

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON BEST BUSINESS PRACTICE CIRCULAR ON BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT: GUIDANCE TO DISCLOSURE AND REPORTING

NOVEMBER 2016



CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON THE PROPOSED BEST BUSINESS PRACTICE CIRCULAR ON BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT: GUIDANCE TO DISCLOSURE AND REPORTING

The Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) invites comments on the proposed Best Business Practice Circular On Business Review Report: Guidance To Disclosure and Reporting by **30**th November, 2016

Please provide your name and the organisation you represent (where applicable) and to provide reference on the circular you are commenting. Comments may be forwarded by email to: email: saffiah@ssm.com.my

Confidentiality: Any confidentiality disclaimer that maybe generated by your organisation's IT system or included as a general statement in your fax cover sheet will be taken to apply only to information in your response for which confidentiality has been requested.

Chapter	CONTENTS	PAGE
1	 BACKGROUND OBJECTIVE INTRODUCTION TO CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY DISCLOSURE IN MALAYSIA SSM'S CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AGENDA: FOR ALL TYPES OF COMPANIES 	3 - 5
2	 COMPANIES ACT 2016 WHAT IS A RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS? THE STATUTORY PROVISION ON BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 	5 - 8
3	 BUSINESS REVIEW PURSUANT TO THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 WHY THE NEED FOR A BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT? HOW TO DEVELOP REPORTING & ANALYSING RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES? WHO IS RESPONSIBLE TO REPORT METHOD OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT 	8 - 13
4	 WRITING A BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT WHAT IS THE CONTENT OF THE BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT HOW TO WRITE A GOOD BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT NATURE OF INFORMATION TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO DISCLOSE 	13 - 24
5	 HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS PRINCIPLES OF RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS WHAT IS HUMAN RIGHTS? UNITED NATIONS GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (UNGPS) REPORTING IMPLEMENTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS REPORTING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS 	25 - 31
6	BENEFITS OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT	31 - 33
7	MODEL TEMPLATE OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT	34 - 50
8	APPENDIX 1	51 - 60

1. BACKGROUND

OBJECTIVE

This Best Business Practice Circular (BBPC) is issued primarily to provide guidance to companies in preparing the business review report in line with the provision relating to Directors' Report under the Companies Act 2016. In preparing the business review report, companies will be providing a response to the growing expectations for corporate disclosures and reporting specifically on areas that provide an understanding on the business carried out by the companies, its prospects and risks as well as information on the company's policy and practices relating to corporate responsibility issues.

The objectives of this BBPC are clustered into 3 fundamental areas:

PROVIDE GUIDANCE	 To provide guidance for companies in preparing the Business Review in Malaysia as voluntary disclosure can encourage innovation and improve organisation's value.
RAISE AWARENESS	 To raise awareness on the societal pressures for companies to adopt corporate responsibility initiatives and to disclose the impact of their business towards the environment, economic, social, community and corporate practice in relation to human rights.
PROMOTE CORPORATE DISCLOSURE AND REPORTING	 To provide understanding on the new business review report framework for corporate responsibility disclosure pursuant to the new Companies Act 2016 and available approaches together with leading standards to facilitate a well balanced, accurate and reliable disclosure in adopting the best practices for corporate sustainability.

INTRODUCTION TO CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY DISCLOSURE IN MALAYSIA

Corporate social responsibility has traditionally been understood as business values that are comprised of voluntary actions above and beyond the laws and regulations, while business strategy is generally enhancing profit through its activities. If corporate social responsibility contributes to enhancing business strategy, this will encourage a company to incorporate these elements into their business development strategy.

In Malaysia, the element of Corporate Social Responsibility ("CSR") was incorporated into the 9th Malaysian Plan and is seen an integral part of the strategic objectives of the National Integrity Plan towards achieving vision 2020. The initiatives of the Government and its agencies in particular led to the launch of "Silver Book" in May 2005 which enlisted the CSR principles and guidelines for Government-linked companies (GLCs) (Putrajaya Committee on GLC High Performance [PCG], 2005) with the objective to assist GLCs in incorporating CSR into their business agenda.¹ Subsequently, the initiative of CSR was continued in the 10th Malaysia Plan (2011 to 2015) with the purpose of striking a balance between industry, society and valuing the environment and measuring the carbon emission towards achieving a developed nation.

The 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020) is the final journey to achieve vision 2020 as a developed nation and it contains a thrust on "*Pursuing Green Growth for Sustainability and Resilience"* which emphasises the tackling of global environmental and climate challenges.²

Bursa Malaysia's requirement for public listed company (PLCs) to disclose their CSR initiatives in their annual financial report in 2007 saw the emergence of CSR in the corporate environment in Malaysia. The most prestigious award for CSR, the Prime Minister's Corporate Social Responsibility Award by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community

¹ The Silver Book: Achieving Value through Social Responsibility. The Silver Book is one the initiatives identified by the Putrajaya Committee on GLC High Performance in GLC Transformation manual launched in 2005.

² 11th Malaysia Plan: Economic Planning Unit (EPU).

Development was introduced to recognise companies that have contributed to the community through their CSR programmes.

Companies and corporations are encouraged to adopt a variety of voluntary Corporate Responsibility (CR) initiatives such as:

- codes of conduct on measures to improve environmental management systems and occupational health and safety;
- company 'triple bottom line' reporting on financial, social and environmental aspects;
- participation in certification and labelling schemes;
- dialogue with stakeholders and partnerships with NGOs; and
- increase support for community development projects and programs with the public and stakeholders by conducting awareness programmes.

Corporate responsibility is a positive business practice in having a sustainable business. It is integrating social values when making business decisions incorporating the key concept of the triple bottom line elements of Profit, People and Planet as presented in the diagram below.



SSM'S CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AGENDA: FOR ALL TYPES OF COMPANIES

The implementation of the corporate responsibility agenda by SSM was initiated through the publication and issuance of the Corporate Responsibility Agenda (CR Agenda) in 2009. In this publication, CR has been defined as "the commitment by corporations and businesses towards achieving sustainability in the social, economic and environmental conditions in furtherance to the pursuit of profitability". The SSM CR Agenda which was issued to promote the adoption of corporate responsibility initiatives over and above compliance to the corporate governance requirements by all types of companies in Malaysia.

Recognising the dynamics of the global trends and to ensure the long term growth of the CR Agenda in Malaysia, SSM amended Section 17 (d) of the Companies Commission of Malaysia (Amendment) Act 2015 as follows:

"(d) to encourage and promote proper conduct amongst directors, secretaries, managers and other officers of a corporation, and self- regulation by corporations, companies, businesses, industry groups and professional bodies in the corporate sector in order to ensure that all corporate and business activities are conducted in accordance with established norms of good corporate governance; and to encourage and to promote corporate responsibility³ and business sustainability"

CR may be deemed as an extension of efforts to foster strong corporate governance culture in ensuring the sustainability of business through adoption of best business practices since both influence elements of accountability and transparency. The function of government, business and society are interdependent in promoting CR.

CR reporting generally assists stakeholders in identifying the impact of the company.

2. COMPANIES ACT 2016

WHAT IS A RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS?

Every business is different in nature and incorporated in particular for the purpose of gaining profit. A responsible business which has been defined as "practical ways to accelerate solutions for a more sustainable world while increasing business and industry growth"⁴ should have some of the following features:

- Law abiding
- Respects human rights
- Avoid corruption

³ The term corporate responsibility is synonymous with corporate social responsibility.

⁴ Defined by Responsible Business (http://www.responsiblebusiness.com).

- Good tax payer
- Respects its employees
- Preserve environment
- Conducts business responsibly
- Transparent
- Values and engages with the stakeholders
- Treats its customers responsibly

THE STATUTORY PROVISION ON BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT 2016

The new Companies Act 2016 has introduced a provision to strengthen the framework in promoting CR disclosure in the form of a business review report.

