



Global Compact Network  
Australia

# Stakeholders' Half-Yearly Report Secretariat

June – December 2010



## **Founding Members:**

Accenture Australia | Allens Arthur Robinson | Australia Post | KPMG Australia  
Nestle Australia | St James Ethics Centre | Westpac Banking Corporation



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## Introduction

The following report provides 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 already underway in the Network with the enactment of the resolutions adopted at the Inaugural Annual Meeting, including those relating to governance, membership fees and benefits.

For reference these documents include:

- Global Compact Network Australia Governance Guidelines and Structure - adopted, Inaugural Annual Meeting 4 June 2010
- UNGC Network Australia Membership Fees & Benefits - adopted, Inaugural Annual Meeting 4 June 2010
- Global Compact Network Australia – Information Brochure – formed part of the documentation for the Inaugural General Meeting.

The Network's vision and mission statements were also adopted at the Inaugural Annual Meeting and are quoted below:

### **Vision**

Australia's strongest corporate citizenship movement committed to the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

### **Mission**

To engage the UN Global Compact Signatories in Australia through local events and the fostering of a strong, supportive network of like-minded businesses.

### **Activity Summary**

In summary ten significant events have been held, each attracting significant numbers of potential and actual Signatories and members as well as fostering partnerships, creating media releases, mustering resources and forging momentum:

- June - Inaugural Annual Meeting GCNA with high level business panel (host: Accenture Australia)
- June - Pre-Summit Event (hosts: United Nations Association Australia (Queensland) and Griffith University)
- June - Australian Delegation to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNGC and Leaders Summit, New York
- September - Welcome Events in Melbourne and Sydney including guest speakers from the UN DPI (on the Millennium Development Goals) and the UN Principles for Responsible Investment Board (host: KPMG)
- September – Signatory Welcome and Earth Charter Festival (host: Griffith University)
- October - Global Thought Leader John Elkington – joint event with the GRI (host: Westpac Banking Corporation)
- November - Global Compact Leadership - Sir Mark Moody-Stuart - senior business leadership luncheon followed by an afternoon tea with Signatories (host: ANZ)
- December - Inaugural Business and Human Rights Working Group (host: Allens Arthur Robinson)

We look forward to the further flourishing of the GCNA during the next six months and beyond.

Rosemary Sainty  
Secretariat, Global Compact Network Australia  
7 January 2011



## Governance

Following the adoption of the Global Compact Network Australia Governance Guidelines and Structure document at the Inaugural Annual Meeting of the GCNA on 4 June 2010 the position holders were voted in by the Australian participants for the period 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011.

### Steering Committee

- The Steering Committee will work with the Network Contact Point / Secretariat to determine priorities, approve the activity plan and advise and support the Secretariat for the day to day management of the GCNA's programs.
- Members are elected at the Annual Meeting of the GCNA and is answerable to the membership through regular meetings.
- Appoints its office bearers – Chair, Deputy Chairs and Treasurer.
- Ensures the GCNA operates on a sound financial basis.
- Assists with the production of the Australian Annual Network Activities Report filing to the UN Global Compact Office and members of the GCNA.
- Considers issues where concerns have been raised as to improper use of the UN Global Compact logo.
- Chairing working groups or sub-committees of the Steering Committee which draw on the broader GCNA membership to address specific topics or issues.

Steering Committee members:

Catherine Hunter, KPMG Australia  
David Faulks, Generation Alliance (SME)  
Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Griffith University  
Greg Welsh, Sebel Furniture, (SME)  
Peter Kelly, Nestle Australia  
Graham Paterson, Westpac Banking Corporation  
Armineh Mardirossian, Woolworths Limited  
Rachel Nicholson, Allens Arthur Robinson  
Fiona Nicholls, Rio Tinto  
Andrew MacLeod, Committee for Melbourne (resigned December 2010).

### Observers

- In order to reflect the interests of society and to be inclusive of all stakeholders, two non-business Observers were appointed:

Observers:

Vanessa Zimmerman, Legal Advisor to Professor John Ruggie, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Business and Human Rights  
Caroline Bayliss, Deputy Director of Global Sustainability at RMIT.

### Australian Network Representative

- Officially nominated by the GCLN to act on behalf of the Local Network at the Annual Local Networks Forum and in the management of the Network logo.
- Typically a high-level representative (CEO, board member, Senior Vice-President) of a respected company within the Network.
- Together with the Network Contact Point / Secretariat will represent members of the GCNA at global and local events and meetings and attend the meetings of the Steering Committee.



## Global Compact Network Australia

### Australian Network Representative:

Matthew Tukaki, CEO, SansGov

(NB: On 22 September 2010 SansGov advised the UN Global Compact Executive Director (copied Secretariat GCNA) that it became part of the new entity The Sustain Group on 16 September 2010 and that it would continue in its current form for a period of six months).

### Network Contact Point / Secretariat

- Appointed by the Australian Signatories and members of the GCNA.
- Attends meetings and provides secretariat support to the GCNA and the Steering Committee.
- Consulting with and supported by the Steering Committee.
- Maintain the membership database and administration of membership fees.
- Keeping GCNA participants updated on matters discussed at Steering Committee meetings and within the global UNGC network more broadly.
- Preparing, with the assistance of the Steering Committee, an annual report on the activities and finances of the GCNA.
- Preparing and seeking approval from the GCNA for its annual budget.
- Holding the funds of the GCNA in accordance with audited fund-holding procedures and report on the receipt and expenditure of funds as required by the Steering Committee.
- Coordinating the maintenance of a website for the GCNA.
- Maintaining regular contact and exchange with the UNGC office and Regional Network and liaising with other appropriate organisations and networks.
- Briefing the Australian Network Representative in relation to local and global events and meetings at which the local representative will appear as representative of the GCNA.
- Providing informed input, materials and resources to enhance discussion, awareness and assist with capacity building on the UNGC principles including event coordination and delivery.

