

## BPW Australia responses to UNGC club survey

In 2015 a survey was conducted for Clubs to match their activities to the ten principles of the UNGC. Four clubs responded.

UNGC Principle	
1	<i>Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights</i>
BPW Joondalup	Active support for International Women's Day; Port Moresby Education Fund; La Paz Nursing School; and Domestic Violence-White Ribbon Campaign
BPW Strathfield	<p>The Club holds annual events including International Women's Day, Domestic Violence &amp; White Ribbon Day.</p> <p>We have carried the 2015 theme #makeithappen –a series of workshops focused on assisting women and girls to be better prepared to enter and/or participate more effectively in the workforce. The series have been run at all of our meetings since IWD this year. The final series of #makeithappen will be in September 2015.</p> <p>The Club supports the Day for Girls Program that enables girls to participate in education - attend school during their periods.</p>
BPW Melbourne	Club seeks collaboration with Businesses that have committed to the UN Global Compact and Women's Empowerment Principles and that adhere to strict human rights policies and processes. Annually convenes an event to celebrate International Women's Day (in the last two years these have been supported by the Queen Victoria Women's Centre Trust in Melbourne's CBD). Annually convenes an event to commemorate White Ribbon Day observing the International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25.
BPW Cessnock	Club supports International Women's Day and the Domestic Violence & White Ribbon Campaigns, and works towards a quota for women to be on decision-making entities.
2	<i>Make sure that businesses are not complicit in human rights abuses.</i>
BPW Joondalup	Involved with a taskforce for Principle 7 <i>Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges</i>
BPW Strathfield	The Club upholds the policies and procedures of BPWA and the UN Principles in its internal operation and external participation.
BPW Melbourne	Performs due diligence on all potential strategic partners and sponsors, based on information available in the public domain. Does not engage with businesses which have been proven or alleged to be complicit in human rights abuse, through their own actions or through their supply chains.
BPW Cessnock	The Club upholds the principles of human rights and supports companies and organisations that uphold these values. Club membership is open, welcoming and reflective of or to the Australian society.

3	<i>Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;</i>
BPW Joondalup	The club has open member meetings and input in participation in organising programs for the club
BPW Strathfield	The club has open member meetings and input in participation in organising programs for the club
BPW Melbourne	Membership of BPW Melbourne is open and inclusive, welcoming all women who uphold the values of BPW Australia, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, sexuality or political viewpoints. BPW Melbourne holds open and transparent elections for all Executive positions and club members are invited to, and participate in, all monthly Executive meetings. BPW Melbourne provides personal and professional development opportunities to all club members equally. All BPW Melbourne members have the opportunity to provide input into the development of the club's calendar of events and programs for the club, as well as opportunities to organise events and implement programs.
BPW Cessnock	All members have an input in participation in organising club meetings, programs and events.
4	<i>The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour</i>
BPW Joondalup	No member is coerced into activities that they do not want to. Clubs hold democratic elections for Executive positions.
BPW Strathfield	Follows the standards as outlined by BPW Australia and the UN Principles in interactions internal and external.
BPW Melbourne	Performs due diligence on all potential strategic partners and sponsors, based on information available in the public domain. Does not engage with businesses which have been proven or alleged to be complicit in any form of forced and compulsory labour, through their own actions or through their supply chains/
BPW Cessnock	No member is coerced into activities that they do not want to. The club holds democratic elections for Executive positions.
5	<i>The effective abolition of child labour</i>
BPW Joondalup	The Club upholds the right of children including the abolition of child labour in internal and external interactions.
BPW Strathfield	The Club upholds the right of children including the abolition of child labour
BPW Melbourne	Performs due diligence on all potential strategic partners and sponsors, based on information available in the public domain. Does not engage with businesses which have been proven or alleged to be complicit in any form of child labour, through their own actions or through their supply chain.
BPW Cessnock	The club ensures that workers and volunteers are treated equally and compensated appropriately. It does not engage in or with companies or organisations that are known to be violating the rights of children.

