please contact me (Secretariat) ASAP.

DIFFERENTIATION FRAMEWORK



The Global Compact Office is poised to formally launch its [Global Compact Differentiation Framework](#) which seeks to give recognition to the contributions of companies of different sizes and experience and to facilitate better assessment of sustainability performance and disclosure. Three levels of reporting are now identified with tools and resources supplied

- Basic level – template
- Intermediate level – GRI framework encouraged
- Advanced level - Global Compact's Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership (leadership criteria)

It is hoped that the differentiated framework will address the numbers of companies recently delisted ([see article](#)) and the Australian Network looks forward to supporting its signatories in this transition to differentiation. [More: http://www.unglobalcompact.org/COP/differentiation.html](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/COP/differentiation.html)

LEAD PROGRAM LAUNCH

Chief executives joined UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (28 January, Davos) to launch Global Compact LEAD - a platform created to set a new benchmark for corporate sustainability on environment, social and governance issues. The executives represent a group of 54 companies, all participants of the Global Compact, that have made an ambitious commitment to implement the Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership, a comprehensive roadmap outlining roughly 50 concrete actions businesses can take to achieve greater sustainability. [More: http://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/97-01-28-2011](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/97-01-28-2011)

ROSEMARY SAINTY
HEAD | SECRETARIAT
UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK AUSTRALIA