



Global Compact
Network Australia

2023 Australian Dialogue on Business and Human Rights

Bringing home the UN Guiding Principles on
Business and Human Rights

30-31 August 2023

Corrs Chambers Westgarth | Melbourne

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PILLAR TWO

The UN Global Compact Network Australia welcomes you to Australia's annual national multi-sector, multi stakeholder forum dedicated to advancing the business and human rights agenda.

Now in its eighth year, the Dialogue brings together representatives from Australian business, government, civil society, academia and the investor community to discuss emerging risks and opportunities and explore ways to collaborate on the continued implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the UN Global Compact Ten Principles.

2023 is a crucial year for the business and human rights agenda in Australia. Following the tabling of the review of the Modern Slavery Act in Parliament, the Federal Government will be considering the possibility of introducing amendments to our modern slavery transparency legislation, including introducing a potential due diligence requirement. There is also increased use of the Australian National Contact Point for human rights-related complaints against multinational corporations, calls for greater consideration of respect for human rights in e-safety, the use of AI and in data privacy, and continued momentum around the human rights of First Nations Australians, not least through the referendum to be held later this year on a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament.

The 2023 Australian Dialogue on Business and Human Rights will convene a broad set of stakeholders across business, government, civil society and the investor community to discuss key business and human rights issues within Australia and explore how Australian businesses can meet and exceed stakeholder expectations.

The 2023 Australian Dialogue on Business and Human Rights has been made possible with the kind support of **Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Qantas and Pillar Two**.

The event will be held under the Chatham House rule.

2023 Dialogue Logistics

Date	30 August 2023 – 31 August 2023
Time	Day One: 11.00am – 6.30pm Day Two: 8.50am – 3.50pm
Location	Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Melbourne Level 25/567 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000

Agenda: Wednesday 30 August 2023

10.30am – 11.00am **Registration**

[30 mins] Tea and coffee served only

11.00am – 11.10am **Emcee Opening**

[10 mins] **Kate Dundas**, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network Australia

11.10am – 11.25am **Welcome to Country**

[15 mins] • **Uncle Perry Wandin**, Officer for the Wurundjeri Tribe Land Council

11.25am - 11.30am **Welcome from our Hosts**

[5 mins] • **Dr Phoebe Wynn-Pope**, Head of Responsible Business and ESG, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

11.30am – 11.50am **Workstream Chair 2023 Dialogue Opening**

[20 mins] **Vanessa Zimmerman**, Chair, Business and Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia

11.50am – 12.20pm **The evolution of business and human rights: Progress at the international level**

Keynote

[30 mins] • **Lene Wendland**, Chief of Unit, Business and Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

12.20pm – 1.00pm **Progress at the international level and what this means for Australian business**

Keynote response

[40 mins]

Facilitator:

- **Vanessa Zimmerman**, Chair, Business and Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia

Panellists:

- **Lene Wendland**, Chief of Unit, Business and Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - **Andrew Finch**, General Counsel and Group Executive Office of the CEO, Qantas
 - **Louise Davidson**, CEO, Australian Council of Superannuation Investors
 - **Jessica Tinsley**, General Counsel, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
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1.00pm – 1.50pm **Lunch**

[50 min]

1.50pm – 2.40pm **Elevating First Nations' Voices using a Rights Respecting Approach: from interconnected approaches to the Voice to cultural heritage protection**

Plenary

[50 min]

Facilitator:

- **Estelle Parker**, Executive Manager, Programs, Responsible Investment Association of Australasia

Panellists:

- **Cath Brokenborough**, Executive Lead, First Nations and Indigenous Engagement, Lendlease
- **Jamie Lowe**, CEO, National Native Title Council
- **Mel Sutton**, Director, KPMG Banarra Human Rights and Social Impact Services

2.40pm – 3.30pm **The Net Zero Authority and a Just Transition in line with the UNGPs: What can companies expect?**

Plenary

[50 mins]

Facilitator:

- **Chris Caskey**, Manager, Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia

Panellists:

- **Annabel Hart**, Partner, Point Advisory (ERM)
- **Daniel Sherrell**, Senior Climate and Energy Advisor, Australian Council of Trade Unions
- **Martin Commons**, Director, ESG Advisory, National Australia Bank (NAB)

3.30pm – 4.00pm **Afternoon tea**

[30 mins]

4.00pm – 4.30pm **Publication Launch:
Human Rights Due Diligence: Modern Slavery and Beyond**

[30 mins]

- **Vanessa Zimmerman**, Chair, Business and Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia
- **Chris Caskey**, Manager, Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia

4.30pm - 6.30pm **Cocktail Reception**

[2 hrs]

Agenda: Thursday 31 August 2023

8.30am – 8.50am **Welcome back + Coffee**

Tea and coffee served only

[20 mins]

8.50am – 9.00am **Emcee Opening**

[10 mins]

Kate Dundas, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network Australia

9.00am – 9.50am **Plenary:**

[50 mins]

Towards horizontal policy coherence in Australia within Government: What's working and what could be improved?