The preparation and submission of business review report coupled with the Financial Statement to the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) is applicable to ALL types of companies and is to be complied with on a voluntary basis.

Section 253(3) of the Companies Act 2016 stipulates that the business review report will form part of the directors' report and that its contents include matters as set out in Part II of Fifth Schedule below:

Conte	Contents of directors' report				
253.	(1)	A directors' report for a financial year in relation to a company shall			
contai	in—				
	(a)	<i>the name of every person who was a director of the company—</i> <i>(i) during the financial year; and</i>			
		<i>(ii) during the period commencing from the end of the financial year</i> <i>and ending on the date of the report;</i>			
	(b)	<i>the principal activities of the company in the course of the financial year including its subsidiaries; and</i>			
	(c)	the matters set out in the Fifth Schedule.			
(2) This section shall have effect in relation to a directors' report required be prepared under section 252 as if a reference to the company in subsection (1) or (2) were a reference to—					
	(a)	the company; and			

Contents of directors' report

(b) the subsidiary undertakings included in the consolidated financial statements for the financial year.

(3) The directors' report prepared under section 252 may include a business review as set out in Part II of Fifth Schedule or any other reporting as prescribed.

Fifth Schedule (Section 253) Part II Contents of business review

1. Each report prepared under section 252 may include a business review.

2. The business review may, to the extent necessary for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the company's business, contain—

- (a) a fair review of the company's business;
- (b) a description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the company;
- (c) a balanced and comprehensive analysis of—
 - (*i*) the development and performance of the company's business during the financial year;
 - (ii) the position of the company's business at the end of that year, consistent with the size and complexity of the business; and
 - *(iii) the key performance indicators of the company;*
- (d) information about—
 - (i) environmental matters, including the impact of the company's business on the environment;
 - *(ii) the company's employees; and*
 - *(iii)* social and community issues,

including information about any policies of the company in relation to those matters and the effectiveness of those policies; and

(e) subject to paragraph 7 of this Part, information about persons with whom the company has contractual or other arrangements which are essential to the business of the company.

3. If the review does not contain any of the information mentioned in paragraphs 2(a), (b), (c) and (d), it shall state which of the information it does not contain.

4. The review may, where appropriate, include references to, and additional explanations of, amounts included in the company's financial statements.

5. In relation to a group directors' report this Part has effect as if the references to the company include references to its subsidiary included in the consolidation.

Contents of directors' report

6. Nothing in this Part requires the disclosure of information about impending developments or matters in the course of negotiation if the disclosure would, in the opinion of the directors, be prejudicial to the interests of the company.

7. Nothing in subparagraph (2)(e) requires the disclosure of information about a person if the disclosure would, in the opinion of the directors, be prejudicial to that person and contrary to the public interest.

8. For the purposes of this Part, "key performance indicators" means factors by reference to which the development, performance or position of the company's business can be measured effectively.

The main objectives of the Business Review should consist of the following:

- A fair review of the company's business.
- A description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the company.
- Likely future developments.
- Particulars of important matters related to the company's business that have occurred during this financial year.

The information disclosed to the stakeholders is essential as it provides additional information apart from the financial analysis. The review also assists the stakeholders to evaluate as to how the board of directors have performed their duty to promote the success of the company have a significant impact whether the company is in line with the international trends to promote corporate responsibility and human rights in business.

3. BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT PURSUANT TO THE COMPANIES ACT 2016

WHY THE NEED FOR A BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT?

The crucial part of a business review is identifying their stakeholders and producing information that is relevant and important to them. Apart from providing information to its existing members or shareholders, there is growing expectation that the board of directors have an obligation to communicate important matters to their other stakeholders. Further, a good business review report should attempt to provide comprehensive information on the company that is not covered under the financial statements and meant for their stakeholders.

Stakeholders	Information needs and expectation
Investors	 Allows investors to be informed about what the company has done during the year in question, how well risks to the environment and society, and related risks to the business, are being managed, and the way forward for the company. Information disclosed may be used for investment decision making process, risk assessment, investment returns and engagement with the company.
Employees	 Allows the employees to understand the company's strategy and their process of decision making as it affects both the responsibilities and the rights and welfare of employees. Enable to ascertain whether the company is a stable employer and upholds corporate responsibility.
Customers	 Customers to be informed about the credibility of the company, including how well it meets their environmental and social expectations. Most of the customers want to know if the products they purchase are environmentally and produced with respect for people's human rights.
Suppliers	 Suppliers needs to be informed about the credibility of the company. Assists suppliers to understand the risks and opportunities that may affect their business. Helps suppliers understand the demands that can be expected from the company as part of its supply chain. Helps supply chain workers understand the company's efforts to ensure its purchasing practices enable respect for their human rights, including their labour rights.
Environment	 Operation efficiency with conservation of resources. Sustainable business practices. Protecting environment prove to be good business strategies i.e. Carbon emissions, environmental spillage

Stakeholders	Information needs and expectation
Community	 Individuals or groups concerned on the environment and the impact of the company on environmental matters or society. Assists the community to evaluate how well the company understands and makes efforts to avoid potential impacts on their human rights and welfare. Provides a basis for communities to engage with the company as an information source on local trends, developments and company impacts. Enables communities also to see how the company is supporting local development, through employment opportunities, sourcing from local suppliers and supporting community projects.
Others	 Basis for understanding companies' values, principles, attitudes, performance and goals. Matters pertaining to environmental performance, human rights including equal opportunities, customer related issues.

Therefore, a business review report not only reflects a fair review of the business of a company but it also encompasses the significant events that have occurred during the financial year as well as the likely future development of the business.

It should also be highlighted that the corporate responsibility report component in the business review report is not only limited to philanthropy activities but includes information on the company's commitment towards its stakeholders to conduct business operations in an economically, socially, environmentally sustainable, transparent and ethical manner.

HOW TO DEVELOP REPORTING & ANALYSING RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Relevant information needs to be reported to stakeholders. The following questions may assist in the preparation of your report:

\checkmark	Who	are	your	principal	stakeh	olders	for
	receiv	ing in	Iformat	ion?			
\checkmark	What	are	youi	- objectiv	ves in	repor	ting
	perfor	manc	e to yo	our stakeho	olders?		

Information to stakeholders	 ✓ What are your stakeholders' expectations of performance, accountability and transparency? ✓ Which are the arising issues or matters that are material to your organisation? ✓ What are the current relationships your organisation has with stakeholders and how do you want the reporting and transparency to contribute to such relationship?
Analyse Risks and Opportunities	 What information should not be revealed to protect confidentiality of contractual agreements, competitive position and proprietary knowledge? Do you have systems and resources to collect information in order provide a quality and informative report? What are the environmental and social challenges faced in your operations? How can transparency improve your competitive position? What is the risks and its impact that has arisen or may arise with the stakeholders?

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE TO REPORT

The board of directors is responsible for the financial report and directors' report that may include the business review report. To prepare the report, the directors need to determine the achievement of the company and its future direction which includes both successes and failures that are essential in discharging their duties in the best interest of the company.

The board of directors are responsible to the content and the manner of writing the business review report. Although there is no standard context as to the writing, the board of directors are to ensure the transparency in disclosing the events, trends, opportunities and risks that could affect the performance and impact to the company and stakeholders. Analysis of the past and the way forward of the company may be included as part of the business review report.

