

## Caring for Climate: Steering Committee Conference Call

16 October 2012, 9:00 am to 10:30 am (EDT: New York)

### Summary Report

**Present:** Bryan Jacobs (Coca-Cola); Susanne Stormer, Anne Gadegaard (Novo Nordisk); Rochelle Chetty (Eskom), Matthias Keitel (Sekem); Johnathon, Hannah (LG Electronics); Arunavo Mukerjee (Tata); Alex Roeder (CEMEX); Seraphine Haeussling (UNEP); Daniele Violetti, Anu Pekkonen (UNFCCC); Lila Karbassi, Jayoung Park, Ryan Morgan, Heidi Huusko (UN Global Compact).

#### Agenda Items

##### 1. Item 1: Recent Developments and Review of C4C Priorities

###### *Recent Developments*

The Global Compact Office shared recent progress and achievements of Caring for Climate including the joint commitment statement on reporting endorsed by 25 companies, top 25 performers of the initiative and the work of C4C signatories who attended and contributed towards the success of the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum. Key publications included the reporting guidance document, 2012 Caring for Climate Progress Report, Business and Climate Change Adaptation Case Study Report and the launch of the new C4C web portal comprising tools, guidance materials and information related to the initiative.

###### *C4C Priorities*

The Global Compact Office shared preliminary results of the feedback and comments received from SC members on the Strategy Document, which will help shape the initiative's 2013-2015 workplan and programme of activities. Based on the 7 companies that provided feedback, five areas were identified as priority topics: adaptation, sustainable energy, technology & innovation, cross-cutting issues, and public policy. In terms of the activity category, SC members identified action commitment, global and local dialogues, supply chain activities, guidance materials/tools, and award/leadership recognition. New suggestions included engaging media and social media, focused stakeholder engagement on collective action projects and sustainable development goals.

Specific comments on the workstream and topical priorities included:

- a. Consider collective action projects at the global and local levels building on the work of the initiative and its large reach of signatories from different sectors and regions;
- b. Address the issue of price on carbon through dialogue and public policy efforts in context of COP meetings e.g. collaborate on the Prince of Wales communiqué
- c. Consider separating sustainable land-use from sustainable energy as a priority topic.

###### *Action*

As a result of this discussion, it was recommended that SC members form sub-working groups to lead efforts on specific areas of work. A follow-up call will be scheduled with SC members to brainstorm and review how Caring for Climate can engage in high-impact collective action, identify success criteria among other business-led collective action projects, and review existing efforts such as on-going commitments to the Sustainable Energy for All as a starting point for collective action. *The Global Compact Office will schedule a call with interested SC*

members.

## **2. Item 2: The COP 18 Proposal for Doha**

The Global Compact, UNEP and the UNFCCC will convene a high-level meeting at COP18 in Doha on 5 December 2012 to provide a channel for companies to interface with the UNFCCC process covering key topics including technology transfer, climate adaptation and climate finance including the Green Climate Fund. The main objectives of the event are to:

- a. bringing a group of committed companies together thereby inspiring government action and influencing what happens at the negotiation level
- b. encouraging governments to move forward on their positions,
- c. getting companies to advance their practices by sharing and engaging with peers

The UNFCCC noted a number of events that the secretariat is hosting under the umbrella of Momentum for Change with a number of side events still to be confirmed most likely after the pre-COP ministerial event in Korea. It was noted that there appears to be minimal private sector participation in Doha this year.

The UNFCCC also noted that plans are underway to expand and build a closer link between business and government, at future COP meetings from 2013 onwards.

Steering Committee companies attending COP 18 include: Coca Cola , Eskom and Tata.

## **Item 3: Renewal of the C4C Steering Committee**

All Steering Committee members were thanked for their support, contributions and direction over the last 2 years. Their input has served to legitimise the actions of C4C and ensures that work and outputs are based on the needs of business which in turn results in active participation by companies.

As per the Caring for Climate Constitution, Steering committee members are required to serve a two year term with the current term is ending at the end of 2012. It was therefore recommended that steering committee membership be reviewed - 50% of the members be retained to ensure continuity with the remaining 50% involving other C4C signatories. The proposed criteria for renewal of membership to the Steering Committee are:

- a. Signatories must have participated in more than 75% of the Steering committee meetings in order to retain membership
- b. Signatories must be UN Global compact participants or have the intention of joining the UN Global Compact after 2 years of endorsing the C4C initiative

It was also noted that new membership will be reviewed to take consideration both geographic and sector distribution for the incoming Steering Committee members, including representatives from the financial services, media and general retailers sectors.

Follow up letters in will be circulated to all Steering Committee members in December 2012 (after Qatar meetings). New Steering Committee members are to start in 2013.

All Steering Committee members present agreed to the above process with one Steering Committee members noting that there needs to be a mechanism for C4C companies to feedback on the performance of the Steering committee.

### ***ACTION***

Engage new Steering committee members in January 2013 to schedule the next C4C Steering Committee conference call in March 2013.