

# Anti- Corruption Collective Action Working Group

First Consultation Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> July 2021



Network India

Event Report



## Executive Summary

The UN Global Compact (UNGC) launched a four-year global project “Scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks” in December 2019 to support collective actions in Global Compact Local Networks (GCLNs) and promote public-private cooperation in fighting corruption. Global Compact Network India (GCNI) is effectively serving as a Project Partner under this Anti-Corruption Collective Action (ACCA) Initiative of UNGC and emphasizing on promoting transparency and accountability in healthcare sector.

Corruption in the healthcare sector is an undeniable reality and arguably the most serious ethical crisis/issue today in India and hence there is a need to address corruption challenges by promoting transparency and accountability across the ecosystem of healthcare through collective

action. Therefore, in line with developing a strong mechanism that can help oversight and support ACCA initiative continuously in future, GCNI formed an ACCA Working Group and the top and middle management from different sectors like Healthcare, Pharmaceutical, Practitioners, Businesses (Corporate & PSUs), Civil Society Organizations and Academia have joined hands with GCNI with an intention to take its ACCA agenda forward in India.

## Introduction

GCNI hosted the first virtual Consultation Meeting with ACCA Working Group on July 15, 2021 wherein 25 nominated officials from diverse relevant sectors participated and shared their knowledge, capacity and insights to support ACCA initiative of UNGC-GCNI. The meeting was moderated by Dr. Somnath Singh, Project Lead, GCNI. Being the first of its kind, it introduced certain key concepts pertaining to the ACCA initiative in India, functions of ACCA Working Group and fostered discussion on the way forward. Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui, Executive Director, GCNI welcomed all the participants and set the tone of the meeting by sharing diverse ACCA initiatives taken by UNGC and GCNI under Siemens Integrity Initiative.

The ACCA consultation meeting was conducted as part of the 'Scaling Up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within the Local Networks' project with support and guidance from UNGC. The meeting ensued coming together of Healthcare, Businesses, CSOs, Pharmaceuticals, Academia /Research Institutes and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the significance, need and possible initiatives to promote transparency and accountability through Collective Action in Healthcare Sector of India. The ACCA Working Group shares a common goal of an ethical and level playing field in the healthcare sector.

## Programme and speakers

The session was conducted virtually on Google Meet. It was an interactive session where the participants came forward and shared the ways through which they hope to commit to and support ACCA initiative.

The panelists shared their experiences, success stories, challenges and best practices on anticorruption collective action in healthcare in an organic discussion. The participants provided concrete examples of collective actions in course, especially the ones that are closely related to COVID-19 affected healthcare sector.

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Somnath Singh, Project Lead, GCNI. The list of participants for the session is annexed.

### **The agenda points discussed were:**

- Introduction and Welcome to the Stakeholders/Participants.
- Overview of UNGC-ACCA Project/initiative and purpose of the consultation meeting with Working Group.
- GCNI's ACCA initiatives in India so far.
- Anti-Corruption Collective Action approach.
- Siemens Integrity Initiative
- Call To Action: Need to join ACCA Working Group.

### **Recommendations**

- Orient WG members about procedure and benefits to join GCNI's ACCA WG and encourage other potential SHs to join it.
- Conduct surveys to understand major issue areas of corruption in healthcare sector with the help of ACCA WG.
- Motivate employees of different organizations to increase ethical values through ACCA WG.
- ACCA WG should have focus on increasing transparency, accountability, process orientation and best practices in healthcare sector.
- Create a sub group that can work on corruption issues that can help governments make appropriate policies and framework for strengthening the system.
- Establish link/network amongst governments, corporates and other players to work collectively for reducing /eliminating corruption in the healthcare sector.
- Develop a concrete action plan and execute it with full responsibility and accountability.
- Generate awareness about strengthened healthcare system in rural and urban areas.
- Encourage and engage Healthcare actors in private and public sector to join forces with ACCA WG to work collectively to promote good governance and transparency.
- Medicine pricing should be regulated.
- Action plan should target both policy makers as well as healthcare institutions.
- Initiate advocacy for patient support groups and undertake relevant researches.
- Develop a policy document to promote transparency and accountability in healthcare sector to be shared with government.
- Develop monitoring system and anti-corruption strategies.

- Build connections and network of various M&M group of professionals working in healthcare sector and onboard them with ACCA WG.
- There should be a structured governance framework and annual assessment system for corporate and government bodies that will help reducing /eliminating corruption in healthcare.