METHOD OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

The business review report may be created in the form of:

- (a) Narrative
 - Example: Our first manufacturing plant was opened in 2013 in Perak. The fourth plant opened in Vietnam is forecast to increase its sales by 10% while the plant in Singapore will see an increase in sales of only 5%.
- (b) Summary
 - Example: Sales of the manufacturing plants that are in operation

Perak	50,000,000
Vietnam	65,000,000
Singapore	56,000,000
Sarawak	45,000,000

(c) Charts with explanation and reference; or



(d) Any relevant format deemed fit

It will be ideal for the board of directors to discuss with the shareholders, management and their relevant stakeholders (if necessary) and come to a consensus on the following matters:

- Who will be responsible in preparing and coordinating the report?
- What information is to be included for the analysis of the past and way forward?
- How to distribute the annual report to the shareholders and essential stakeholders?
- The manner of reporting.
- Budget.
- Timeline to prepare the draft report and finalise.

4. WRITING A BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

WHAT IS THE CONTENT OF THE BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

The content of the business review report must be clear and precise. This is important as the purpose of this report is to inform the stakeholders or parties about the company's current and future undertakings, the risks involved and its position in the society. The stakeholders and parties who are the prospective users of this report are generally interested to find out the overall business of the company and whether such business is declining or succeeding.

HOW TO WRITE A GOOD BUSINESS REVIEW

One of the elements of good business review report is that the contents must be easily understood. Companies may for easier reference split the report into various dedicated sections.



Companies may consider adopting best practices as set out below when preparing a business review report:

Description	Disclosure		
Concise	 Report only on pertinent matters that is important and have impact to the stakeholders 		
Clear	 Write in a form that is easily understood by any stakeholder. The intended purpose of the information, to whom it is directed. 		
Words	 Use simple words and avoid using jargons. 		
Layout	 A good layout which is informative in the form of narrative, list, table, charts, figures. 		
Comprehensive	 Define all essential aspects of company's business. Provide sufficient information of issues to enable stakeholders to assess the performance of the company. 		
Consistency	 There are numerous reporting standard exist to support the consistency of narrative and metrics in non-financial disclosure such as the Integrated Reporting Framework, The Global Reporting Initiatives G4 Framework and the United Nation Guiding Principles Reporting Framework. 		

Description	Disclosure
	 Reporting should contain core information that is consistent with other organisational disclosures. Directors need also to decide temporary comments to be included for what period i.e. short or long period.
Accuracy	 The figures and calculation should be factually correct and rounding the results of calculation and ratios may not reflect the actual result. Should state a true, complete and balanced view of the actual situation, activities and processes.
Timely	 Stakeholders value reports that are provided timely either online or printed. Information should reflect current conditions and reported within a reasonable timeframe.
Organised	 The presentation of information should be decided by the directors and the information may be segregated to sections. Information should be presented in context to enable significant analysis.
Comparisons	 Highlight actual results compared to the projected and discuss in depth important differences if any. Report on core information that is consistent and comparable.
Impartial	 Present actual performance without bias in selection and presentation of data. Include success, problems, poor performance and improvements.
Relevant	 Reporting should contain information required or expected by the stakeholders. Meets the needs to form opinion and decision making.
Reliable and verifiable	 Information disclosed should be reliable and verifiable.
Strategy	 The plan and success should be measured from the perspective of finance, assets, operating and also short, medium and long term priorities for business.

Description	Disclosure
KPIs	 The method to measure KPIs could be in the form of qualitative or quantitative and based on a legitimate data that is provided in the business objectives. Each KPI should also be commented on the target against actual achievement and its significant to the business concern whether be financial or performance in future. A detailed analysis will be ideal.

NATURE OF INFORMATION TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

The business review report should be a comprehensive disclosure with the description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the company. The purpose of this review is to enable the stakeholders to assess the overall performance of the companies' business and how the directors have performed their duties in the company.

This reporting is beneficial to regulators, investors, government agencies, finance institutions, customers and clients, consumers, employees, society and other relevant stakeholders.

The business review report prepared should be consistent and provide:

- > an analysis of business from the view of the directors;
- consistent with the scope of the financial statements;
- complement and supplement the financial statements as to state the corporate disclosure;
- should be comprehensible; and
- balanced with negative and positive views.

GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO DISCLOSE

The guidance below serves as the intended information that is to be disclosed. However, the content of reporting **not confined** to the content intended and the matters disclosed could be harmonised with the **nature of business** wherever necessary. All information listed to be **disclosed is on a voluntary basis only**.

	Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference
Item	Fair review of the company's business
2(a)	
What	to Disclose
\succ	The review should include an analysis of the business.
	The review must state the operation of the business be it positive or negative in order to understand its structure and organisation.
\succ	The matters that can be discussed are in which the company
	competes with and the value chain from the perspective of the
	products, the services, the customers, the business processes and
	structure.
\succ	The inputs by the company to operate and the outputs it generates
	that create values that contribute to its strategic objectives.
Salier	nt points to report
•	The industry within which it operates, its products or services and
	their stakeholders.
•	The strategic objectives of the organisation for short, medium and
	long term.
•	The strategies that will be implemented to achieve the objectives
•	The allocation of resources to implement strategy.
•	Competitive advantage that creates value such as innovation,
	development of intellectual capital.
•	To what extent environmental and social considerations are embedded in the organisation's strategy.

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference		
Item A description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the		
2(b) company		
What to Disclose		

The information pertaining to financial and non-financial information that are relevant to the stakeholders to evaluate the future of the business.

- The Act provides to inform the stakeholders the identified risks and uncertainties facing the business.
- > The description of the principal risks and the mitigating factors.
- > The description of the principal risks and uncertainty must be sufficient to allow the stakeholders to understand and evaluate the

nature of the risks or uncertainty as how it would affect the business.

The principal risks and the uncertainties disclosed must be consistent with the way it was discussed within the business. The information must be consistent pertaining to the operation, strategic priorities, capital management, financial risks and even the KPIs that are been monitored.

Salient points to report

- Risks and opportunities that affects the continued availability of the business, quality, affordability, capitals relevant for short, medium and long term.
- Market risks, credit risks, liquidity risks, interest rate risk, currency risks.
- Adverse economic conditions.
- Risks and opportunities related to the company's impacts on the environment and on people, including human rights impacts.
- Steps to mitigate key risks or create opportunities.

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference			
Item	A balanced and comprehensive analysis of –		
2(c)(i)	(i) The development and performance of the		
	company's business during the financial year		
What to D	What to Disclose		
> The	directors should consider stating information that are relevant		
and	and material to the stakeholder towards the achievement of long		
term business objectives.			
> The matters discusses should be those that have affected			
development, performance and position of the business during the			
financial year.			
The qualitative and quantitative aspects of the performance.			
If relevant explain the source of the information and how it supports			
to a	assess the significant features of the development and		
performance.			
Salient points to report			
Quar	ntitative indicators as to target placed in context, risks and		
орра	ortunities		

- Qualitative indicators will also be important where metrics are not available or appropriate
- Effects on capitals value chain for short, medium and long term.
- How the organisation responded to the legitimate needs and interests of the stakeholders.
- The description of past and current performance in line with going forward.

	Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference		
Item A	A balanced and comprehensive analysis of –		
2(c)(ii) 7	The position of the company's business at the end of that year,		
C	consistent with the size and complexity of the business		
What to Dise	close		
> Comp	lement the financial statements and describe overall		
•	rate disclosure.		
	rectors should consider stating information pertaining to		
- Description of the capital structure			
 Cash inflows and outflows during the financial year 			
- Treasury policies and objectives			
- Liquidity of the business, both in the financial year under review			
and the future			
 Provide comments in previous reviews and describe whether such 			
comments have been borne out by current events.			
Comm	ents have been borne out by current events.		
Salient poin	ts to report		
	•		
	le all quantitative and qualitative information of capital		
	tent and cash flows with the business		
	be capital flow - financial capital, manufactured capital,		
	ctual, human capital, community and social capital, natural		
capita	I and others related.		

	Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference		
Item A	Item A balanced and comprehensive analysis of –		
2(c)(iii) 1	2(c)(iii) The key performance indicators of the company		
What to Dise	close		
> The in	formation on KPIs should be clear and understandable.		
➢ It show	uld state how the KPIs were evaluated with the source of data		
and ca	alculated.		
➤ The ii	nfluence of KPIs on the performance of the business in		
partic	ular in achieving its objective.		
	isclosure by the directors should indicate the elements of		
effective measuring of development, performance and position of			
the business.			
	formation regarding the KPIs may include:		
- Defined its calculation method			
 The need/requirement of such KPIs 			
- The comments on future targets			
 The adjustment of information 			
 The performance of previous financial year and its 			
CC	corresponding with the current year		
	y indicators that are changed		
Salient point	ts to report		
KPIs t	hat combine financial implications or significant effects on		
capital, revenue and environment (e.g. energy usage) society			
includ	ing human rights.		
-	ations that affected the performance or non-compliance of		
laws t	hat significantly affect the operation.		

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference Item Information about- 2(d)(i) Environmental matters, including the impact of the company's business on the environment What to Disclose > > How the business achieved success through their environmental promotion. > The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. > Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. > Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. > Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report • Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant factors that affect external environment and the mitigation.
 2(d)(i) Environmental matters, including the impact of the company's business on the environment What to Disclose > How the business achieved success through their environmental promotion. > The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. > Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. > Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. > Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 business on the environment What to Disclose How the business achieved success through their environmental promotion. The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 What to Disclose How the business achieved success through their environmental promotion. The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 How the business achieved success through their environmental promotion. The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 promotion. The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 The impact of business on the environment and society including human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 human rights. Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 Value added information pertaining to environment and the business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 business related such as water use, energy use, waste, emissions management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 management and element depleting ozone. Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 Measure the direct benefits and risks of climate change which affect the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 the business credentials in the market. Environmental and society including human rights risks that are material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 material to the operations and supply chains as early identification of such risks may generate new business opportunities. Salient points to report Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
Salient points to report • Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
• Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
• Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant
 Aspects of environmental that can create value to the operation of
business.
 Resources shortages and environmental challenges.
Policies and compliance with the relevant law and regulations such
as on energy, environment, standard etc.
• This information could also be made for public viewing through the
website of the company.

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference		
Item	Information about-	
2(d)(ii)	The company's employee	
What to Disclose		
The turnover of employees in the business and the risks.		
> Human capital training costs and the prospect of return of		
investment.		

- Working conditions or place of work, including health, safety, occupational related diseases, injury and loss.
- > Knowledge, strength of the employee and competitors.
- > Customer or client's view of an employee.
- Facilities for the employees such as funding, equipment, transportation etc.
- Corporate practice pertaining to human rights such nondiscrimination, child labour, forced labour and freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Salient points to report

- Quantitative and qualitative information in particular significant factors that affect employees and the mitigation of impacts on their rights and welfare
- Matters pertaining to turnover, health, education, recruitment, training, values of employees to the business
- How a culture to respect human rights is embedded in business
- Violation of human rights in business, if any.

	Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference		
Item Infor	m Information about-		
2(d)(iii) Socia	2(d)(iii) Social and community issues		
What to Disclose	What to Disclose		
> The impa	ct of business on the communities, including on their		
human rig	ihts.		
> Informatio	> Information of company policies related to social and community		
issues, including human rights.			
Recruitment and its impact on local communities.			
Investmer	Investment towards the benefit of the community.		
Education to improve the quality of the community.			
Risks to human rights, including labour rights, in the company's			
supply chain.			
Impacts on local communities' human rights and welfare.			
Impacts on indigenous people's rights locally or internationally.			
Social risk	s, including human rights risks, that are material to the		
operations	s and supply chains as early identification of such risks		
may gene	rate new business opportunities.		

Salient points to report

- The adherence to the guiding principles for reporting as set out in GRI G4 Framework, International Bill of Human Rights and the core International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions including:
 - The commitment of the company in respect of human rights
 - The company identifies and addresses its impacts on local communities and society, including human rights impacts.
 - The salient risks to people in local communities and broader society, including to their human rights, associated with the company's activities and business relationships.
- Method of identification of issue including any input from stakeholders.
- Indicate any severe impacts on people in local communities or broader society, including impacts on their human rights, and how they have been addressed.
- The policy of the company in addressing risks to people in local communities and broader society and how is it implemented.
- The approach of the company to identifying and engaging with community stakeholders and others in society who may be affected through the company's activities or business relationships.
- Identify the trend and changes related to salient risks to people.
- Describe the processes of decision making and actions taken to address risks to people in local communities and broader society, including to their human rights.
- How risks to people affected the business, such as operational disruptions, delays lost in productivity, reputational harm; and how efforts to avoid and address risks brought business opportunities.
- State the examples of issues managed effectively.
- How the company resolved complaints pertaining to impacts on people in local communities or broader society.

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference			
Item	n Information about-		
2(d)	including information about any policies of the company in		
	relation to those matters and the effectiveness of those		
	policies		
What to Disclose			
> Objectives and strategies towards corporate responsibilities in			
addressing environmental, social and community issues including			
responsibility to respect human rights practices.			
Salient points to report			
• Spe	• Specific process that are used for strategic decision and risks		
mar	management in addressing corporate responsibility issues.		

• Implementation strategies of the company.

Section 253 – Fifth Schedule Reference			
Item	subject to paragraph 7 of this Part, information about persons		
2(e)	with whom the company has contractual or other		
	arrangements which are essential to the business of the		
company.			
What to Disclose			
Parties who have contractual agreement or arrangement,			
distribution and supply chain networks that are essential to the			
stakeholders.			
Salient points to report			
State	• State the contractual parties, distribution and supply chain		
networks that are link to the operations and crucial to stakeholders.			

In the event the review does not state any of the information as required under 2(a), (b), (c) and (d) then the review shall remark that such information is not available.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

PRINCIPLES OF RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

SSM promotes the culture of respecting human rights as an integral part of the items listed under section 2 (d) of the Fifth Schedule of the Companies Act 2016 as its part of social responsibility that relates to employees and also environmental responsibility amongst the local business and corporate community. This means encouraging them to have a clear commitment to respect human rights, to carry out human rights due diligence processes as promoted under the United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGP), and to contribute to remedy when their actions or decisions contribute to human rights harm. Companies are therefore encouraged to disclose their respective policies, commitments, initiatives on the nature of actions taken to prevent potential human rights impacts as part of their business review report which may be reflected under item **2(d) Part II of the Fifth Schedule of Companies Act 2016.**

WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?

Human rights are defined as rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. These rights are guaranteed under the law in the form of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law.

However, the international human rights treaties generally do not impose direct legal obligations on business enterprises. The duty is on States to transpose the international human rights law into their domestic law and enforcement.

The increasing demand for corporate accountability with respect to human rights led to the unanimous endorsement by all countries of the UN Guiding Principles of Business and Human Rights in 2011. The sectors demanding for reports on human rights are:



In 2010, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) began to formally conduct studies on the issue of business and human rights. It was noted that Government plays a significant role in educating business entities on the need to respect human rights. As a result of this, SUHAKAM recommended for the Government to formulate a National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights. In March 2015, SUHAKAM launched the Strategic Framework on NAP on Business and Human Rights and the Strategic Framework was presented to the Government as а recommendation towards the setting of the policy direction in promoting Business and Human Rights for adoption by the Malaysian corporate and business community.

26

UNITED NATIONS GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (UNGPS)

The United Nations Human Rights Council endorsed the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in 2011. The UNGPs are the global standard that sets the respective duties of states and responsibilities of business to ensure that companies respect human rights in their own operations and their business relationships.

The UNGPs consist of a set of 31 principles that are clustered under 3 pillars namely:



Pillar 1 describes that the duty to protect citizens from human rights abuses by corporations lies with the State. It requires the State to take appropriate measures to prevent, investigate, punish and redress human rights abuse by companies with effective policies, legislation, regulations and adjudication.

