

Assurance Statement



INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE OPINION STATEMENT

Statement No: **SRA-IND-682369-1**

Godrej Consumer Products Limited (GCPL) Sustainability Report 2016-17

The British Standards Institution is independent to Godrej Consumer Products Limited (GCPL) (hereafter referred to as "GCPL" in this statement) and has no financial interest in the operation of GCPL other than for the assessment and assurance of this report.

This independent assurance opinion statement has been prepared for GCPL only for the purposes of assuring its statements relating to its sustainability report, more particularly described in the Scope, below. It was not prepared for any other purpose. The British Standards Institution will not, in providing this independent assurance opinion statement, accept or assume responsibility (legal or otherwise) or accept liability for or in connection with any other purpose for which it may be used, or to any person by whom the independent assurance opinion statement may be read. This statement is intended to be used by stakeholders & management of GCPL.

This independent assurance opinion statement is prepared on the basis of review by the British Standards Institution of information presented to it by GCPL. The review does not extend beyond such information and is solely based on it. In performing such review, the British Standards Institution has assumed that all such information is complete and accurate.

Any queries that may arise by virtue of this independent assurance opinion statement or matters relating to it should be addressed to GCPL only.

Scope

The scope of engagement agreed upon with GCPL includes the following:

1. The assurance covers the whole Sustainability Report 2016 of GCPL prepared "In accordance" with GRI-G4 Guideline – Core option, and focuses on systems and activities of GCPL and offers brands under the categories of home care, personal care and hair care categories across the different markets in India and overseas during the period from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.

2. The AA1000 Assurance Standard, AA1000AS (2008) Type 1 engagement evaluates the nature and extent of GCPL's adherence to all three AA1000 AccountAbility Principles:

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Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness. The specified sustainability performance information/data disclosed in the report has been evaluated.

Opinion Statement

Our work was carried out by a team of sustainability report assurers in accordance with the AA1000 Assurance standard, AA1000AS (2008) and GRI-G4 Guidelines. We planned and performed this part of our work to obtain the necessary information and explanations we considered to provide sufficient evidence that GCPL's description of their self-declaration of compliance with the GRI-G4 Guidelines were fairly stated.

We conclude that the GCPL Sustainability Report 2016 Review provides a fair view of the GCPL's CSR programmes and performances during 2016. We believe that the 2016 economic, social and environment performance disclosures are fairly represented. The sustainability performance disclosures disclosed in the report demonstrate GCPL's efforts recognized by its stakeholders.

Methodology

Our work was designed to gather evidence on which to base our conclusion. We undertook the following activities:

- A top level review of issues raised by external parties that could be relevant to GCPL's policies to provide a check on the appropriateness of statements made in the report
- Discussion with senior executives on GCPL's approach to stakeholder engagement. We had no direct contact with external stakeholders
- Interview with staff involved in sustainability management, report preparation and provision of report information were carried out
- Review of key organizational developments
- Review of supporting evidence for claims made in the reports
- An assessment of the company's reporting and management processes concerning this reporting against the principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness as described in the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles Standard (2008)

Conclusions

A detailed review against the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness and the GRI-G4 Guideline is set out below:

Inclusivity

This report has reflected a fact that GCPL is seeking the engagement of its stakeholders through numerous channels such as client feedback review reports, internal surveys, supplier meets and analysts meets. GCPL product portfolio encompasses personal care products, hair care products and home care products. In this Sustainability Report, material data disclosed is primarily restricted to the 18 manufacturing units of India along with the manufacturing units spread over other 13 countries. This report covers the stakeholder issue together with fair reporting and disclosures for economic, social and environmental information. In our professional opinion, the report covers the GCPL's inclusivity issues.

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Materiality

GCPL publishes sustainability information that enables its stakeholders to make informed judgments about the company's management and performance. In our professional opinion the report covers GCPL's material issues by using GCPL's materiality matrix and boundary mapping. Our view of an area for improvement for the report was adopted by GCPL before issue of this opinion statement.

Responsiveness

GCPL has implemented the practice to respond to the expectations and perceptions of its stakeholders. It includes client survey and different feedback mechanisms to external stakeholders and internal stakeholders. In our professional opinion the report covers GCPL's responsiveness issues, however, the future report should be further enhanced by the following areas:

- Provide further information regarding responsiveness mechanism to different stakeholders

GRI-reporting

GCPL provided us with their self-declaration of compliance GRI-G4 Guideline and the classification to align with "In accordance" - Core.

Based on our verification review, we are able to confirm that social responsibility and sustainable development disclosures in all 3 categories (Environmental, Social and Economic) are reported with reference to "In accordance" with the GRI G4 Guideline - Core option.

In our professional opinion the self-declaration covers GCPL's social responsibility and sustainability issues, however, the future report could be improved through the involvement and consultation of a larger group of the identified stakeholders than the current levels.

Competency and Independence

The assurance team was composed of Lead auditors experienced in industrial sector, and trained in a range of sustainability, environmental and social standards including GRI-G4 and GRI Standard, AA1000, ISO10002, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, and ISO 9001, etc. BSI is a leading global standards and assessment body founded in 1901. The assurance is carried out in line with the BSI Fair Trading Code of Practice.

Assurance Level

The moderate level of assurance provided is in accordance with AA1000 Assurance standard, AA1000AS (2008) in our review as defined by the scope and methodology described in this statement.

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Responsibility

It is the responsibility of GCPL's senior management to ensure the information presented in the Sustainability Report is accurate. Our responsibility is to provide an independent assurance opinion statement to stakeholders giving our professional opinion based on the scope and methodology described.

For and on behalf of BSI:

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25 Sep 2017

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