6	<i>The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.</i>
BPW Joondalup	Club runs Equal Pay Day event each year
BPW Strathfield	Club runs Equal Pay Day event each year
BPW Melbourne	Annually convenes an event to commemorate Equal Pay Day, marking the period of extra days in the current year which women in Australia (and specifically Victoria) need to work to achieve the same wages that men earned during the previous financial year. The event typically occurs in August or September each year, to highlight the current pay gap across all industries based on full time base and total remuneration. Actively promotes businesses that have signed up to the UN Women's Empowerment Principles and encouraging businesses to become signatories. Supported UN Women Australia and the Global Compact Local Network Australia to convene a re-launch event for the Women's Empowerment Principles in Sydney in July 2014. Advocates for gender balance and diversity on corporate, government and NGO Boards and other decision-making entities. Supports WEConnect International, and international Not for Profit initiative that helps women-owned businesses succeed in global value chains. WEConnect identifies, educates, registers, and certifies women's business enterprises based outside of the US that are at least 51% owned, managed, and controlled by women, and connects them with multinational corporate buyers.
BPW Cessnock	The Club holds Equal Pay Day events annually to raises awareness and to work towards closing the current gap in pay for women across the sectors.
7	<i>Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges</i>
BPW Joondalup	Our club uses electronic emails to send out information, minutes etc
BPW Melbourne	Advocates in support of UN environmental issues, especially those endorsed by UN Women. Actively seeks partnerships and collaborations with businesses which have a demonstrated track record in supporting a precautionary approach to environmental challenges and promote environmental innovation through their own operations and their supply chains.
BPW Cessnock	The Club uses electronic mediums to communicate and distribute information to support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.
8	<i>Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility</i>
BPW Joondalup	The Club supports local initiatives that promote community environmental projects
BPW Strathfield	Speakers have covered this subject
BPW Melbourne	BPW Melbourne minimises paper use by utilising electronic communications with members and stakeholders. The President of BPW Melbourne, who took office as of January 2015, has an extensive background in environmental

	sustainability and advocacy on climate change action. The Club itinerary for 2016 will include invitations to high profile speakers to address members and guests on topic issues of environmental policy, responsibility and action on the part of government, industry and community stakeholders.
BPW Cessnock	The Club has invited speakers who have covered subjects on our environmental responsibilities.
9	<i>Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.</i>
BPW Joondalup	Involved in programmes using collected products not needed to donate to others who can use it-for BPW ORMOC in Philippines and Days for Girls Program
BPW Strathfield	Environmental issues will continue to be included in the program
BPW Melbourne	The Club is reaching out to potential members who have experience and expertise in environmental and climate change policy and action. The Club intends to explore future programs and activities with partners demonstrating leadership in environmental innovation, in technology, policy or cultural change.
BPW Cessnock	The Club continues to encourage and support members to review how they can be environmental warriors.
10	<i>Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.</i>
BPW Joondalup	Club follows BPW constitution and rules and regulations.
BPW Strathfield	BPW Strathfield follows BPW constitution and rules and regulations.
BPW Melbourne	The Club performs due diligence on all potential strategic partners and sponsors, based on information available in public domain, and does not engage with businesses which have been proven or alleged to be complicit in corruption in Australia or overseas, through their own actions or through their supply chains.  Holds open and transparent elections for all Executive positions. Records formal minutes of all meetings of the club Executive. Invites all club members to attend and participate in all monthly Executive meetings.
BPW Cessnock	BPW Cessnock adheres to the BPW Australia Constitution and Rules and Regulations.

**Contributors :**

- Irene Ross, BPW Australia Global Compact Coordinator 2011 – 2016
- Marilyn Forsythe, Past President BPW Australia 2007-2013
- Freda Miriklis, Past BPW International President

**Date:** September 2015