Pillar 2 provides that companies have a responsibility to respect human rights notwithstanding whether they have a domestic legal obligation to do so. This means that they should take steps to avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their own activities, and seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, products, or services by their business relationships, even if they have not contributed to those impacts. Where local laws or customs conflict with human rights principles then businesses should seek ways to honour the principles of internationally-recognized human rights.

Pillar 3 provides the duty and responsibility of States and companies to enable access to remedy for adverse human rights impacts. This principle focuses on ensuring that people harmed by businesses are afforded adequate effective remedies through judicial and non-judicial avenues.

The Guiding Principles clearly describe that companies should have in place:⁵

- A statement of their policy commitment to respect human rights.
- A human rights due diligence process to:
 - > assess their actual and potential human rights impact;
 - integrate the findings and take action to prevent or mitigate potential impacts;
 - track their performance;
 - communicate their performance;
- Processes to provide or enable remedy to those harmed, in the event that the company causes or contributes to a negative impact.

⁵ UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework with implementation guidance.



IMPLEMENTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

Therefore, in fostering respect for human rights in business the following approach of due diligence may be considered:

Some instances where companies respect human rights through their daily activities are:

Workplace	Community
 provide safety working stations non-discrimination of work practices against employees non-employment of forced labour or child labour provide basic needs of health, education, housing if possible provide reasonable space for religious observance and practices of employees 	 prevent forcible displacement of communities avoid damaging economic livelihoods of local communities allow community to express views that affect the communities which they are part of Ensure that land titles are not disputed by local communities with usage rights and traditions Ensure water usage does not reduce communities' access to clean drinking water

As a regulator SSM promotes the State's Duty to protect under Pillar 1 of the UNGPs and encourages all companies to conduct independent

assessments of human rights risks and impacts associated with their operations and value chains.

Examples of how a business may be involved with negative human rights impacts are provided in **Appendix I**. However the examples may vary depending on the nature of business.

REPORTING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

SSM encourages companies to use international non-financial reporting frameworks that include human rights criteria, such as the GRI Sustainability Reporting Framework and the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework, as guidance in preparing their business review report.

To help companies to disclose human rights information of interest and value to their shareholders and other stakeholders, the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework was launched in February 2015, providing the first comprehensive guidance for companies to report on how they respect human rights. The UNGP Reporting Framework was developed through a two-year process of global, multi-stakeholder consultations, with a particular focus in Southeast Asia, including in Malaysia. It has been recognized by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights as "an opportunity for convergence [in human rights reporting] around a tool that is based directly on the Guiding Principles", and by the author of the UN Guiding Principles, Prof. John Ruggie as "an indispensable tool that companies have been waiting for" and "the logical next step for the Guiding Principles".

The UNGP Reporting Framework consists of eight overarching questions and four information requirements. Further supporting questions help companies improve their human rights reporting over time. The following are the questions included in the UNGP Reporting Framework to help companies improve their human rights narrative reporting:⁶



The UNGP Reporting Framework can be used by all types of companies and the questions are cross referenced with relevant indicators from the Global Reporting Initiative as well as various industry codes and other initiatives. Companies are asked to focus their reporting on their 'salient' human rights impacts: those human rights at risk of the most severe potential negative impacts through their activities and business relationships. The reporting on human rights is highly recommended to be included in the business review report as part of the company's reporting under section 2(d) of the Fifth Schedule.

6. BENEFITS OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

The reporting of business review is complementary report that will serve as an integral form of communication by companies to their stakeholders. It

⁶ Source: UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework with implementation guidance

is also to inform the members of the company and stakeholders as to how the directors have performed their duty to achieve the objectives and promote the success of the company.

The benefits of such reporting are rapidly increasing and help demonstrate a company's effort conduct its business responsibly and contribute to the sustainable development of local and global communities. Some of the benefits to the company and society are:

COMPANY	BENEFIT/IMPACT
Branding/Brand differentiation	Brand defines a company and helps build trust and loyalty among customers.
Win new business	Builds public image and becomes the choice of customers.
Customer loyalty	Customer retention and also enables to access to new customers.
Attract and retain employee	Good reputation help companies improve staff retention, satisfaction and productivity, therefore reducing costs and disruption to the business.
Competitive advantage	Integrate corporate responsibility features into the business strategy to be sustainable for future generations.
Costs savings	Contribute to the environment particularly through recycling products or wastage and ensure resource efficiency.
Building value chain relationships	Creating efficiencies and value creation of suppliers to achieve high level of customer satisfaction.
Enhance business reputation	Enhance employee recruitment and make the company a trusted partner for businesses and investors as well as in local and global communities
Maximize social impact of investment	Promotes respect of company in the marketplace and this may result in higher sales, funding or business opportunities and also enhance employee loyalty.
Reduce non-financial risk/Risk management	Enhance good governance where current and future risks that affect stakeholders are identified and recommend appropriate

	control mechanisms to mitigate risks and turn risk into opportunities.
Better infrastructure and welfare facilities	Identify the needs of employees and stakeholders and integrate their needs with strategic aims and business goals.
Improved quality of life Contribution of business to econom development improves the quality of life the employees and families and als community at large.	

In summary, the information that is expected by the stakeholders under the business review report could be identified as below **BUT NOT** exhaustive:


7. MODEL TEMPLATE OF BUSINESS REVIEW REPORT

The set of questions below may assist the company when preparing a business review report. However, the information to be disclosed is not exhaustive and may be subject to the nature of business carried out by the company. The questions as listed below act as guidance only and preparers must attempt to disclose information which is relevant to the stakeholders.

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive	Description
	information would deemed appropriate	
	USINESS REVIEW PURS	
SECTION 253 (3) OF THE COMPANIES A	
Company Name		Name of company and registration no.
For the year		The year of the business review.
Mission statement & ValuesoObjectiveofyour		Relate the mission statement and
 company towards Corporate Responsibility Company values 		company values
Business Overview or Objective		Brief description of the company and
 What do you provide/activities or your core business (identify your industry) What is the size of your 		what it does. Could include information like company vision, mission, philosophy, number of
company		employees,

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 What is the structure and activities of the company What are your customers need (identify your 		location, years in business, any awards won, etc.
 customer) CEO and/ or Chairman's Opinion How did your company perform for the year What are the main highlights in the business What are achievements for the year What are the challenges for the year What are the future sustainability What is way forward 		A general view of the company from overall perspective such as performance, finance, employee etc.
 Stakeholders List the main stakeholders and that have impact on your business Relationship with other association, organisation, governmental organisations etc. 		Describe the impact of the stakeholders to the business

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 State the contractual agreements available with the suppliers, customers etc. and the impact to business 		
 Operational Highlights What was the demand of your product or services What are the products or services in development or existing What was the operating costs and profit margin Who are your suppliers (optional) Who are your competitor (optional) What patents, copyrights and trademarks owned and applied 		Narrate business operational activities such as business Activities, Human Resources, Corporate Responsibility and Ethical Behaviour, Information Equipment, Labour Relations, Important Contracts, Type of Related Information etc.
 Financial review on position and financial risks Describe: Key revenue Key financial results Costs and expenses Depreciation and amortization Net finance costs 		Narrate matters to organisation's finances such as including explanation of year end debt, capital structure, funding and repayment schedule,

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 Net profit Non-current assets Current assets Current liabilities Non-current liabilities Financial liquidity Financial projections Explain to stakeholders how the performance and financial position of the company have affected the development of business Other relevant information on financial matters 		quantification of debt covenants, gearing and leverage, reconciliation of year end net debt position against prior year and etc.
 Risks and uncertainties facing the company Review and highlight risks from all levels i.e. management, operation, financial matters/risks How the risks and uncertainties affected the business How was the risks and uncertainties mitigated/managed 		Describe how the risks and uncertainties had affected the performance of the business and financial matters/risks such as overall risks management objectives on financial statements,

