国連グローバル・コンパクトへの署名・加入手続き

2023年9月6日 営業部 丈彦

清水社長の指示により「国連グローバル・コンパクトへの署名・加入手続き」を始めました。「国連グローバル・コンパクト」の内容に関しては、おんどの紙面で詳しい説明が何度もなされており皆様もご承知のことと思われますので、今回は加盟手続きを中心にご説明させて頂きます。

国連グローバル・コンパクト (UNGC) は、国連と民間(企業・団体)が手を結び、健全なグローバル社会を築くための世界最大のサステナビリティイニシアチブです。UNGC に署名する企業・団体は「人権の保護」「不当な労働の排除」「環境への対応」「腐敗の防止」に関わる10原則に賛同し、その実現に向けて努力を継続することが求められています。企業としては、UNGC に加盟することにより、より自覚的、自発的に活動する意識が持てるようになり、文字通り、持続的な活動を継続する精神的支柱になることが期待できます。また、企業の経営層だけでなく、従業員を含めた企業全体で4分野10原則を着実に推進していく契機になるものと考えられます。

2022年9月時点で、世界では20,860の企業と団体がグローバル・コンパクトに加盟しており、日本では2023年8月時点で、569の企業・団体が加盟しております。日本ではキッコーマン(株)、伊藤忠商事(株)、日本郵船(株)、オムロン(株)等著名な企業が加入しておりますが、加入団体数はあまり多くありません。年会費、活動報告書の提出義務等が加入へのネックになっていると推測されますが、そのような状況の中でもいち早くウチヤが加入することに大きな意義があると思われます。

署名・加入までの流れは、以下の通りです。

まずはUN Global Compact の日本窓口である Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ)の「入会説明会」に参加した上で「入会申請書類」を提出します。「入会申請書類」は多岐に亘り、「国連事務総長宛て書簡」「宣誓書」「登記事項証明書」「直近の財務諸表」等8種類ありますが、その中で一番準備に苦労したのが「CSR 報告書もしくは同等」の報告書でした。「CSR 報告書」とは、環境や社会問題などに対して企業は倫理的な責任を果たすべきであるとするCSR(企業の社会的責任)の考え方に基づいて行う、社会的な取り組みをまとめた報告書です。かみ砕いて言いますと、企業が実際にどのような考えに基づいて、どのような社会的な取り組みを行っているのかをまとめた報告書です。通常は数十名でプロジェクトチームを組み、1年以上を掛けて作成する報告書です。報告書のページ数が数百ページに及ぶ企業も少なくありません。ウチヤにはそのような時間的、人員的余裕もありませんので、GCNJと交渉の上、ウチヤオリジナルの同等書類を提出することで了承を得ました。清水社長が寄稿された2020年以降のおんど13ヵ月分を大変貴重なエビデンスとして役立たせて頂きました。

9月中旬にGCNJの経営執行委員会において、ウチヤのUNGC署名申請を認めるかが審査され、認められますと、UNGCニューヨーク本部に対し「署名申請」を行います。UNGCにおける審査に合格しますと、晴れて「UNGCへの署名手続き」「GCNJへの加入手続き」が完了することになります。順調に行けば、ウチャも11月中には上記手続きが完了する予定です。

GCNJ に加入しますと、加入企業は下記2つの義務を負担することになります。

- ① 年会費の支払い
- ② CoP (Communication on Progress) の提出

年会費の金額は、その企業の売上高で決まります。ウチャの年会費は10万円です。

(因みに300億ドル以上の売上高がある会社は、年会費が186万円となります)

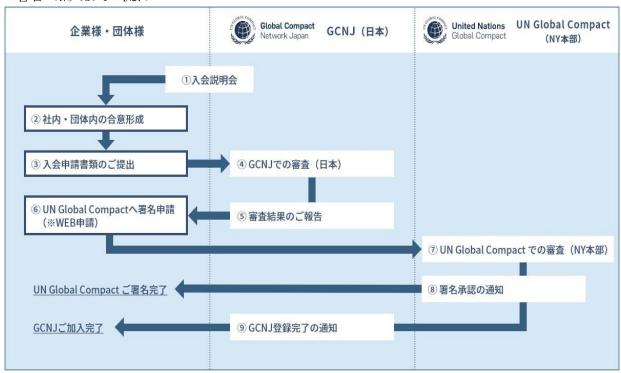
CoP(Communication on Progress) は2種類ありまして、「CEO デジタル宣誓書」と「オンライン質問

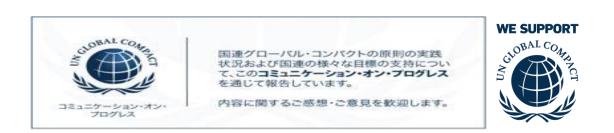
票」です。「CEO デジタル宣誓書」は、経営トップが UN Global Compact への継続的な支持を表明する宣誓書です。「オンライン質問票」は、GC4 分野(人権・労働・環境・腐敗防止)及びガバナンスに関する質問に対し、自社の取り組み状況を回答します。質問は全て英語ですので、苦労するかもしれませんが、①②を提出しないと除名処分になりますので、予め準備をし提出期限までに必ず提出する必要があります。