### Network Contact Point / Secretariat:

Rosemary Sainty, St James Ethics Centre

### Office Bearers

Office Bearers for the Steering Committee were elected at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting 23 September 2010 by secret ballot with the following results:

Chair: Graham Paterson, Westpac Banking Corporation

Deputy Chairs: Catherine Hunter, KPMG Australia and Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Griffith University

Treasurer: Greg Welsh, Sebel Furniture

Following the incorporation of the entity, the office bearer positions will be ratified at the first board meeting of the GCNA. Until that time they are known as position-elect.

### Sub-Committees

At the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting held on 22 November 2010 the following Sub-Committees were formed and nominations received:

#### Membership/Events and Communications

Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Griffith University

David Faulks, Generation Alliance

Vanessa Zimmerman, Legal Advisor to Professor John Ruggie, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Business and Human Rights

Peter Kelly, Nestle Australia



## Global Compact Network Australia

### Risk and Governance

Matthew Tukaki, SansGov

Rachel Nicholson, Allens Arthur Robinson

Andrew MacLeod, Community of Melbourne (resigned December 2010)

### Finance

Greg Welsh, Sebel Furniture

Matthew Tukaki, SansGov (as per post meeting request - 30 November 2010)

### Nominations (Board)

Andrew MacLeod, Community of Melbourne (resigned December 2010)

It was noted that the Chair of each Sub-Committee needs to be a Board member. Non-Board members might be invited to join Sub-Committees - especially where additional expertise is required.

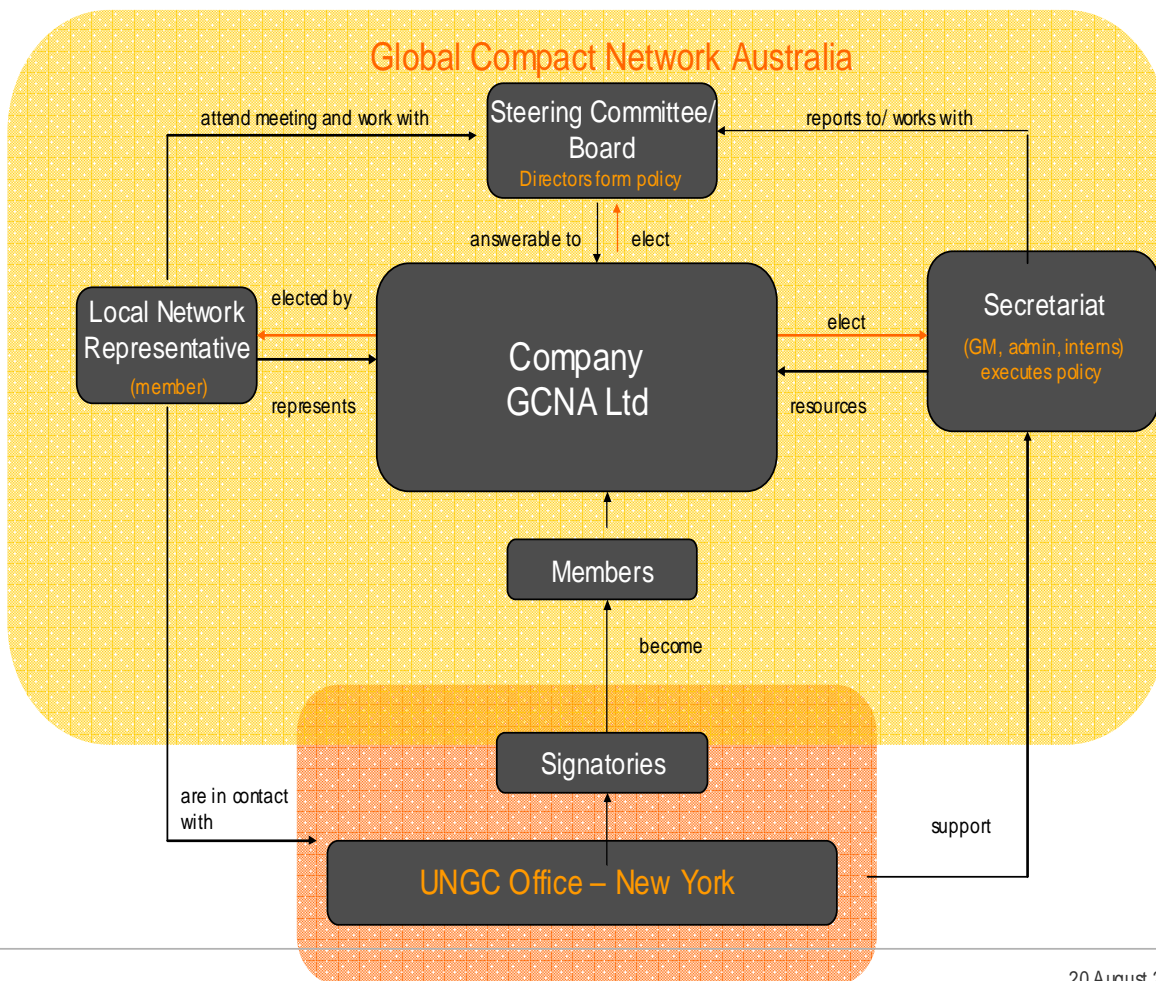
Following the incorporation of the entity, the Sub-Committees and the relevant members will be ratified at the first board meeting of the GCNA. Until that time they are known as position-elect.



