Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR)

39th SESSION
1 – 3 November 2022

Tuesday, 1 November 2022

Agenda item 3. Good practices in and approaches to the practical implementation of sustainability reporting requirements

Presented by

Bernhard Frey
Senior Manager, Sustainable Development Goals Impact and
Reporting, United Nations Global Compact

This material has been reproduced in the language and form as it was provided. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.



THE NEW COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

Driving Corporate Transparency and Action on the Ten Principles in Alignment with Existing Frameworks

Nov 2022

ADVANCING
REPORTING ON THE
TEN PRINCIPLES AND
THE SDGs THROUGH
THE NEW
COMMUNICATION ON
PROGRESS





Two requirements to be completed in the new Communication on Progress (CoP) digital platform:



CEO Statement of continued support

 Statement expressing continued support for the UN Global Compact and renewing the participant's ongoing commitment to the initiative and its principles



CoP Questionnaire

 A questionnaire on corporate actions and performance related to the Ten Principles and the SDGs



CoP Digital Platform

Both requirements will be completed through the new CoP digital platform

THE NEW Cop QUESTIONNAIRE



Framework designed to be specifically connected to the Ten Principles and to meet the needs of UN Global Compact participants, the UN Global Compact and its stakeholders.

Main features:

- → Contains 52-74 questions (mostly multiple choice) connected to the Ten Principles and the SDGs
- → Designed to help operationalize and accelerate impact on the Ten Principles
- Developed with input from a wide variety of stakeholders
- → Builds on and aligns with existing frameworks (UNGP, ILO conventions) and reporting standards (e.g. GRI, ISAR GCI)
- → All questions are mandatory and need to be completed prior to submitting
- → There is no scoring or ranking associated with the CoP questionnaire

CONNECTION OF COP QUESTIONS WITH ISAR GCI

CoP section	GCI aligned with CoP questions	
Governance	ISAR D.1.2., ISAR D.1.3.	Board composition (age, gender)
	ISAR C.1.1.	Women in managerial positions
Labour	ISAR C.3.2;	Incidence rate
Environment	ISAR B.3.1; ISAR B.3.2	Greenhouse gas emissions
	ISAR A3.3.	R&D investment (CoP: low-carbon R&D)
	ISAR B.1.3.	Water withdrawal
	ISAR B.2.1., ISAR B.2.3.	Waste
	ISAR B.4.1.	Air pollution
	ISAR B.5.1.	Renewable energy
	ISAR B.6.1.	Company sites next to key biodiversity areas
Anti-corruption	ISAR D.2.1.	Incidents of corruption

- GCI quantitative CoP strong focus on processes and practices to drive learning on Ten Principles
- CoP questions are mandatory and participants include many SMEs
- CoP questions are tailored to Ten Principles: more focus on human rights and labor issues rather than economic indicators

THE NEW CoP: CONNECTION WITH EXISTING REPORTING FRAMEWORS AND REGULATIONS





How does the new Communication on Progress relate to other sustainability reporting trends and regulations?

- The CoP is UN Global Compact's reporting and accountability framework,
 tailored to the Ten Principles and the needs of the UN Global Compact and its participants.
- The new CoP questionnaire draws from or is aligned with existing reporting standards and sustainability frameworks
- It is expected that companies that produce reports according to relevant standards (e.g. GRI or CSRD-ESRS), will already have collected the data needed to complete the new CoP questionnaire
- At the same time, through engagement with the UN Global Compact and by disclosing on the COP, participating companies will be better prepared also to act and communicate on the topics covered by select regulations (e.g. CSRD-ESRS)

HOW THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A BETTER SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

- > Raising capacity to drive corporate transparency and action together with partners
- Advocating the establishment of a global regulatory framework / standards that address both pillars of sustainability reporting (financial materiality and impact materiality)
- Addressing greenwashing
- Making data on the Ten principles and the SDGs available to stakeholders



www.unglobalcompact.org
Find us on social media @globalcompact