

From Commitment to Action: Advancing Remedy, Reparations, and Responsible Business Conduct in Africa

Date: 7 – 9 October 2025

Venue: Pamodzi Hotel, Lusaka, Zambia

In partnership with:



UN Global Compact Sessions

1. High-Level Opening & Plenary – Engaging Dialogue Between Business & Civil Society to Advance Human Rights / Reporting on the Nairobi Declaration

Official Session - open for participation to all | Date: Tuesday, 7 October | Time: 09:00 – 11:30 CAT

- Format: Opening Plenary
- Moderator: Prof. Damilola Olawuyi, Member for Africa, UN Working Group on BHR
- UNGC Speech: Hervé Lado, Africa Head, UN Global Compact
- Other speakers: All Co-organizers

2. UNGC–IOE Safe-Space for Business & Employers' Organisations

Open to business participants only | Date: Tuesday, 7 October | Time: 11:30 – 12:50 CAT | Venue: Amelia

- Format: Closed Door Business Only Panel ([Register Here](#))
- Lead/Facilitation: IOE & UNGC — Joan Birika, Senior Manager Human Rights, UNGC (Co-facilitator)
- UNGC Remarks: Hervé Lado, Africa Head, UN Global Compact
- Business Perspectives (speakers):
 - Tafadzwa Sithole, General Counsel, FUCHS Lubricants South Africa
 - Janet Kabaya, Head of Legal, Gender and Human Rights-Kakuzi PLC Kenya

Focus: Candid lessons on remedy/remediation; balancing disclosure & accountability; peer learning

3. YSM Site Visit (Industry Visit – YSM Zambia)

Strictly is by invitation | Date: Tuesday, 7 October | Time: 14:00 – 15:00 CAT | Venue: YSM Offices, Lusaka |

Meeting point/departure: 13:30 CAT | Entrance to Pamodzi Hotel

- Format: Sustainability tour
- Aim: Host overview (operations & sustainability priorities) + short roundtable on HRDD, grievance mechanisms, and local supply-chain priorities; agree 2–3 actionable follow-ups.

4. Plenary Session: From Commitment to Action: Reporting on the Nairobi Declaration

Official Session (Open for participation) | Date: Wednesday, 8 October | Time: 09:00 – 11:00 CAT

- Moderator: Prof. Damilola Olawuyi, Member for Africa, UN Working Group on BHR
- Format: Official Plenary
- Business Perspective: Wilson Odiyo, Corporate Affairs Director, Eastern produce Regional Services (EPRS)
- Other voices: Civil society (ACCA-nominated) • Trade union (ITUC-nominated) • NHRI (NANHRI-nominated) • Government (UNDP-nominated)
- Through-line: Trust-building with civil society; tangible steps on remedy & reparations.

5. The Role of the OHCHR BHR Helpdesk in Turning UNGP Commitments into Action

Date: Wednesday, 8 October | Time: 11:55 – 13:00 CAT | Venue: Mupani 2 Hall

- Role: Deliver UNGC perspectives
- Speaker: Stephen Kimenye, Programme Manager, UN Global Compact Network Kenya

6. Advancing Grievance Mechanisms & Effective Remediation in the Changing World of Work

Official Session (Open for participation) | Date: Wednesday, 8 October | Time: 11:55 - 13:15 CAT | Venue: Mupani 2 Hall

- Moderator: Benedetta A. Wasonga (UNGC)
- Speakers/Discussants:
 - Hervé Lado , Africa Head, UN Global Compact (UNGC perspective)
 - Janet Kabaya, Head of Legal, Gender & Human Rights, Kakuzi PLC (Kenya)
 - Wellington Chibembe, Director, ILO Country Office for Zambia & Malawi
 - Special Representative to COMESA
 - Joy Beene, Secretary-General, Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)

Focus: Grievance mechanisms as frontline of remedy; adapting to digital/gig/remote work; ensuring access for vulnerable groups; frameworks; collective accountability.

7. Private Sector Milestones on Human Rights

Closed door roundtable (Chatham House rule) | Date: Wednesday, 8 October | Time: 15:55 – 17:15 CAT | Venue: Mupani 2 Hall

- Format: Closed-door roundtable
- UNGC Welcome and remarks: Hervé Lado, Africa Head, UN Global Compact
- Remarks (setting the tone)
 - Paul Siame, Sustainability Director, YSM Zambia
 - Judy Njino, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network Kenya
- Roundtable (facilitated):
 - Moderator: Joan Birika, Senior Manager Human Rights, UN Global Compact
 - Discussants (business/partners)

Focus: Milestones, success stories on grievance/remedy, persistent gaps, partnerships, and 5-year commitments.

8. UNGC Networking Cocktail (UNGC & Partners)

Open to all | Date: Wednesday, 8 October | Time: 18:00–20:00 CAT | Venue: Pamodzi Garden (TBC)

- Emcee/Host: Benedetta A. Wasonga (UNGC)
- 3-minute remarks: Paul Siame (YSM Zambia) • Hervé Lado (UNGC) • Prof. Damilola Olawuyi
- Flow: Welcome → short remarks → open networking (drinks & bites)

9. Session: From Form to Function: Strengthening Operational Grievance Mechanisms for Effective Remedy in Africa (GCNK, NANHRI, DIHR+ASF)

Official Session (Open for participation) | Date: Thursday, 9 October | Time: 09:00 – 10:20 CAT | Venue: Amelia Hall

- Role: Deliver UNGC perspectives.
- Speaker: Judy Njino, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network Kenya

Session objective: Advancing Remedy and Responsible Business Conduct in Africa (OHCHR).

10. Inclusive Leadership & Gender-Responsive HRDD (with ETI)

Official Session (Open for participation) | Date: Thursday, 9 October | Time: 10:40 - 12:00 CAT | Venue: Mupani 2 Hall

- Moderator: Benedetta A. Wasonga (UNGC)
- Openers (2' each): Joan Birika (UNGC) • Sakwa Masaai (ETI/Oxfam)
- Panel (5' each):
 - Wilson Odiyo, Corporate Affairs Director, Eastern produce Regional Services (EPRS)
 - Wangu Kanja, Founder, Wangu Kanja Foundation) (online)
 - Simukai Sibanda, Operations Director, Primson Management Services -Business Perspective
 - Tafadzwa Sithole, General Counsel, FUCHS Lubricants South Africa -Business Perspective

Focus: Inclusive leadership as prerequisite for HRDD; addressing gendered risks; practical tools; action-oriented takeaways.

See Full Forum [Agenda](#) and [Register](#) for Virtual Participation