## Transition to Incorporation

During the past six months the Steering Committee and Secretariat have met four times and have worked with the *pro bono* legal team from Allens Arthur Robinson to transition the GCNA to an incorporated entity; a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee - the model recommended by Allens Arthur Robinson. Table 1 provides an outline of the organisational structure.

### Governance Global Compact Network Australia



20 August 2010

**Table 1: Organisational Chart, Global Compact Network Australia**

In transitioning the GCNA to a company limited by guarantee Allens Arthur Robinson *pro bono* legal team has developed a Constitution in consultation with the GCNA Steering Committee, Australian Network Representative and Secretariat.

The Constitution aims to incorporate the documents adopted at the GCNA Inaugural Annual Meeting together with standard Australian corporate law requirements to enable the establishment of a robust legal entity. A Legal Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee was formed to review and recommend the work of the Allens Arthur Robinson's *pro bono* legal team.



## Membership

During the period 30 June – 31 December 2010 GCNA has established a impressive membership fund (including pledged) of \$139,000 which bodes well for the future, particularly given competing budgetary demands of the members.

At 31 December 2010 GCNA membership included six founding members, seven corporate members, five SME members and one Higher Education member.

### UNGC Australian Network Fees Structure

#### 1. Basic membership fee

Category	Fee
Corporate	\$5,000 plus GST
SME (21- 200 employees)	\$1,000 plus GST
SME (0 – 20 employees)	\$500 plus GST
Education	\$1,000 plus GST
NGO	\$500 plus GST

#### 2. Founding member fee

Category	Founding Member Fee
Corporate or other	\$15000 plus GST





## Global Compact Network Australia

### **Founding Members**

Founding members provided a significant proportion of the funding base. The rationale for the Founding Member category adopted at the Inaugural Annual Meeting included:

- as a supplement to the membership fee structure
- providing an immediate funding base from which to grow the Network activity, benefits and value proposition to attract Signatories to become members.

Benefits offered to Founding Members have included:

- usage of the title of Founding Member, UN Global Compact Network Australia in perpetuity
- the use of the member's name or logo on Network communications for first financial year of Network (1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011)
- Membership fee waived for first financial year.

As well as reinforcing the commitment of those who have already joined, the promotion of Network activity has been the primary device from which to draw in potential new Signatories to the UNGC and members for the GCNA in this first six month period.

Acknowledgement of the work done by the Australian Network Representative in this endeavour is noted.

For a summary of member benefits and activity undertaken thus far see Table 3 on page 12. The table lists the member benefits adopted at the Inaugural Annual Meeting in June 2010 and notes progress to date at the half-yearly mark. For full details on activities see the Network Activities section.

### **UN Global Compact Signatories – Growth by Numbers**

The first and necessary step in becoming a GCNA member is to become a UNGC Signatory:

- total number of Signatories to join the UN Global Compact in the six months from 1 July 2010 is 15 with 10 of these being new Australian Signatories and 5 being global Signatories becoming engaged in the GCNA. This represents a 16% increase in UNGC Signatories engaged in the GCNA
- total increase in non-Signatories engaged in GCNA activity in the six months from 1 July 2010 is 32. This represents a 130% increase.

The marked growth in interest in the Network (reflected in numbers of organisations attending Network events) represents a significant pipeline of potential members and will be important to map into targets within the business plan.



**TABLE 2: Membership Benefits and Activity Update, June - December 2010**

Type	Benefit	Activity Underway
<b>Communication and Resources</b>	Monthly / Quarterly e-news communication from the Network Contact Point / Secretariat on Australian initiatives coupled with any relevant information from the UNGC world stage	Monthly E-news - underway  Summary Briefings Australian Delegates to Leaders Summit, New York where 30+ new resources launched
	Information distribution to members only to enhance understanding / implementation of UNGC	Under consideration for next Business and Human Rights Working Group meeting
	Key local and international links including Australian Government and think tank information in addition to international links from the UNGC and its regional networks	Regional Network Activity eg. Indian Conclave Report
	Case studies and vignettes within membership area detailing the activities of the member companies	SME Case Study research underway (intern)  Case Studies on website underway
	Posting of and participation in research, facts and figures that might be of interest and use to members	Highlighting Accenture CEO Study at Welcome Events
<b>Member Only Events</b>	Held during the year for members only, including private roundtable events with visiting experts, cocktail functions at which influential leaders may speak on areas relevant to the UNGC. Combining networking with information sharing	Due to delay on incorporation member only events also open to Signatories:  i. John Elkington Event with GRI ii. Sir Mark Moody-Stuart Event
<b>Discount For Other Events</b>	Dual level pricing for events that are conducted for the Australian Network members and open to interested others	Likely in 2011 with Business and Human Rights Working Group
<b>Event Information</b>	A centralised location to list all activities that will take place over the year – a local calendar. To include regional and global UNGC activities to encompass member involvement	Underway via the HUB website, where directly related to UNGC
<b>Conference Discounts</b>	The Network Contact Point / Secretariat will negotiate early bird pricing / members pricing for conferences and seminars put on by other organisations or commercial conference promoters who are supporters of the Global Compact and its related initiatives	eg. Griffith APABIS events and the ACCSR in February 2011- Workshops (5% discount)