「国連グローバル・コンパクトへの署名・加入手続き」に関して説明して参りましたが、この手続きは、ウチヤが「国連グローバル・コンパクト4分野10原則」を着実に、継続的に実行していく端緒に過ぎません。この機会を良い契機とてして捉え、今まで以上に真摯に取り組んでいく必要があります。また、この10原則は「企業」に求められる原則ですが、私達従業員も何か協力できることはないかを真摯に考え、継続的に実行することも重要なことだと思います。初めから大きなことはできませんが、私も日々の些細な活動から始めていきたいと思っております。

以上

<署名・加入までの流れ>





Procedures for signing and joining the United Nations Global Compact

6th September, 2023 Marketing Department, Takehiko

Based on the instruction of President, Mr. Shimizu, I have begun the process of signing and joining the United Nations Global Compact. As the contents of the United Nations Global Compact have been explained in detail many times in our monthly magazine Ondo, and then everyone knows them, this time I would like to explain mainly about the membership procedures. The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) is the world's largest sustainability initiative that makes the United Nations and the private sector (companies and organizations) work in cooperation and promote building a healthy global society together. Companies and organizations that sign the UNGC must agree with the 10 principles related to "protection of human rights," "elimination of unfair labor practices," "response to the environment," and "anti-corruption." By becoming a member of the UNGC, the company, will have awareness in acting more subjectively and spontaneously. Literally, it could be expected to become a spiritual support for continuing our activities. In addition, it is believed that this will serve as an opportunity not only for corporate management but also for the entire company including its employees, to steadily promote the 10 principles in the four areas.

As of September 2022, 20,860 companies and organizations worldwide have joined the Global Compact, and in Japan, as of August 2023, 569 companies and organizations have joined the Global Compact. In Japan, prominent companies such as Kikkoman Corporation, ITOCHU Corporation, Nippon Yusen Corporation, and Omron Corporation are members, but the number of member organizations is not so large. It is presumed that the annual membership fee and the obligation to submit activity reports are the bottlenecks to membership. However, we believe that it would be of great significance for Uchiya to become the member earlier than other companies under such circumstances.

The procedure of signing the UN Global Compact and joining Global Compact Network Japan(GCNJ) is as follows. At first, we need to attend the "Membership Information Session" of Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ), which is the Japan contact point for UN Global Compact, and then submit the "Membership Application Documents" to them. There are a wide variety of "membership application documents", and there are eight types, such as "letter to the United Nations Secretary-General," "letter of commitment," "certificate of registered matter," and "latest financial statements." Among them, the most difficult document to prepare was the "CSR report or equivalent report". A "CSR report" is a summary of social activities of a company based on the concept of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility), which states that a company should fulfill their ethical responsibilities regarding environmental and social issues. In short, it is a report that summarizes what kind of social activities a company has actually made and what kind of thinking their activities have been based on. Usually, many people form a project team to create this report and it takes more than a year. Many companies create a report containing hundresds of pages. Since Uchiya didn't have the time or manpower to do so, I have negotiated with GCNJ and obtained their approval that we could submit Uchiya's original equivalent documents. The Ondo(our monthly magazine) for 13 months from 2020, written by President, Mr. Shimizu, has been useful as extremely valuable evidence.

In mid-September, GCNJ's Executive Committee will examine whether Uchiya's UNGC signature application should be approved. When approved, we will apply for signature to the UNGC at the headquarters in New York. When we pass the examination at the UNGC, to our joy, we will joyfully complete the "procedures for signing the UNGC" and "procedures for joining the GCNJ." When things go well, it is expected that Uchiya could complete the above procedures by the end of November.

A company that joins GCNJ should have the responsibilities as follows.

- Payment of annual membership fee
- ② Submission of CoP (Communication on Progress)

The amount of annual membership fee is determined by the company's sales. The annual membership fee for Uchiya is 100,000 yen. (Incidentally, companies with more than sales of 30 billion dollars should pay 1,860,000 yen as an annual membership fee.)

There are two types of CoP (Communication on Progress), "CEO Digital Letter of Commitment" and "Online Questionnaire." The "CEO Digital Letter of Commitment" is one where a top management expresses their continuous support for the UN Global Compact. In the "Online Questionnaire", we should answer the status of our company's activities in response to the questions related to the four fields of GC (human rights, labor, environment, anti-corruption) and our governance. Because all the questions are in English, it may be hard and difficult. However if we don't submit ① or ②, we will be expelled, Then we need to prepare in advance and be sure to submit them by the submission deadline.

I have explained the "procedures for signing and joining the United Nations Global Compact," but this procedure is just the beginning of Uchiya's steady and continuous implementation of the "10 principles in four areas of the United Nations Global Compact." We must regard this opportunity as a good chance and work even more earnestly than before. Additionally, while these 10 principles are required for a company, I think it is also important for us as employees to seriously consider whether there is anything we can do to help, and to continue implementing them. I can't do a great thing from the beginning, but I would like to start with small daily activities.

< Flow of joining the United Nations Global Compact>

