

Submission to the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights Secretariat

In regard to the invitation from the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights Secretariat for relevant stakeholders to propose topics, panels and modalities for the second annual Forum to be held in Geneva on 3-4 December 2013, Enact Sustainable Strategies would like to submit our suggestions.

Proposal on theme for workshop or panel discussion: Disseminating the Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework & UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

A major challenge in the years ahead is to promote the effective and comprehensive dissemination of the UN Guiding Principles to all relevant stakeholders. A major obstacle in this regard is that talking about the Guiding Principles can be deemed as complicated, academic, far-fetched or even dull by many stakeholders. One way to overcome this barrier is to find ways to promote and talk about the Guiding Principles in a more fun and accessible way. We believe that a workshop or panel discussion on finding ways to make the Guiding Principles more engaging and tractable, with the aim of reaching some key recommendations on how to spread awareness and knowledge to a wider audience, could have a significant impact as regards the effective dissemination and long-term implementation of the Guiding Principles. The session would start off (or end with) an example: a brief but engaging way to talk about UN Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework.

Proposal on theme for workshop or panel discussion: Human rights impact and risk assessment

The Guiding Principles are explicit on the point that human rights impact assessment can be integrated into traditional risk assessment and management processes. For many companies, this is also a preferable way to start engaging with human rights issues as it implies a familiar way of business management. Yet experience shows that corporate knowledge on how to integrate human rights issues into traditional risk management is lagging behind and that there is a need to create and spread easy accessible insights on how to do this – to achieve *integrated risk management*.

A session on this theme could start with a brief introduction to traditional enterprise risk management, with a focus on gaps and overlaps with human rights impact and risk assessment. A few examples could be given from the corporate sector on how companies have tried to merge the two perspectives and a simple example of a combined model. This could be followed by a workshop or panel discussion.

Proposal on theme: Engaging stakeholders – a pivotal part of a company's Respect and Remedy work

The Guiding Principles as well as the ISO 26000 guidelines on social responsibility are explicit about the involvement of stakeholders. But what does this mean in practice and how could and should a company address this in practice?

A session on this theme could start with an introduction to the topic with practical cases. This could be followed by a highly interactive case-based exercise where participants act as stakeholders.

Proposal on speaker:

Mattias Iweborg, Managing Director, Enact Sustainable Strategies

Mattias Iweborg is the managing director of Enact Sustainable Strategies, a consultancy specialised in corporate responsibility and sustainable business development. Enact is one of the leading actors on the Swedish market, and human rights constitutes a main strand of Enact's work. For example, Enact is the facilitator of *The Swedish Network for Business and Human Rights*. This network brings together 11 of Sweden's biggest companies to exchange experiences and discuss best practices when it comes to business and human rights. The network members are Alfa Laval, Electrolux, H&M, ICA, Oriflame, Sandvik, SCA, Scania, Stora Enso, Vattenfall and Volvo Cars.

Before establishing Enact, Mattias was CEO at Respect. In this role Mattias recruited John Morrison and together they launched the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights (BLIHR), based on a concept that Mattias had previously developed for a climate change initiative – the Business Leaders Initiative on Climate Change (BLICC).

Mattias is a very experienced moderator and lecturer. He has developed a large number of trainings on sustainability issues in corporate contexts and is since many years training business leaders in China and India on corporate responsibility.

For questions, clarifications and further information, please contact:

David Carlsson

Enact Sustainable Strategies

Telephone: +46 738 48 36 01

E-mail: david.carlsson@enact.se

www.enact.se/en