## Global Compact Network Australia

Working Groups / Peer Review and Mentoring	The opportunity for members to join Network working groups to share thinking, experiences and expertise from which to develop resources, mentoring and peer review activity on areas of the UNGC principles. Such thinking might be developed into white papers / commentary documents for media release.	Commencement of Human Rights Working Group for Business Considering offering similar group across all 4 areas of the Compact
<b>Templates</b>	Templates and simple standard precedent documents which can be accessed in the member area only - including use of UNGC logo to promote the cause and word template documents of the COP (operational / reporting emphasis)	UNGCO - Differentiation Framework - 2011 highlighted as news on HUB, in e-news and on website
<b>Acknowledgement Certificate</b>	Belonging to the UN Global Compact Network Australia brings another level of acknowledgement: a framed Certificate professionally produced will be presented to all Members of the Australian Network of the Global Compact	Awaiting Incorporation the formation of Membership Sub-Committee
<b>Strategic Linkages - Key UN Initiatives in Australia</b>	Including links to the Australian members / Secretariat to the Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRMEs)	PRI - Welcome Event Sydney UN DPI / NGO - Welcome Event Melbourne B4MD, UNAA Victoria & Queensland PRME / GRLI Forum in February 2011



## Network Activity

From the Inaugural Annual Meeting until the close of 2010 there has been a flourishing of Network activity as detailed in this section.

Working with a range of stakeholders the Secretariat was responsible for the development and oversight of event management of each of the GCNA events including run sheets, liaising with venue staff, engaging, briefing and managing guest speakers, to chair or MC each event and follow up communications and thank you notes.

Acknowledgement and thanks go to those organisations that hosted events and to the members of the relevant Sub-Committees of the Steering Committee, the Australian Network Representative and the Observers for their invaluable input.

### **1. Inaugural Annual Meeting of the UN Global Compact Network Australia 4 June 2010 Hosted by Accenture Australia, Sydney**

#### **Purpose:**

A gathering of some of the country's most senior business and government leaders, including Michael Luscombe (CEO Woolworths), David Atkin (CEO Cbus Superannuation), Jack Percy (Managing Director Accenture Australia) and Bob McMullan MP (Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance) was held. The discussion centred on the role of business and the investment community together with government in driving responsible business practice and sustainable development, locally and globally.

The following quotes are excerpts from the speakers:

As a global signatory to the United Nations Global Compact, Accenture recognizes the important role it plays in ensuring organizations adhere to the highest global standards in corporate citizenship. By becoming a founder of the Australian Network, we look forward to strengthening our relationship with the UN Global Compact, and give greater focus to local UN initiatives.

*Jack Percy, Managing Director Accenture Australia*

Woolworths is very proud to be an inaugural signatory to the UN Global Compact. Being a good corporate citizen should be intrinsic to any business aspiring to build a successful future.

*Michael Luscombe, CEO, Woolworths Limited*

Businesses have an important role in helping to progress the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries around the world. The Global Compact provides a framework for businesses to consider their impact on these communities. As we move closer to 2015 it is encouraging to see Australian companies signing the Compact and supporting global efforts towards poverty reduction.

*Bob McMullan MP, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance*

Investors ranging from mums and dads through to big institutions are demanding more and better transparency around environmental and social responsibility. Organisations like the UN Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI) and the UN Global Compact Network show that we're listening and are rising to the task.

*David Atkin, CEO of Cbus, and UN PRI Board member*

With the support of business leadership, the Network aims to become Australia's strongest corporate citizenship movement, engaging Compact Signatories through local events and the fostering of a strong, supportive network of like-minded businesses. Today's meeting aims to build momentum and establish the Network's formal structure from which to drive its growth and innovation.

*Rosemary Sainty, Secretariat UN Global Compact Network Australia*



## Global Compact Network Australia

### **Attendees included:**

Those who attended the event included representatives from:

Accenture; Allens Arthur Robinson; ANZ; Australia Post; Australian Banking Association; Commonwealth Bank of Australia; Cbus; Centre for Social Impact; CFMEU; Citigroup; Committee for Melbourne; CPA Australia; CSR Asia; Drake International; EPA Vic; Foster's Group; Foundation for Development Cooperation; Fuji Xerox Australia; Futureeye; Generation Alliance; GHD; Griffith University; Independent Chair; KPMG; Legal Adviser to the UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights; Lend Lease; mecu Limited; Microsoft; Pact Group; Parsons Brinckerhoff; Plan International; PricewaterhouseCoopers; Responsible Investment Association Australasia; Rio Tinto; Sainty Law; SansGov; Sebel Furniture; SMEC; Sodexo; St James Ethics Centre; Stockland; Sustainable Living Fabrics; Sustainapac / VIP Packaging; Transparency International Australia; UN Global Compact Cities Programme; University of Melbourne; Unilever; Westpac Banking Group and Woolworths Limited.

### **Outcomes:**

Media releases, newsletters circulated highlighting the profile of the new entity.

### **References:**

[http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/global\\_compact\\_network\\_australia](http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/global_compact_network_australia)

### **Inaugural Annual Meeting:**

Following the conclusion of the group discussion the Inaugural Annual Meeting of the Australian Network of the UNGC was convened.

