

Abu Ghazaleh appointed as deputy chairman of Global Compact

AMMAN (JT) — UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon appointed Talal Abu Ghazaleh, chairman and CEO of the Amman-based Talal Abu Ghazaleh Organisation, as the deputy chairman of the UN Global Compact during its second meeting held at UN headquarters in New York earlier this week.

The Global Compact board of directors includes 20 international figures that represent some of the largest global businesses, the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Labour Union, in addition to other civil institutions.

The meeting addressed topics such as combating corruption, governance, climate change, transparency, prevention of conflict and optimal performance in education in accordance with its 10 principles.

The board completed the arrangements for the convening of the Global Compact World Summit, to be held in Geneva July 5-6, 2007 with the expected participation of more than 1,000 senior officials from the business community, governments and civil society.

Held under the title "Facing the Facts: The Actual Work," the summit is expected to issue an international declaration on the role of the labour sector in the community.

The board entrusted Abu Ghazaleh with the responsibility of arranging for the establishment of national centres for the Global Compact in the Arab states, and a regional Arab centre under the auspices of the secretary general of the League of Arab States, and inviting major Arab corporations to participate in the conference, according to a statement released by the Talal Abu Ghazaleh Organisation.

The Global Compact, the world's largest voluntary corporate responsibility initiative, was launched in 2000 with the aim of having businesses work in conjunction with UN agencies, trade unions, civil society and governments to promote universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour and environmental standards, and the fight against corruption.