Press Release

Inaugural Session "Asia/Oceania United Nations Global Compact Local Network Regional Meeting 2014”
Venue: La Vita Hall, Lakeshore Hotel, Gulshan 2, Dhaka
Date: December 10, 2014

The CSR Centre as the Global Compact Network Bangladesh Focal Point and Secretariat organized for the first time in Bangladesh the “Asia/Oceania United Nations Global Compact Local Network Regional Meeting 2014” held on December 10, 2014 at the La Vita Hall, Lakeshore Hotel, Gulshan 2, Dhaka. The day’s program was sponsored by the leading telecommunication company Grameenphone, and they are also on the Board of Trustees of the CSR Centre. Grameenphone is also the global signatory of United Nations Global Compact. H.E. Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank; H.E. Dr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs, Advisor to the Prime Minister and H.E. Ms. Hanne Fugl Eskjær, Ambassador, Embassy of Denmark, Bangladesh attended the programme as the Panel Speakers at the Inaugural Session. Apart from this Mr. Farooq Sobhan, Representative, GC Network Bangladesh moderated the session. Mr. Walid Nagi, Head, Local Networks United Nations Global Compact, Headquarters gave opening remarks on the background of the UNGC and Global Compact Network Bangladesh.

Global Compact Network representative from Australia, China, Korea, India, Pakistan, Srilanka, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Turkey, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, Maldives and United Nations Global Compact headquarters New York, United States attended the event. The event highlighted the overall CSR and financial sector in Bangladesh by Mr. S.K. Sur Chowdhury Deputy Governor Bangladesh Bank, telecommunications and CSR in Bangladesh was presented by Mr. Mahmud Hossain, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer of Grameenphone, a presentation on Renewable Energy and Climate Change by Rahimafroz Ltd and DBL Group presented their best practices of CSR aligned with the UNGC 10 principles.

The programme started with the welcome remarks from Ms. Shahamin S Zaman, CEO, CSR Centre & Global Compact Bangladesh Focal Point. In today’s age of
communication the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) irrespective in private, public or development stakeholder in any nation is essential to deal with the post MDG agenda to achieve sustainable development for the Bangladesh. The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for business that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. United Nations Global Compact

With 101 established and emerging networks around the world, Global Compact Local Network serves as an essential role in rooting the Global Compact within the national contexts and advancing local priorities and needs. The Global Compact Bangladesh Network is one of the emerging Network globally in this platform. Currently about 52 local members in Bangladesh Network are actively engaged in promoting the UNGC Principles.

A Foyer exhibition was arranged for showing the best practices of CSR from the Global Compact Local Network Bangladesh members. 15 organizations participated in the exhibition.