## **2. Pre-Leaders Summit Event**

**8 June 2010**

**Hosted and organised by Griffith University Asia Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise and United Nations Association Australia (Queensland), Brisbane.**

### **Purpose:**

A highly successful pre-Summit Event was held in Brisbane, organised by Griffith University Asia Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise and United Nations Association Australia (Queensland) to generate interest and support in the upcoming Leaders Summit and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNGC in New York. Speakers included Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Director APCSE; Professor Sandra Waddock, Boston College; Rosemary Sainty, GCNA; Bill McCredie, Allens Arthur Robinson and Fiona Nicholls, Rio Tinto.

### **Attendees:**

Representatives from business, civil society joined University students and academics at this meeting.

### **Outcomes:**

The drawing in of Queensland-based interest in the Global Compact and a number of excellent resources from the evening made available including:

- *The UN Global Compact: Looking Forward Ten Years After* - Malcolm McIntosh and Sandra Waddock (editors) Essays on the last and the next ten years inspired by the UN Global Compact
- *A Global Conversation on The Emerging Sustainable Enterprise Economy* - Malcolm McIntosh and Sandra Waddock

### **Reference:**

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/business-commerce/sustainable-enterprise/resources/the-un-global-compact-looking-forward-ten-years-after>



### **3. Australian Delegation to the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**26 June 2010**

**United Nations, New York**

**Including:**

- **Delegation event hosted by the Australian UN Mission**
- **The VIII Annual Local Networks Forum**

#### **Purpose:**

Chaired by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2010 provided the platform for organisations to convene, collaborate and commit to *Building a New Era of Sustainability* - an era where environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues are deeply integrated into business based on both material and ethical rationales. At the Summit, leaders collectively tackled priority areas that are central to corporate leadership today and essential for the transformation to sustainable markets and the achievement of societal goals. With over 1,000 global leaders in attendance, this triennial Summit has been the most important UN business event ever held.

The Summit was divided into three parts

- I: Setting the Sustainability Agenda
- II: Leading the Change
- III: Achieving Development

and included plenary sessions, roundtable discussions and important side events.

#### **The VIII Annual Local Networks Forum:**

Took place on 23 June 2010 in conjunction with the Leaders Summit, attended by the Secretariat, GCNA and the Deputy Director of the UNGC Cities Programme. This included welcome news on the development of a basic CoP (Communication on Progress) template for small companies that will be automatically generated and submitted through a simple online template / questionnaire.

#### **Australian Delegation to the Australian Mission to the United Nations:**

A luncheon hosted by Australian Mission to the UN was held with a welcome to Australian Signatories and representatives. This provided an excellent opportunity for Australian delegates to meet each other at the beginning of the Summit and learn about the role of the Australian Mission. Topics addressed in the discussions included the Summit program in the context of Australian Signatories' concerns and how best to take the learnings from the Summit back to the Australian Network. Joining staff of the Australian Mission was Ursula Wynhoven Head, Policy & Legal, Special Assistant to the Executive Director, UN Global Compact Office.

#### **Australian Delegation included:**

Accenture Australia; Allens Arthur Robinson; BHP Billiton; BPW International 2008-2010; CPA Australia; Futureeye; GHD Pty Ltd; Global Compact Cities Programme; Global Compact Local Network Australia; Griffith University; La Trobe University; St James Ethics Centre; Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd and Westpac Banking Corporation.

#### **Summit Attendees:**

An historic gathering of approximately 1,500 leaders from business, civil society, labour, the investment community and academe, as well as government and the United Nations, which reflected the composition and regional distribution of the various stakeholder groups within the UN Global Compact.

Criteria for corporate participation: top executive of every company participating in the Global Compact or alternatively C-suite officers or board members. VIPs included Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General; Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York; Mary Robinson, former head of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and now President of Realising Rights: The Ethical Globalisation Initiative; Professor John Ruggie, the UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights; Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Special



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Advisor to the Secretary General and Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University; Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, former Chair of Shell and now Chair of the Foundation for the Global Compact.

### Outcomes:

There were many outstanding highlights including a series of declarations and announcements (New York Declaration, the Ministerial Statement, GRI and UN Global Compact Agreement, Accenture CEO Study) together with valuable resources and tools (including the Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership, the UN Global Compact Management Model and the Principles for Social Investment). Video podcasts and Summit highlights can be found on the Summit website.

For the Australian Delegation - the opportunity to Network with each other, feedback learnings from the Summit at the upcoming Network Welcome events in Melbourne and Sydney together with the individual contributions in the GCNA Summary Briefing: Australian Delegates - UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2010.

### References:

Australian Delegates Summary Briefing:

<http://thehub.ethics.org.au/uploads/files/Leaders%20Summit%202010%20-%20REPORT%20from%20Australian%20Delegates.pdf>

Summit Website: <http://www.leaderssummit2010.org/>

## **4. and 5. Welcome Events to Signatories of the UN Global Compact Network Australia Global Citizenship Blueprint: Local Action 1 September 2010 – Melbourne 13 September 2010 – Sydney Hosted by KPMG Australia**

### Purpose:

- welcome Signatories and acknowledge new Network members, build momentum, engagement, networking
- feedback on New York Leaders Summit: Global Citizenship Blueprint for Corporate Sustainable Leadership
- update on Network structure, activity, call to action on Business and Human Rights Working Group
- support of the UN NGO / DPI 63<sup>rd</sup> Conference and drawing ties with the MDGs - Melbourne
- support of the UN PRI (and Responsible Investment Association Conference) - Sydney.

More than 60 attendees participated in each of these successful events. The program included a welcome and a networking opportunity for Signatories with evening drinks, Australian Delegates' feedback highlights from the New York Leaders Summit, update from the Steering Committee and an invitation to participate in working groups.