	Answers To be Illustrated.	
Questions	Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
		identify key financial risks, liquidity cash flow, credit, interests rate, quantitative information and etc.
		What are the strategies and policies been developed to mitigate such uncertainties and risks
 Business review (include each activity) What are the success or failure in achieving target What are the problems faced in business How are the problems resolved and managed 		Narrate business conduct and compliance, challenges in relations towards to business practice and stakeholders
 Trends affecting the business development ○ What are the main trends and factors that are likely to affect the 		Ascertain the trends and factors that have been considered in business planning

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
0	future development, performance and the position of the business Provide appropriate information on the market environment in which the company operates, strategic		and strategies that are likely to affect the future development, performance and position of the business. The objective is to
0	priorities, development and performance. Provide relevant		help the stakeholders to assess how the directors have
	information of drivers shaping the future growth in which the company operates i.e. macro-economic, competitive or regulatory trends and factors shaping the business.		performed their duty.
0	Identify the products or projects that are in pipeline and expected market response and future trends and factors that are supported by quantitative evidence		

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
0	How is the performance of the company in the wider market context Reveal how the performance of the divisions/parts of business.		
Env ○	vironmental matters What is the impact of		Describe the impact of business
	business towards the environment		towards the environment i.e.
0	What are the policies available in respect of environment and its effectiveness		living and non- living natural system such as land, air, water,
0	Disclose matters related to emission, wastage, energy		emissions, effluents and waste.
	efficiency etc. and the actions taken to address such matter supported by		How effective were the available policies (if any) on environmental
	quantifiable evidence, targets, strategy etc.		matters or if none will the company propose to have related policies
Em ○	ployees What is the impact of business towards the employees		Describethematters thathaveaffectedtheemployeesand

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
0	What are the policies available in respect of employees and its		impact to the business. How effective were
0	effectiveness Disclose employees policies on employment of disabled persons, health, safety, welfare of employees, recruitment, training, benefits, performance bonuses and etc. and how it contribute to the performance and development of the business Quantitative analysis of employees' gender diversity and their		the available policies (if any) or if none will the company propose to have related policies
	designation in the company		
Soc	ial and communities		Describe how
0	What is the impact of the business towards the society or		society and community have affected the
0	community What are the policies available in respect of society and community		company's strategies and performance of the business.

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
and also its effectiveness		How effective were the available policies (if any) or if none will the company propose to have related policies
 Key performance indicators (KPIs) What are the key KPIs or focal KPIs Which KPIs are common Provide explanation why such KPI is included or considered focal KPIs Numbers of KPIs How effective were the KPIs. How often the KPIs were reviewed How was the KPIs used with the business plan Which measures relied on as indicators should be identified and clear 		Key performance indicators (KPIs), both financial and non-financial, needed to explain a company's progress towards its stated goals, for all of these types of narrative reporting such as sales, customers, employees performance etc. KPIs are reference to the development, performance of the company's business that could
company policies and strategic priorities should be in place		be measured effectively.

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 KPIs should include the basis of evaluation, quantified data, targets or milestones, qualitative, quantitative and any other relevant information How KPIs relate to the employees incentive plans 		
 Corporate governance Was the business conducted with integrity and fairness Was all transactions made with the necessary disclosures and decisions, complying with all the laws. Was there clarity on how to fulfil its objectives? Was clear responsibility and accountability of the task assigned to the management. 		Corporate governance is the relationships which determine corporate direction and performance. Corporate governance is the control of management in the best interests of the company with the accountability to the shareholders management, customers, suppliers, financiers, employees,

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
0	Was the board balance		government and
0	in size and was there independent directors Did the board discharge its duties		the community.
	and responsibilities effectively		
0	Were the shareholders		
	objectives and needs		
	considered and act to		
	the common good of all shareholders.		
Cor	porate responsibility		Corporate
0	What are the policy		Responsibility is a
	toward employees		process for
0	What/How was the		companies to
	relationship with your stakeholders		integrate social, environmental,
0	How did you		and ethical and
	preserve/protect the		human rights
	environment		concerns into their
0	What has been the		operations and
	challenges in corporate		core strategy with
	social responsibility		close collaboration
0	What influenced your choice of corporate		with their stakeholders,
	choice of corporate responsibility		shareholders,
0	Who and how many		management,
	participate in		customers,
	corporate		suppliers,
	responsibility activities		financiers,

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 How is CR going to innovate to meet the challenges in its supply chain and its own 		employees, government and the community.
 business How is business growth and emission growth 		
 How will CR go beyond reducing negative impacts to make a positive impact 		
 Charities, donations and other support in kind i.e. asset, resources etc. 		
Values created		The primary
 What are the policy toward employees, customers, 		objective of any business entity is value creation.
 What/How was the relationship with your stakeholders 		Value creation is the performance or actions that
 How did you preserve/protect the environment 		increase the worth of goods, services, stakeholders,
 How was business profitable pursued in line with corporate responsibility objectives 		shareholders, management, customers, suppliers, financiers,

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
0	Howwerestakeholderstrueneeds served tangiblewithcorporateresponsibilityand		employees, government and the community.
0	company? Health and safety of the workplace		
Sust	tainability		Sustainability
0	What are the costs		relates to practices
	and resources		that contribute to
	involved		the quality of life of
0	What are our		both employees
	environment footprint		and communities
0	To what extent our		that could be
	products are green		impacted by the
0	Where are we in		company's
	comparison to our competitors		operations such as working conditions,
0	How to become a		environmental
	greener company in		sustainability
	future		relates to practices
0	How engaged and		that contribute to
	educated are our		the quality of the
	employee		environment on a
0	Who are our		long-term and etc.
	stakeholders and what		
	do they think of our		
	performance		

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 Which groups can we partner with What are our key sustainability matrices How do we improvement our goal How do we innovate our products and offer greener products and services How wastage managed i.e. recycling etc. 		
 Human rights associated with business ↔ How is respect for human rights publicly communicated by your company? ↔ How does your company demonstrate the importance it attaches to implementing and managing human rights? ↔ Have you identified 		Human rights are defined as rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. They represent Forced or compulsory labour ,Child labour ,
your salient human rights? How and what are they?		Wages & benefits, Non-

	Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description	
0	When and how are human rights issues escalated from operational to higher levels within the company?		discrimination, Freedom association, Collective bargaining etc.	of
0	How is your approach to respect for human rights made known to staff, and how are staff equipped to implement this?			
Ð	How do you communicate to your suppliers, and business partners to respect for human rights and to implement this?			
Φ	How do you engage with local stakeholders to understand how your business can impact people, positively or negatively?			
÷	How is the management of human rights issues tracked within the company?			

