

GLOBAL RESEARCH PROJECT ON CORPORATE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

October 2014

An alliance of organisations, of which the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights is a part, has commissioned <u>The Economist Intelligence Unit</u> (EIU) to carry out a global programme of research to build understanding of business awareness, commitment and progress regarding human rights.

As part of the research, the EIU will aim to secure responses from 750 businesses from around the world, to investigate motivators for business action, whether businesses have made a formal commitment to respect human rights, how they are approaching implementation of that commitment, and the extent to which the environment in which businesses operate helps or hinders their ability to respect human rights. Of the 750 respondents, the EIU will seek to secure 50% of the responses from C-suite executives and 50% from senior managers across diverse business functions.

An update about the survey will be presented at the 2014 United Nations Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva in early December. The EIU will then publish a research report in the first quarter of 2015, which will include full analysis of the survey results, as well as insights obtained from interviews with leading experts and businesspeople.

Should the initiative prove to be successful, the partners intend to establish it as an annual exercise in order to inform the strategies and work of businesses and all interested actors.

The research programme is being sponsored and supported by:

- Universal Rights Group
- DLA Piper
- Global Business Initiative on Human Rights
- Government of Norway
- International Chamber of Commerce
- International Organisation of Employers
- <u>IPIECA</u>
- Mazars
- UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The research is also being informed by inputs from the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights.

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