The Melbourne Event was timed to coincide with the 63<sup>rd</sup> UN DPI / NGO Conference - Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDGs - with Rev Tim Costello and high profile delegate Eric Falt, Director of the UN DPI emphasising the importance of partnerships between business, civil society and the UN in order to achieve real progress in the Millennium Development Goals.

The Sydney Event was timed to coincide with the concurrent Responsible Investment Association Australasia 7<sup>th</sup> International Responsible Investment Conference with Glen Saunders, Board Member and Treasurer of the UN Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI) introducing the concepts of universal ownership, the materiality of externalities as well as the virtuous circle of interconnected responsible business practices and long-term investment decision-making.



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Speakers included: Australian Network Representative, Matthew Tukaki, CEO, SansGov; Caroline Bayliss, Director, Global Sustainability, RMIT; Peter Kelly, Director, Corporate & External Relations, Nestle Australia; Bill Jones, CEO, Sustainable Living Fabrics; Alex Malley, CEO, CPA Australia; Michael Rose, Chief Executive Partner, Allens Arthur Robinson and Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Director, Asia Pacific Centre Sustainable Enterprise, Griffith University.

### **Attendees:**

Representatives from the following entities attended the event in Melbourne:

ACCSR; Allens Arthur Robinson; ANZ; ARTDO International; Australia Post; BPW International; Business for Millennium Development; Committee for Melbourne; CPA Australia; Department of Public Information United Nations; Drake International; Fair Trade Association ANZ; Hassell; Innovative Partnerships; Intrepid Travel; KPMG Australia; La Trobe University; Landell Consulting; Life Giving Force; ME Bank; mecu Limited; Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd; Pacific Hydro; Plan International Australia; Rio Tinto; RMIT University; SansGov; SMEC Holdings Pty Ltd; Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd; Transparency International Australia; Transurban; UN Association of Australia (Victoria); Legal Adviser to the UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights; United Nations Committee on the Status of Women and World Vision Australia.

Representatives from the following entities attended the event in Sydney:

Allens Arthur Robinson; Asia-Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise; Griffith University; Barangaroo Delivery Authority; Business and Professional Women; Citi Australia; Clestra; Coal Services Australia; Commonwealth Bank of Australia; Connection Research; Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu; Drake International; Ernst & Young; University of Sydney; Foster's Group Ltd; Fuji Xerox Australia Pty Limited; Futureeye; Generation Alliance; Global Compact Network Australia; Global Reporting Initiative; IBM; Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia; KPMG Australia; Lend Lease Corporation; Manidis Roberts; Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd; Nacco Materials; Nestlé Australia; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Ltd; One Stone Advisers; PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia; Principles of Responsible Investment; Rockdale City Council; Sainty Law; SansGov; Sebel Furniture; St James Ethics Centre; STW Group Ltd; Sustainable Event Alliance; Swan Services Pty Ltd (Primary); The Centre for Social Impact; Transparency International Australia; UBS AG; UGL Ltd and Westpac Banking Corporation.

### **Outcomes:**

First events were held specifically to recognise the UNGC Signatories and acknowledge GCNA members. Follow up communications: Media release, podcast and photos – circulated and posted on HUB and GCNA news sites. Connections with related UN initiatives established and strengthened eg. UN DPI, PRI established.

### **Reference:**

See newsletter October 2010- [http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network\\_news](http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network_news)

## **6. Australia-Pacific Earth Charter (+10) Festival**

**17 September 2010**

**Hosted and organised by the Asia Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise (APCSE) at Griffith Business School in partnership with the Earth Charter team at UN Association (Queensland), Brisbane**

### **Purpose:**

This event formed part of the business stream of the Earth Charter Festival - *Harvesting the Benefits: Business Action on the Earth Charter* and included a Queensland welcome from Global Compact Network Australia. The event was chaired by Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Director of APCSE. Mirian Vilela, Executive Director of the Earth Charter International Secretary spoke at the event.





## Global Compact Network Australia

### **Attendees:**

Representatives from business, civil society joined University students and academics at this meeting.

### **Outcomes:**

Building on the invigoration of GCNA Network in Queensland and support of the Earth Charter anniversary (signing of an MoU with UNGC).

## **7. In Conversation with John Elkington 14 October 2010 Hosted by Westpac Banking Corporation, Sydney**

### **Purpose:**

- special opportunity for UNGC / GCNA Signatories and Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Organisational Stakeholders to hear from a global leader in sustainability, John Elkington. This gathering marked the first joint GRI / GCNA event following the signing of the GRI / UNGC MoU.
- opportunity to hear the very latest thinking on the 'transparent economy' paradigm and the integrated reporting agenda
- opportunity to engage in the conversation and networking.

Elkington was once described by *Business Week* as 'a dean of the corporate responsibility movement for three decades'. The conversation at this event focussed on future trends and themes emerging globally in corporate sustainability. He reiterated that the world is now in a 'critical decade for change' where new economic and business models need to be invented and a process of creative disruption encouraged.

According to Elkington, key trends and themes include notions of a 'transparent economy' and movement towards an 'integrated reporting agenda'- the integration of financial and non-financial (environmental and social) strategies, communicated through real-time downloadable reporting.

