

RocaJunyent Informs

ESG Department: Corporate sustainability
20th June 2023



Last Saturday 17th June 2023, Sanda Ojiambo, Executive Director and CEO of the United Nations Global Compact, announced that she has made the decision to suspend the submission deadline of communications through the digital platform because of the technical problems experienced. In this sense, and whilst the developers work to resolve the problems which have arisen, the platform has stopped being available as of 15th June.

After the recent decision adopted by the UNGC, **the deadline for completing and sending the CoP form has been suspended** until the stability of the platform can be guaranteed and a new submission period that substitutes that of 15th June 2023 can be offered. Meanwhile, all participating companies are encouraged to continue collecting data and generating responses using the [forms](#) provided for this purpose, **whilst awaiting the new submission deadline.**

But what is the Communication on Progress?

1. Communication on Progress

The Communication on Progress (CoP) is a requirement which all those companies adhered to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) must comply with annually, with the aim of demonstrating their progress and commitment to the ten principles of the Global Compact.

2. Communication on Progress

This 2023 an improved Communication on Progress has come into effect, moving from a narrative format to a form supported by a digital platform.

This communication allows companies which participate in the UNGC to:

- ☐ Measure and demonstrate progress to stakeholders and the public on the 10 Principles and Sustainable Development Goals, in a consistent and harmonised manner.
- ☐ Gain credibility and brand value by demonstrating their commitment to the 10 Principles and Sustainable Development Goals.
- ☐ Receive insight, learn and continually improve performance through identifying deficiencies, accessing guidance and establishing sustainability objectives.
- ☐ Compare performance with other companies with access to one of the largest sources of free, public and comparable corporate sustainability data.

The CoP consists of two obligatory elements: a statement from the CEO (or local equivalent) and a new standardised questionnaire.

- ☐ The CEO's statement publicly expresses their company's continued commitment to the 10 Principles of the UNGC at the highest level. This involves a standardised template which is signed electronically on the new CoP digital platform.
- ☐ The CoP questionnaire focuses on five areas (governance, human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption) and is designed to help participating companies monitor their performance across the 10 Principles. There will not be a score or classification associated with the CoP questionnaire, rather its objective is to create transparency and allow progress.

3. Publication of the form in Spanish

After months of waiting, as of 1st June 2023 it is now possible to access the CoP digital platform with the form available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. This form focuses on five topic areas (good governance, human rights, social, environment and anti-corruption).

4. Deadline

Initially, the companies had to complete and send the CoP form before July 15th 2023 in order to maintain an “active” status in the UNGC.

As indicated at the time, if after this period the company had not completed and sent the CoP form, it would acquire the status of “non-communicating”, and its name and status would be publicly displayed. However, it may regain “active” status provided that it submits the form between July 16th and December 31st of each year.