Facilitator:

- **Vanessa Zimmerman**, Chair, Business and Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia

Panel:

- **Tom Dickson**, Chair, Australian OECD National Contact Point
- **Rosalind Croucher**, President, Australian Human Rights Commission
- **Bronte Moules**, Australian Ambassador for Human Rights, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- **Frances Finney**, Assistant Secretary, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Branch, Attorney General's Department

10.00am – 10.50am **Plenary:**

[50 mins]

Commitment and communicating performance: How should businesses approach the emerging risks of 'bluewashing' and 'bluehushing'?

Facilitator:

- **Fiona Reynolds**, Chair, UN Global Compact Network Australia

Panel:

- **Shanta Martin**, Barrister, Victorian Bar; Independent Examiner, Australia National Contact Point (AusNCP)
- **Sandra Silea**, Director, ESG and Stewardship, AustralianSuper
- **Alexandra Banks**, Partner, Climate Change and Sustainability Services, EY Australia

10.50am – 11.20am **Morning tea**

[30 mins]



11.20am – 12.00pm **Modern slavery in Australia: Maritime Shipping – Understanding the seafarer experience and engaging with grievance mechanisms**

Breakout sessions

[40 mins]

Facilitator:

- **Aaron Hill**, Group Ethical Sourcing Manager, Coles Australia

Panel:

- **Rod Pickette**, Policy Advisor, Maritime Union of Australia
- **Ian Bray**, Australia Inspectorate, International Transport Workers' Federation

Modern slavery in Australia: Migrant worker experience - how can companies respond?

Facilitator:

- **Heidi Roberts**, Partner, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Panel:

- **Bassina Farbenblum**, Executive Director, Migrant Justice Institute
- **Laura McManus**, Director, UN Global Compact Network Australia

12.00pm – 12.50pm **Lunch**

[50 mins]

12.50pm – 2.00pm **Does Australia need a mHRDD regime to ensure business accountability on human rights?**

Debate format

[1 hr 10 min]

Moderator:

- **Professor Justine Nolan**, Director, Australian Human Rights Institute, University of New South Wales

Debaters:

- **Professor Shelley Marshall**, Associate Professor, RMIT University
- **Emeritus Professor Paul Redmond**, University of Technology Sydney
- **Dr Jonathan Kolieb**, RMIT University
- **Associate Professor Vikram Bhakoo**, University of Melbourne

2.00pm – 2.30pm **Yet Another 'iPhone' Moment: How should business design respect for human rights into the use of emerging technologies**

Plenary

[30 mins]

Facilitator:

- **Ed Santow**, Director, Policy & Governance at the Human Technology Institute (UTS)

Panel:

- **Ella Serry**, Acting Executive Manager, Strategy, Engagement and Research, Office of the e-Safety Commissioner Australia
 - **Lene Wendland**, Chief of Unit, Business and Human Rights, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
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2.30pm – 2.50pm **Afternoon tea**

[20 mins]

2.50pm - 3.30pm **Evolution of rights-holder inclusion: How can companies meaningfully and safely engage with rightsholders?**

[40 mins]

Facilitator:

- **Dr Phoebe Wynn-Pope**, Head of Responsible Business and ESG, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Panel:

- **Natalie Maxwell Davis**, Senior Manager - Modern Slavery Prevention and Response, Australian Red Cross
- **Dr Luke Fletcher**, Executive Director, Jubilee Australia

3.30pm – 3.45pm **Summary and Closing Remarks**

[15 mins]

- **Chris Caskey**, Manager, Human Rights, UN Global Compact Network Australia
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About the UN Global Compact Network Australia

The UN Global Compact Network Australia (UNGCNA) is the Australian, business-led network of the UN Global Compact. As the principal sustainability initiative in Australia, the UNGCNA brings together participants of the UN Global Compact, including a number of Australia's leading companies, civil society organisations and universities, to advance responsible business and the private sector's contribution to sustainable development.

We lead, enable and connect business and stakeholders to create a sustainable future by acting responsibly and finding opportunity for positive impact. Our activities guide businesses on how a principles-based approach to doing business that advances the Ten Principles and contributes to sustainable development drives long-term business success. We do this by providing a platform for dialogue, learning, influence and action that is practical and leading edge.

The UNGCNA is recognised as a trusted convener and adviser on responsible and sustainable business practices by sustainability practitioners. We provide business with a meeting point to share and build best practice and connect with networks and experts in Australia.

Notes for participants

Engagement: The Dialogue is convened as a safe space for all stakeholders, and participants are asked to adopt an approach of respectful engagement that builds understanding, capacity and cross-sector relationships and collaboration.

Photography: Photographs and videos will be taken at this event. You may be identifiable in any photographs that are taken. Please note that by attending the event, you are consenting to the use of those photos in various forms of media, on the web and in print by the UN Global Compact Network Australia.