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
 What is the company's human rights policy and approach to accountability How does the company assess the actual and potential human rights impacts? What has the company found as a result of those assessments and what steps has it taken to ensure respect for. How do you enable effective remedy, including but not limited to, implementing complaints mechanism? Note: The UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework may be used as a guidance 		
on the reporting matters pertaining to Human Rights		
Accounts and auditors view		Review to assess business

Questions	Answers To be Illustrated. Information required is not comprehensive but as guidance only. Comprehensive information would deemed appropriate	Description
• Describe fair view on		operations towards
accounts.Describe the finding		business objective, risk management
by the auditor.		etc.
Statistics OR Market findings		Statistical involves collecting and
• Provide statistics for		scrutinizing every
past years.		data and
• What are current		summarize how
markets findings.		the data relates to
		the subject matter.
		Statistical analysis is to identify
		trends to create a
		more positive
		objective to
		stakeholders.
		Market findings are
		an analysis of the
		industry and
		corporate
		responsibility
Dropprod By		analysis.
Prepared By		
Date		

APPENDIX I

TABLE Below: Internationally Recognized Human Rights and Examples of How Business Might Impact Them:⁷

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
Right of self- determination	 A right of peoples, rather than individuals. Peoples are entitled to determine their political status and place in the international community. It includes the rights to pursue economic, social and cultural development, to dispose of a land's natural resources and not to be deprived of the means of subsistence. A particular right of indigenous peoples to self-determination has been specifically recognized by the international community. 	 Engaging in business activities on land that has traditional significance to the peoples that inhabit an area when that land was acquired by Government without due consultation with the local population. Any activity that might have impacts on indigenous peoples' lands, whether through acquisition, construction or operation, may give rise to impacts on their right to self- determination.
Right to life	 Right not to be deprived of life arbitrarily or unlawfully. Right to have one's life protected, for example, from physical attacks or health and safety risks. 	 The lethal use of force by security forces (State or private) to protect company resources, facilities or personnel. Operations that pose life-threatening safety risks to workers or neighbouring communities through, for example, exposure to toxic chemicals. The manufacture and sale of products with lethal flaws.
Right not to be subjected to torture, cruel, inhuman	 An absolute right, which applies in all circumstances. 	Conducting business in countries where State security or police forces protecting

⁷ Source: The table is taken from the Implementation Guidance to the <u>UN Guiding Principles</u> <u>Reporting Framework</u>. It draws on the publication by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, International Business Leaders Forum and the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, <u>Human Rights Translated: A Business Reference Guide</u> (2008), which is an excellent source of additional information and guidance for companies.

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
and/or degrading treatment or punishment	 Torture has been held to involve a very high degree of pain or suffering that is intentionally inflicted for a specific purpose. Cruel and/or inhuman treatment also entails severe suffering. Degrading treatment has been held to involve extreme humiliation of the victim. 	 company assets do not respect this right. Failure to foster a workplace that is free from severe forms of harassment that cause serious mental distress. Manufacture and sale of equipment misused by third parties for torture or cruel treatment or for medical or scientific experimentation without their consent.
Right not to be subjected to slavery, servitude or forced labour	 Slavery exists when one human effectively owns another. Freedom from servitude covers other forms of severe economic exploitation or degradation, such as in the trafficking of workers or debt bondage. Rights to freedom from slavery and servitude are absolute rights. Forced or compulsory labour is defined by the ILO as all work or service that is extracted under menace of any penalty and for which the person has not voluntarily offered themselves. Providing payment does not mean that work is not forced labour if the other aspects of the definition are met. 	 Businesses may unknowingly benefit through their supply chains from the labour of workers who have been trafficked and are forced to work as slaves, for example, on agricultural plantations. Women and children may be subject to particularly severe impacts in such situations. A company may be involved in the transportation of people or goods that facilitates the trafficking of individuals. Forced labour can arise in any sector where an employer puts workers in a position of debt bondage through company loans or the payment of fees to secure a job and/or where the company withholds workers' identity documents. This is a particular risk in the case of migrant workers, a recognized vulnerable group.
Rights to liberty and security of the person	 These rights involve the prohibition of unlawful or arbitrary detention. 'Lawful' detention is understood to mean that it must be authorized by an appropriate government body, such as the courts, and be capable of being challenged by the detainee. 'Arbitrary' detention is always prohibited. 	 Threatening staff with physical punishment or tolerating severe harassment of some employees, for example, of trade union members or members of a minority ethnic group. A company whose supplier routinely allows sexual abuse of

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	 Security of the person includes protection from physical attacks, threats of such attacks, or other severe forms of harassment, whether or not a person is detained. 	female workers to go unaddressed in their workplace.
Right of detained persons to humane treatment	 This right requires detention authorities to take special measures for the protection of detainees (such as separating juveniles from other detainees). 	 Companies involved in the construction, operation or maintenance of detention facilities (such as a prison or immigration detention facility) where detainees are mistreated.
Right not to be subjected to imprisonment for inability to fulfil a contract	 This right applies where a person is incapable of meeting a private contractual obligation. It restricts the type of punishment that the State can impose. 	• Companies may be linked to such an impact where this right is not protected by the State, for example, where a small local supplier is genuinely unable to meet their contractual obligations and the company takes action against them.
Right to freedom of movement	 Individuals who are lawfully in a country have the right to move freely throughout it, to choose where to live and to leave. Individuals also have the right not to be arbitrarily prevented from entering their own country. 	 Relocation of communities because of company operations where that is conducted in an arbitrary or unreasonable manner, without adequate notice, consultation (and, at least in the case of indigenous peoples, consent), or compensation. Employers withholding workers' identification documents.
Right of aliens to due process when facing expulsion	 Aliens (meaning foreigners) who are legally present in a country are entitled to due process (meaning fair legal procedures) before being forced to leave. 	• Where companies rely on migrant workers (either directly or through a third-party agency), there may be a risk of their operations being linked to such an impact.
Right to a fair trial	 Required in both civil and criminal proceedings, this includes the right to a public hearing before an impartial tribunal. Additional protections are required in criminal proceedings. 	 A business tries to corrupt the judicial process by destroying relevant evidence or by seeking to bribe or otherwise influence judges or witnesses to take certain actions or make certain statements.
Right to be free from retroactive criminal law	 The State is prohibited from imposing criminal penalties for an act that was not illegal when it was 	Companies may be linked to such an impact, for example, where political dissidents protest

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	committed, or from imposing higher penalties than those that were in force at the time.	about some aspect of a company's operations and the State creates new, punitive measures to prosecute them.
Right to recognition as a person before the law	 All individuals are entitled to 'legal personality', or independent legal recognition. 	 Companies may be linked to such an impact, for example, where they benefit from a State- led land acquisition process that pays compensation only to male heads of households because the property of married women is treated as belonging to their husbands under domestic law.
Right to privacy	 Individuals have a right to be protected from arbitrary, unreasonable or unlawful interference with their privacy, family, home or correspondence and from attacks on their reputation. The State is allowed to authorize restrictions on privacy in line with international human rights standards, but 'arbitrary' restrictions are always prohibited. 	 Failing to protect the confidentiality of personal data held about employees or contract workers, customers or other individuals. Requiring pregnancy testing as part of job applications. Providing information about individuals to State authorities, without that individual's permission, in response to requests that are illegal under national law and/or not in line with international human rights standards. Selling equipment or technology that can be used to track or monitor individuals' communications and movements to a State with a poor human rights record.
Rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	 Individuals have a right to choose, practise and observe their chosen religion or belief, to be an atheist or not to follow any religion or belief. It includes the right to worship and to observe rituals, such as the wearing of particular clothing. 	 A company's policy prevents workers from wearing clothing or other symbols that express their faith, even though these do not interfere with legitimate safety or performance issues. A company does not allow its workers to seek reasonable time off for their religious holidays.
Rights to freedom ofopinionandexpression	• The right to hold opinions free from outside interference is an absolute right.	Operating in a country where workers are routinely prevented

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	 The right to hold opinions free from outside interference is an absolute right. Individuals have a right to seek, receive and impart ideas in whatever media or form. The State is allowed to authorize restrictions in line with international human rights standards. 	 by law from expressing their opinions in the public domain. Censoring online or other content at the demand of the State where those requests are illegal under national law and/or not in line with international human rights standards. Engaging in litigation against individual workers, community members or other stakeholders who have spoken critically about the company where there is an extreme imbalance in the parties' means to fund a legal case.
Rights to freedom from war propaganda, and freedom from incitement to racial, religious or national hatred	 These rights prohibit certain speech that is not protected by the right to freedom of expression. Individuals are prohibited from advocating racial, religious or national hatred that amounts to an incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. 	Companies that provide the platform or technology for individuals to express hatred against a particular religious group and to incite others to take certain action against them.
Right to freedom of assembly	 Individuals have the right to peacefully assemble for a specific purpose or where there is a public discussion, to put forward ideas or to engage in a demonstration, including marches. The State is allowed to authorize restrictions in line with international human rights standards. 	Situations where public or private security services protecting company assets forcibly prevent or breakup peaceful demonstrations by the local community against a company's operations.
Right to freedom of association	 Protects the right to form or join all types of association, including political, religious, sporting/recreational, and non-governmental and trade union associations. (See also the right to form and join trade unions below.) The State is allowed to authorize restrictions in line with international human rights standards. 	 A company operates in an area where the State seeks to undermine a local political party that opposes the company's activities by bringing false accusations against its leaders. (See also the examples below under the right to form and join trade unions.)
Rights of protection of the family and the right to marry	• The concept of a family varies. This includes the rights to enter freely into marriage and to start a family.	Company policy discriminates against women on the basis of