### **Attendees:**

Invitations were extended to the Business Leaders Reporting Forum, in addition to the UNGC / GCNA Signatories, colleagues and friends as well as GRI Organisational Stakeholders. More than 70 people attended the event – the organisations represented included:

Accenture Australia; Allens Arthur Robinson; ANZ; Australand; Australian Research Institute for Environment and Sustainability (ARIES); Australian School of Business; Banarra Sustainability Assurance and Advice; Barangaroo Delivery Authority; Blake Dawson; CB Richard Ellis Pty Ltd; Chartered Secretaries Australia Ltd; Citi Investment Research; Commonwealth Bank of Australia; CPA Australia; CSR Sydney; Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Do Something; EcoSTEPS; Ernst & Young; Fuji Xerox Australia Pty Limited; Global Compact Network Australia; Global Supply Chain Group / Empoweris; GRI; Insurance Australia Group; Macquarie Securities (Australia) Limited; Manidis Roberts; Mirvac; Momentum International Partnership; Nestlé Australia; Net Balance; Origin Energy; PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia; Regnan - Governance Research & Engagement; SansGov; Sebel Furniture; St James Ethics Centre; Stockland; The GPT Group; The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia; The Middle Way Pty Ltd; Transparency International; UBS AG; UGL Ltd; Wesfarmers and Westpac Banking Corporation.

### **Outcomes:**

- follow up emails, joint media release with UN Global Compact Office, GRI Secretariat and GCNA, podcast and photos – circulated and posted on HUB and GCNA news sites
- connections were made with new global Signatories and interested non-Signatories.
- opportunity to connect member's senior leadership with thought leader and GCNA activity.

**References:** Including podcast: [http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network\\_news](http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network_news)



## Global Compact Network Australia

### **8. Business Leadership Luncheon with Sir Mark Moody-Stuart**

**Chair of the UN Global Compact Foundation, Vice Chair Board, UN Global Compact**

**8 November 2010**

**Hosted by ANZ, Melbourne**

#### **Purpose:**

- engage and support senior leadership / board level Signatories of the UN Global Compact (UNGC), and provide networking opportunity
- connect with UNGC Leadership
- discussion about ways to support the Australian Network and Signatories
- opportunity to hear up to date priorities coming from the UNGC, discussion about challenges and opportunities.

#### **Attendees:**

Accenture Australia; ANZ; BHP Billiton; GHD Pty Ltd; mecu Limited ; ME Bank; Pacific Hydro; Rio Tinto; The Shell Company of Australia Limited; Transurban and Westpac Banking Corporation.

#### **Outcomes:**

Senior level engagement affording greater levels of connections between Signatories, GCNA and the leadership of the UNGC itself with consideration being given to becoming a GCNA member (eg GHD).

### **9. Afternoon Tea for Members, Signatories and Friends of GCNA / UNGC with Sir Mark Moody-Stuart**

**8 November 2010**

**Hosted by ANZ, Melbourne**

#### **Purpose:**

- support and engage Melbourne-based members with GCNA and Signatories to the UNGC – providing the opportunity to hear directly from the leadership of the Global Compact - Sir Mark Moody-Stuart
- learn about current considerations and priorities for the UNGC (particularly since Australia can feel a bit far from the action)
- update on GCNA - especially a call to action for the Business and Human Rights Working Group
- provide a networking opportunity for Signatories – “mix with others working in this space, and to remember that much is being achieved” (participant comment).

#### **Attendees:**

Approximately 70 attended, including an ANZ contingent. The organisations represented included: Accenture Australia; ACCSR; Allens Arthur Robinson; ANZ; ARTDO; Australian Council for International Development; BHP Billiton; BPW International; Compliance Solutions; CPA Australia; GHD Pty Ltd; Global Compact Network Australia; Hassell; Kingdom Diamond Group Pty Ltd; La Trobe University; ME Bank; mecu Limited; National Australia Bank; Pacific Hydro; Plan International Australia; PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia; Regnan - Governance Research & Engagement, RMIT University; SingTel Optus Pty Limited; SMEC Holdings Pty Ltd; STW Group Ltd; Telstra; Transparency International Australia; Transurban; UN Global Compact; UNGC Cities Program and Westpac Banking Corporation.



## Global Compact Network Australia

### Outcomes:

- media release written and distributed, story published by Pro Bono Australia
- follow up emails: media release and photos
- further interest from potential members
- building momentum and interest in the Business and Human Rights Working Group.

### Reference:

Media release: [http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network\\_news](http://thehub.ethics.org.au/ungc/network_news)

## 10. Commencement of The Business And Human Rights Working Group

10 December 2010.

Hosted by Allens Arthur Robinson, Melbourne

Organised by the Sub-Committee on Human Rights

### Purpose:

- to pilot the Network's first Working Group and facilitate shared learning under Chatham House rule amongst Australian businesses on human rights challenges and opportunities by providing practical guidance through expert facilitators and concrete tools, as well as a forum for best practice sharing
- to enable the Working Group to answer questions on the policies and processes that businesses should put in place to help them meet the human rights principles, how these overlap with the three other thematic areas of the Compact (especially labour) and how recent international and domestic developments fit
- to promote an integrated approach invitations were sent to Members, Signatories and colleagues of Global Compact Network Australia – who were encouraged to consider an integrated approach within their organisation. Thus businesses were encouraged to send participants from the range of departments that may deal with human rights impacts, including sustainability, legal, risk, government and external affairs, human resources and of course the board
- in the future as the GCNA grows, attendance may become a membership benefit with a charge for non-members, thus driving the value proposition for becoming a GCNA member.

Rio Tinto as a leading global resources company is pleased to be a member of the GCNA Human Rights Working Group for Business. As a founding signatory of the UNGC, and a participant in the GCNA's inaugural steering committee, Rio Tinto is committed to respecting and supporting human rights consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to actively seeking to ensure that we are not complicit in human rights abuses committed by others. In order to meet these commitments, human rights considerations are embedded in our code of conduct The Way We Work and in our policy and guidance documents.