## PARTICIPANTS

| S. No.                    | Name                   | Designation                                                      | Company /Organization                     | Type of Company                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>ACCA WORKING GROUP</b> |                        |                                                                  |                                           |                                  |
| 1                         | Mr. Krishnendu Biswas  | Chief Risk Officer (CRO)                                         | NHAI InVIT                                | Infra Company /Corporate         |
| 2                         | Dr. Rajesh Chitre      | Sub-Regional Compliance Officer, South-East Asia (North) + India | MERCK                                     | Manufacturing Company /Corporate |
| 3                         | Ms. Sunanda Wadhwa     | Lead, Business Compliance                                        | Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd              | Pharmaceutical/Corporate         |
| 4                         | Mr. Prem Kumar         | Head of Ethics & Compliance, India                               | Baxalta Bioscience India Pvt Ltd (Takeda) | Pharmaceutical / Corporate       |
| 5                         | Mr. Alok Mathur        | Asia Operations Head                                             | Unified Brainz Virtuoso Ltd.              | Corporate                        |
| 6                         | Mr. Anirban Chatterjee | Area Manager – India Subcontinent & Middle East Assessment India | DNV GL BUSINESS ASSURANCE INDIA PVT. LTD. | Corporate                        |
| 7                         | Ms. Amita Karve        | Deputy General Manager, Ethics & Governance                      | Mahindra Group                            | Corporate                        |
| 8                         | Mr. Jaya Bharath       | General Manager, Bioscience                                      | Thermofisher                              | Corporate                        |

|    |                          |                                            |                                                                  |                                       |
|----|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|    | Reddy                    | Division, South Asia                       |                                                                  |                                       |
| 9  | Mr. Dinesh Kumar         | Director                                   | BMW Group                                                        | Corporate                             |
| 10 | Dr. Sanjeev Kalia        | Regulatory Manager                         | BASF                                                             | Corporate                             |
| 11 | Mr. Parag Varshney       | Director                                   | International Institute for Human Development (IIHD)             | SME                                   |
| 12 | Ms. Garima Garg          | Technical Officer                          | Max India Foundation                                             | Health                                |
| 13 | Ms. Neha Munjral         | General Counsel                            | GE Healthcare South Asia                                         | Wipro GE Healthcare Pvt Ltd/Corporate |
| 14 | Mr. Chitta Ranjan Biswal | Technical Officer , Secretariat            | Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) /Corporate | Manufacturing Company /Corporate      |
| 15 | Dr. S. K . Mishra        | Director                                   | Ansul-India Health & Management Services (AIHMS-Global)          | Non-Profit Company                    |
| 16 | Mr. Sandeep Saxena       | Advisor Nagrik Foundation & Dainik Bhaskar | Dainik Bhaskar                                                   | Media                                 |
| 17 | Dr. Narendra Malhotra    | Director                                   | FOGSI                                                            | Hospital & Health Services            |

|    |                              |                                                                                      |                                                                     |                 |
|----|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 18 | Dr. Mahesh PA<br>(Pudukudru) | Professor                                                                            | JSS Medical College<br>(JSSAHER)                                    | Health/Hospital |
| 19 | Ms. Chaitali Das             | Managing Trustee                                                                     | Rakshak Foundation                                                  | CSO             |
| 20 | Ms. Rukaiya Joshi            | Rtrd professor-<br>Chairperson<br>CEdSS, SPJIMR<br>and Board<br>Member with<br>Sehaj | Sehaj India                                                         | CSO             |
| 21 | Mr. Ramesh Gupta             | Chairman                                                                             | Plus Approach<br>Foundation                                         | CSO             |
| 22 | Dr. Punita Ajmera            | Professor                                                                            | Delhi<br>Pharmaceutica<br>I Sciences and<br>Research<br>University. | University      |
| 23 | Dr. Shiv Tripathi            | Dean (Training)                                                                      | IIHMR                                                               | University      |
| 24 | Mr. Pushpakant Dongre        | Export Manager                                                                       | Milan<br>Laboratores<br>India Pvt<br>Ltd./Corporate                 | Corporate       |
| 25 | Mr. Manish Kumar             | Manager (HSE)                                                                        | BHEL, New<br>Delhi                                                  | PSU /Corporate  |
| 26 | Mr. C. Sridhar               | Board Member                                                                         | AquaKraft<br>Projects Pvt.<br>Ltd.                                  | Corporate       |
| 27 | Mr. Ranjan Misra             | CEO                                                                                  | VMC<br>Consulting Pvt<br>Ltd                                        | SME             |



| <b>GCNI Staff/Team</b> |                      |                   |      |  |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------|--|
| 1                      | Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui | ED                | GCNI |  |
| 2                      | Dr. Somnath Singh    | Programme Manager | GCNI |  |
| 3                      | Mr. Arya Dev         | Programme Analyst | GCNI |  |
| 4                      | Ms. Rida Kulsum      | Intern            | GCNI |  |
| 5                      | Ms. Srishti Gautam   | Intern            | GCNI |  |