

# Swedish Leadership for Sustainable Development

## The Sustainable Development Goals and our Joint Commitment

We are living in an important and challenging time. For the first time in history there is a global agenda in place for sustainable development. The private sector is fundamental within this new development agenda, as a natural part of everyday life throughout our societies. Therefore, companies possess a great potential to take a leading role in transforming and steering the world towards a more sustainable future.

We, the members of Swedish Leadership for Sustainable Development, pledge to make sustainable development an integral part of our core operations and business models. Therefore, we commit to;

***Systematically minimize the negative environmental impact, maximize our positive contributions and create higher efficiency in the way we use resources, by (Relating to SDG 12);***

- *Promoting more efficient use of water, reducing the use of harmful chemicals and increasing the proportion of renewable energy in our value chains.*
- *Striving for reduction of waste generation, aiming at circular economy.*
- *Increasing the resilience to the impacts of climate change and reducing the use of fossil fuels and other greenhouse gas producing activities.*

***Create decent jobs, productive employment and development opportunities in societies where we operate and for those who work for us, our suppliers and our customers, by (Relating to SDG 8);***

- *Ensuring that human rights, including labour rights, are respected throughout our value chains.*
- *Strengthening the social dialogue and relations between parties on the labour market.*
- *Contributing to skills development and capacity building.*

***Fight corruption and unethical business methods in countries where we operate, by (Relating to SDG 16);***

- *Sharing experiences and best practices to minimise the risk of corruption.*
- *Raising the bar in our internal anti-corruption and ethics policies.*

In addition, we are committed to promoting gender equality and equal opportunities for all, throughout our operations, as fundamental necessities for systemic change.

Since 2013, we have shown our commitment to sustainable development through words, actions and contributions to the shaping of the new Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs. In order to achieve these goals, bold leadership is needed. This means advancing our efforts and seeking new solutions and partnerships between the private sector, the public sector, academia and civil society.

Innovation will be a key driving force ahead. Information- and communication technologies and new models of financial solutions can facilitate opportunities for business, environmental sustainability and poverty reduction.

We now call upon business leaders around the world to make sustainable development an essential part of your core operations. We encourage you to rise to the challenge of realizing the SDGs, by making your efforts tangible and evident for the world to see.

### Members of Swedish Leadership for Sustainable Development

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