CoP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

SUMMARY

In light of the technical issues experienced, submitting the CoP is now voluntary for 2023, and no participants will be considered "Non-communicating" or "Delisted" for failure to submit a CoP this year.

Although the 2023 CoP is voluntary, the UN Global Compact encourages all participants to complete the digital questionnaire via the interim digital platform before 31 December 2023 in order to begin the processes of benchmarking and tracking corporate sustainability progress over time and against peers. Analyses and data visualizations of the aggregated data will be provided for all participants who complete the digital questionnaire.

Participants who would like to complete the voluntary 2023 CoP must use the interim digital platform to submit a CEO Statement of Continued Support and either the digital questionnaire (strongly preferred) or a sustainability report.

SUPPORT RESOURCES

- **UN Global Compact Academy's CoP page**
  - Explore resources, including session recordings, the Step-by-Step 2023 CoP Submission Guide and demonstrations, CoP content and updates, and instructions for preparing and completing the CoP.

- **HelpScout FAQ Tool**
  - Pose questions and search for up-to-date answers about CoP content, policy, and digital submissions.

- **Participant 'Office Hour' Q+A Sessions**
  - Join the CoP team every other Wednesday at 9 AM and 9 PM (ET) to hear updates and ask questions about everything CoP.

- **cop-support@unglobalcompact.org** or **UN Global Compact Local Networks**
  - Contact the CoP team or your Local Network at any time for assistance.

Please note that **there will be no penalty or participant status change** for failure to submit the 2023 CoP. However, the UN Global Compact highly encourages all participants to demonstrate their commitment and progress toward the Ten Principles and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the digital CoP platform.

2023 VOLUNTARY COP SUBMISSIONS

What is the submission deadline for the voluntary 2023 CoP?
Voluntary 2023 CoP submissions can be submitted via the interim digital platform by **31 December**. As a reminder, the preferred time period to be covered by this CoP submission is still 2022, and more recent data should be covered in the upcoming 2024 reporting year.

How do participants access the interim digital platform?
Participants will receive an email notification when the CoP interim digital platform launches with information on accessing the platform and submitting the 2023 CoP. For those participants wishing to submit a 2023 CoP, the platform can be accessed from the dashboard using UN Global Compact login credentials.

Is there a penalty for failure to submit the voluntary 2023 CoP?
There is no penalty for non-submission of the voluntary 2023 CoP. There will be no participant status change (e.g., from 'Active' to 'Non-communicating' or 'Delisted') associated with 2023 CoP submissions. However, in order to prepare for the mandatory 2024 CoP and realize the full benefits of their data, participants are encouraged to complete the 2023 CoP and digital questionnaire if possible

FOR PARTICIPANTS THAT SUBMITTED THEIR CoP PRIOR TO 15 JUNE VIA THE ORIGINAL DIGITAL PLATFORM

Is there anything that participants who have already submitted their CoP need to do?
No further action is required from participants who successfully submitted their 2023 CoP. CoPs completed and submitted via the original digital platform are publicly available on the participant profiles of each respective participant. If you have any concerns about the report displayed on your public profile, please contact cop-support@unglobalcompact.org so we can ensure the appropriate information is displayed.

Can participants that have already submitted their CoP still amend their data?
For the 2023 reporting year, there will be no amendment functionality, and the CoP will be final once submitted. However, participants who have already submitted via the original platform **can replace their first submission automatically, if they so choose**, by completing a new CoP using the interim digital platform.

FOR PARTICIPANTS THAT STARTED THEIR CoP IN THE ORIGINAL DIGITAL PLATFORM BUT DID NOT SUBMIT

Will participants have to restart the CoP submission if they wish to submit a 2023 CoP?
Data entered into the original CoP platform before the pause will be emailed to each respective participant for reference before the launch of the interim digital platform.

FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE NOT YET STARTED NOR SUBMITTED THEIR VOLUNTARY 2023 CoP

What about participants who have not started their voluntary CoP submission?
Participants who wish to submit the voluntary 2023 CoP can utilize the interim digital platform to submit:
1. The digital questionnaire and CEO Statement of Continued Support; or
2. A sustainability report and the CEO Statement of Continued Support

FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO JOINED THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT IN 2023

Are participants that joined the UN Global Compact in 2023 expected to report for the 2023 cycle?
New joiners are required to complete and submit their first CoP within the submission period of the **following calendar year after joining**. If a participant joined the UN Global Compact in 2023, no CoP submission is required until the 2024 reporting year.

FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE "NON-COMMUNICATING" STATUS OR HAVE BEEN DELISTED

Participants obtained "Non-communicating" status before the 2023 reporting year. How can they regain "Active" status?
Participants can restore their "Active" status by submitting the digital questionnaire or uploading a sustainability report through the interim digital platform at any point before 31 December. It should be noted that "Non-communicating" participants can access Academy resources for the remainder of 2023 in recognition of the difficulties associated with reporting the 2023 CoP.

How do I rejoin the UN Global Compact after being delisted for not reporting?
In order for a business organization to rejoin the UN Global Compact, please contact
info@unglobalcompact.org or your Local Network contact point with the following documents:

- A valid, completed Communication on Progress (COP);
- A Letter of re-commitment

Note that participants that rejoin in 2023 are not required to report on the interim digital platform this year. However, participants are required to report their CoP in 2024 during the reporting period and every year thereafter.

In Closing

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused by the technical difficulties associated with the digital platform of the 2023 Communication on Progress. In the years to come, the CoP will support Global Compact participants in making effective, data-driven advancements through benchmarking, progress tracking, and transparency, and we greatly look forward to your future reporting.

Thank you for your commitment to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and your participation in our global movement to accelerate and scale the global collective impact of responsible business.