*David Peever, Managing Director, Rio Tinto Australia*

I congratulate the Global Compact Network Australia on the establishment of its Human Rights Working Group for Business and wish the group the utmost success. Shared learning, whether it entails the exchange of challenges or best practices, is immensely important in this area. Companies working to know and show that they are respecting human rights can benefit significantly from engaging with other companies facing the same dilemmas, with the hope that they come together as leaders to raise standards of behavior.

*Professor John Ruggie*

*Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Business and Human Rights*



## Global Compact Network Australia

Local Networks, such as the Global Compact Network Australia (GCNA), are absolutely key for the successful implementation of the UN Global Compact's principles, including its human rights principles, within their respective countries. Corporate sustainability leadership is increasingly driven not only from the top down, but also from the bottom up. Learning, dialogue, collective action and partnerships are important approaches to making progress on business and human rights. Local networks are an excellent forum to advance such approaches. We look forward to following the progress of the GCNA's Human Rights Working Group for Business and encourage the Network to share its experience with other Local Networks across the globe.

*Georg Kell, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Office*

Growing numbers of Australian companies are recognising that doing business in a way that demonstrates respect for human rights is not only the correct thing to do, it makes good business sense. Paying respect to human rights can protect against reputational damage and reduce costs associated with labour disputes, security issues and stakeholder damage control. The Australian Human Rights Commission looks forward to working in partnership with GCNA and the working group to advance business understanding of, and respect for, human rights.

*Catherine Branson, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission*

The wide-ranging representation from across the Australian business community was outstanding. We look forward to 2011 when the Business and Human Rights Working Group will aim to further grow the capacity and momentum amongst Australian business to address human rights issues.

*Rosemary Sainty, Secretariat, GCNA*

### **Contributors included:**

*Welcome:*

Craig Phillips, Partner Litigation; Practice Leader, Allens Arthur Robison Corporate Responsibility Group; Co-chair, International Bar Association Corporate Social Responsibility Committee.

*Panel members:*

NGO: World Vision Australia - Rev Tim Costello, CEO,

Government: Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet - Paul Ronalds, First Assistant Secretary, Office of Work and Family

Business: Rio Tinto - Jane Gronow, Principal Advisor Community Relations

Investor - CBus: Louise Davidson, ESG Investment Manager

*Chair:*

Rosemary Sainty, Secretariat, Global Compact Network Australia

*Facilitators:*

Vanessa Zimmerman, Legal Advisor to Professor John Ruggie, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Business and Human Rights

Rachel Nicolson, Senior Associate, Allens Arthur Robison

*Speakers:*

Armineh Mardirossian, Group Manager, Corporate Responsibility, Community & Sustainability, Woolworths Limited

Greg Welsh, CEO, Sebel Furniture

### **Attendees:**

Representatives from major companies from the following industries: extractives, manufacturing, financial services, retail, legal, engineering, service providers, SMEs, travel and tourism, telecommunications.

(Company names not listed - Chatham House Rule).

### **Outcomes:**

- Australian Human Rights Commission collaboration, offers of support from attendees and further interest from participants in becoming signatory / member of GCNA
- Media coverage including - *Australian Financial Review, Pro Bono Australia News, Australian Human Rights Commission Newsletter*



## Global Compact Network Australia

- International recognition and support from Georg Kell, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Office and Professor John Ruggie, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Business and Human Rights.

### **Acknowledgment:**

The Business and Human Rights Working Group was organised by a Sub-Committee on Human Rights comprising Vanessa Zimmerman, Armineh Mardrossian, Professor Malcolm McIntosh, Rachel Nicolson and Rosemary Sainty.

In her role as Legal Advisor to Professor John Ruggie, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, Vanessa Zimmerman brought considerable expertise and time to this project.



## Interns and Volunteers

The Secretariat has commenced an intern and volunteer program, with the dual function to assist with the workload and provide students with the opportunity to learn about the UNGC together with career development.

**Christiane Meyer** – a Masters in Professional Ethics (UNSW) intern who assisted the Secretariat with administrative support, in particular in the lead up to the Inaugural Annual Meeting and in the development of resources to assist in the planning of the Business and Human Rights Working Group.

**Franzi Kleen** – a volunteer from Germany who attended the GCNA office on Fridays during the period from September – December 2010 and provided assistance with administration (eg. minute taking of Steering Committee meetings) and design, producing PowerPoint slides and communications templates. Franzi has also developed a website analysis and proposal document to share with the web developer.

**Bill Calcutt** – a Masters in Human Rights (UNSW) student with considerable working background who will complete his University internship under supervision, by supporting the Human Rights Working Group project. Bill attended the Melbourne event and produced follow up documentation and resources. In return Bill had the opportunity to learn firsthand the challenges and opportunities faced by business regarding human rights issues.

**Nicholas Tyrall (USYD)** – returned as a GCNA intern with a scholarship provided by the Business and Professional Ethics Society at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Sydney. Nick attended the GCNA office for two days a week over one month and undertook work to resource SME Signatories with web-based resources as well as approaching Signatories to share their own reports and case studies, to be made available on the GCNA website.

### **Ann Storr – Volunteer.**

Ann has continued to provide invaluable administrative support to the GCNA.

ROSEMARY SAINTY

SECRETARIAT | UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK AUSTRALIA

7 January 2011