

United Nations | New York | 21–23 September 2020

UNITING BUSINESS LIVE | UN PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM

BUSINESS LEADERS CALL FOR RENEWED GLOBAL COOPERATION AND COMMITMENT TO THE PILLARS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

21 SEPTEMBER 2020 FROM 7 AM TO 2 PM US EST

CONCEPT NOTE

As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, we are seeing all around the world – in developed and developing nations – a rise in corruption, nationalism, polarization and civil unrest, and an erosion of fundamental freedoms, journalistic integrity, rule of law and trust in public and private institutions. More pressingly, in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic we are experiencing a retreat from global cooperation and a convergence of global crises including climate change, economic uncertainty and racial injustice – all of which are being compounded by a rise in disinformation.

We need authentic, courageous and empathetic leadership.

Uniting Business LIVE, held on the margins of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, is an immersive, digital experience being held from 21 to 23 September, 2020 uniting over 10,000 forward-focused chief executives, corporate sustainability leaders, policymakers, UN heads and representatives from across the globe. Uniting Business LIVE will reflect the key pillars and priorities of the UN to strengthen peace and security, human rights and development through multilateral cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships — and encourage principles-based businesses to support the work of the UN to build a more equitable, inclusive and sustainable world.

Since 2008, the UN Secretary-General's annual Private Sector Forum ("Forum") has welcomed global leaders to UN Headquarters in New York to mark the first day of the UN General Assembly and to come together to address major global issues.

The main theme of the Forum will be <u>A Statement from Business Leaders for Renewed Global Cooperation</u> ("**Statement**") which calls on CEOs of multinational, national, medium and small enterprises to demonstrate their support for the mission of the United Nations. The Forum will provide a platform for CEOs, Governments leaders and UN agency heads to

engage in a high-level dialogue and for all attendees to hear from distinguished guests during high-level panel sessions and keynote addresses. In the spirt of the Statement, discussions will be focused on global cooperation and inclusive multilateralism, peace and justice and human rights and labour rights.

Ultimately, this day will reflect upon the founding of the United Nations and hopefully inspire us to be better leaders for our people and our planet.

We need this, now, more than ever.

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