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
		 their marital or reproductive status. (See also the examples below under the right to a family life.)
Rights of protection for the child	 A child has the right to be registered, given a name and to acquire a nationality. Children must be protected from sexual and economic exploitation, including child labour. ILO standards prohibit hazardous work for all persons under 18 years. They also prohibit labour for those under 15, with limited exceptions for developing States. 	 Business activities that involve hazardous work (such as cutting sugar cane or mining) performed by persons under the age of 18. Where child labour is discovered, a company can negatively impact other rights (such as the rights to an adequate standard of living, or security of the person) if they fail to take account of the best interests of the child in determining the appropriate response. For example, simply dismissing the child (or cutting the contract with the relevant supplier) may result in the child having to find alternative, more dangerous forms of work (such as prostitution).
Right to participate in public life	• Citizens have the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, including the rights to vote and be elected in free and fair elections, and the right of equal access to positions within the public service.	 Failing to give time off to workers for the purpose of voting. Bribery of political figures or other improper uses of company influence may distort the electoral process or otherwise impede free and fair elections.
Right to equality before the law, equal protection of the law, and rights of non- discrimination	 Individuals have a right not to be discriminated against, directly or indirectly, on various grounds, including race, ethnicity, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, and birth or other status (such as sexual orientation or health status, for example, having HIV/AIDS). This right applies to the enjoyment of all other rights. 	 Indirectly discriminating in the recruitment, remuneration or promotion of workers, for example, by offering a training programme that enhances an individual's chance of promotion at a time that is reserved for religious observance by a particular group. A company offers compensation to men and women in a situation where its operations or products have had negative impacts on

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	 The State is allowed to make distinctions where they are in line with international human rights standards. ILO standards provide further guidance on the content of the right. 	their health in a way that discriminates against women (such as by failing to recognize the particular harm to their reproductive health).
Rights of minorities	 Members of ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities are entitled to enjoy their own culture, practice their religion and speak their language. 	 Failing to make reasonable adjustments for workers who wear a traditional form of headgear where that does not pose a legitimate safety or performance issue. Using land in a manner that undermines the traditional way of life of a minority group, for example, by preventing them from ceremonial activities.
Right to work	 Individuals are entitled to the opportunity to make a living by work which they freely choose or accept. The work must be 'decent work', meaning that it respects their human rights. The right includes the prohibition of arbitrary dismissal and the rights to just and favourable conditions of work and to form and join trade unions, discussed below. 	 Arbitrarily or unfairly dismissing a worker, even if permissible under local law. Hindering or failing to provide for the reasonable career advancement aspirations of workers. (See also the examples under the rights to just and favourable conditions of work and to form and join trade unions.)
Right to enjoy just and favourable conditions of work	 Individuals have the right to fair remuneration and equal remuneration for work of equal value. Remuneration must enable them, and their families, to have a decent living. The right includes safe and healthy conditions of work, equality of opportunity for promotion, and a right to rest, leisure and holidays. ILO standards provide further guidance on the content of the right. 	 Failing to address a pattern of accidents highlighting inadequate workplace health and safety. A company's purchasing practices repeatedly allow changes to the terms of product orders without any changes to price or delivery time, creating pressure on its suppliers, who then demand excessive overtime from their workers. Using cleaning staff that are employed by a third-party company and are paid extremely low wages with no or very limited entitlements to sick pay or leave.

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
Right to form and join trade unions and the right to strike	 Individuals have the right to form or join trade unions of their choice. Trade unions must be permitted to function freely, subject only to limitations that are in line with international human rights standards. Workers have the right to strike, in conformity with reasonable legal requirements. ILO standards provide guidance on the content of the right, for example, that workers have the right to bargain collectively with their employers and that workers should not be discriminated against because of trade union membership. 	 Creating barriers to the formation of trade unions among employees or contract workers. Refusing or failing to recognize legitimate workers' associations with which the company can enter into dialogue in countries that prohibit trade unions.
Right to social security, including social insurance	• This right obliges the State to create and maintain a system of social security that provides adequate benefits for a range of issues (such as injury or unemployment).	 Denying workers their contractually agreed employment injury benefits. Offering a private social security scheme that has discriminatory eligibility criteria.
Right to a family life	 Protection should be given to families during their establishment, and while they are responsible for the care and education of dependent children. The right includes special protections for working mothers. The right also includes special protections for children. 	 Company practices hinder the ability of workers to adopt a healthy work–life balance that enables them to adequately support their families (such as requiring workers to live on site in dormitories for extended periods of time without providing adequate periods of leave to enable them to spend time with their families). (See also the examples in relation to the rights of protection for the child above.)
Right to an adequate standard of living	 This right includes access to adequate housing, food, clothing, and water and sanitation. Individuals have a right to live somewhere in security, dignity and peace and that fulfils certain criteria (such as availability of utilities and accessibility). 	 Poor-quality housing or dormitories provided to workers. Failing to provide adequate sanitation facilities for workers in a company-owned factory. The expansion of a company's operations significantly reduces the amount of arable land in an

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	 Food should be available and accessible to individuals, in sufficient quality and quantity, to meet their nutritional needs, free from harmful substances and acceptable to their culture. The right to water and sanitation was recognized as a distinct right in 2010. Individuals are entitled to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use and to sanitation services that fulfil certain criteria (such as being safe, physically accessible, and providing privacy and dignity). 	 area, affecting local community members' access to food. Business activities pollute or threaten existing water resources in a way that significantly interferes with local communities' ability to access clean drinking water. In such situations, there may be particular negative impacts on women and girls, who are responsible for water collection in many communities.
Right to health	 Individuals have a right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. This includes the right to have control over one's health and body, and freedom from interference. 	 Pollution from business operations can create negative impacts on the health of workers and/or surrounding communities. The sale of products that are hazardous to the health of end users or customers. Failure to implement appropriate health and safety standards leads to long-term negative impacts on workers' health.
Right to education	 All children have the right to free and compulsory primary education. The right also includes equal access to education and equal enjoyment of educational facilities, among other aspects. 	 The presence of child labour in a business or in its supply chain, where those children are unable to attend school. Limiting access to, or damaging, educational facilities through construction, infrastructure or other projects.
Rights to take part in cultural life, to benefit from scientific progress, and to protection of the material and moral rights of authors and inventors	 Individuals have a right to take part in the cultural life of society and enjoy the benefits of scientific progress, especially disadvantaged groups. This includes protection of an individual author's moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production. 	 Activities involving resource extraction or new construction (such as laying a pipeline or installing infrastructure networks) could impact this right by separating groups from areas of cultural importance and knowledge, or by damaging their cultural heritage.

RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHT	BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE RIGHT	EXAMPLES OF HOW BUSINESS MIGHT BE INVOLVED WITH AN IMPACT ON THE RIGHT
	 This protection extends to the rights of indigenous peoples to preserve, protect and develop indigenous and traditional knowledge systems and cultural expressions. 	

Source: UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework with implementation guidance