

## Sustainability Strategy for Governance in a Turbulent World

The two-day Global Summit on Sustainability , held on 29 and 30 July in London, organised jointly by the World Council for Corporate Governance and India's Institute of Directors and themed 'Sustainability - Key to driving businesses in a turbulent world', proved highly successful and turned out to be a transformational event that achieved many breakthroughs and moved corporate governance and sustainability beyond conventional thinking.

In the words of Dr Justice Pasayat , Chairman Competition Appellate Tribunal: *"The proceedings were so engaging that every participants remained glued from 9am through to well past dinner at 10 pm. Most participants said it was the most memorable conference they ever attended – a galaxy of eminent speakers, every speaker giving a new shade to sustainability. Dr Mehra's theme address "A strategy for sustainability for governance in a turbulent world got a thunderous applause. His redefinition of sustainability – a process of creative destruction that continually disrupts the status quo and harnesses turbulence to achieve an organisation's long term goals through TEAR – Transparency, Engagement, Accountability and Responsibility captured the imagination of everyone."*

Eminent speakers included Lord Anthony Giddens, Emeritus Professor, London School of Economics; Dr. Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD; Rt Hon Baroness Verma, House of Lords spokesperson for International Development; John Elkington Founder of SustainAbility, Rt. Hon. Baroness Verma Minister of International Development , Graham Baxter CEO IBLF, Hon'ble Justice (Dr) Arijit Pasayat, Chairman Competition Appellate Tribunal of India, Mark Goyder, Director Tomorrow's Company and David Grayson CBE Director Doughty Centre for Corporate Responsibility, Lisa Neuberger, Strategy Lead, Global Corporate Citizenship, Accenture; Niall Dunn Managing Director Saatchi and Saatchi and many other opinion leaders, visionaries and thinkers.

The Summit elicited an overwhelmingly positive feedback. Here are some excerpts:

*"Madhav, I am pleased that the Summit went so well. Yes, it would be very good to keep in touch because the next year from now will be a rather crucial one in deciding whether the world can effectively respond to the enormous challenges that have built up.*

*I really enjoyed your paper on Sustainable Strategy and very much support your ideas on development there. I think you are right to question the notion of 'sustainable development'. I also agree with what you say about the existing 'dysfunctional development model' of modern industrialisation. I found the whole paper extremely interesting and compelling."*

*Lord Giddens, Emeritus Professor and former Director London School of Economics*

*"Delighted to learn that the event went well in London. Spoke to a number of my colleagues who attended Global Summit on Sustainability they all stated that it was one of the best conference they had attended on this subject of Sustainability!!" ..... Mo Girach BSc (Hon), MBA, Special Advisor to the NHS Alliance (Social Enterprise, Mutuals, Co-operatives) ,Associate Consultant Kings Fund*

*"Madhav;It was a great success. Congratulations" .....Mark Clough QC ,Partner, Solicitor Advocate , Addleshaw Goddard LLP*

*"I enjoyed the Summit and found the quality and range of speakes very impressive. It's not often that so many 'thought leaders' are at one event. Most of the presentations were informative and thought provoking. I have already used the Summit book to reference material to my colleagues in the States. One of the impressive factors for me, having attended numerous conference, was how little self*

*promotion there was in the presentations – refreshing change” ..... Peter Braithwaite, Director, CH2MHILL*

*“In retrospect it was a most memorable event. Excellent, well chosen topics relevant to today’s world scenario. Decisions should be sent to policy makers, business owners”.....Ganpat Singh, Chief Executive, J K Lakshmi Cement*

*“I enjoyed every moment of the presentation albeit time limitation allocated to sessions” .....Mufwa Munthali , Malawi High Commission*

*“I truly got value out of this summit” ..... Karin Laljani, MD, Clownfish*

*“Very good networking” .... Alice Lam, SkyB*

*“Excellent conference, ACCA is very interested in cooperation”.....Cecilia Thorn, ACCA*

*“Karin and I both really enjoyed the London summit. We found the quality of the debate stimulating and it was very interesting to meet so many committed and senior people.” .....Alex Johnson, Director, Clownfish*

*“Galaxy of quality speakers, concentrated capsules”.....S N Ambardekar, Sr VP, Tata Motors*

*“Great initiative” .....Major Gen S S Sidhu, IBM India*

*Madhav has an extraordinary team at the Institute of Directors in India which must be complimented for this great conference. Peter Walker , Chairman Pielle Consulting*

*“Warm regards to all who put the wonderful program together” .....Prof Tagi Sagafi-nejad, Killam Distinguished Professor, Texas A&M International University, USA*

*Summary of the conclusions from the Sustainability summit is very informative and reinforces the directions that can guide future actions to achieve sustainability. Professor Anona Armstrong PhD, Corporate Governance Program, Victoria Law School, Melbourne, Australia*

*Madhav, Yours has been a pioneering effort. ...sure to keep these issues in the forefront of all that we do in future Ravi Nedungadi, President UB Group , Bangalore*

*“Madhav, I am enormously grateful for the opportunities that you put before me and for being an ongoing role model of so many leadership qualities.*

*I don't really feel that I was able to contribute much to the outcome of the London event, but I certainly hope that I shall to the Lisbon one.*

*When someone chooses to put their head above the parapet, others will take pot shots at them (even I have learned that), but true leaders like yourself have a vision and pursue it regardless. You only had to look around the room at the National Liberal Club and you could see 50 or more people who will, for years to come, say... "Madhav Mehra, what a man! I saw him in London, you know?!" I, for one, am proud to consider you one of my friends.*

*Now, enough of this mildly maudlin talk - let's get on and change the world!”*

*Graham Wilson, Leadership strategist and mentor*

*“I did not know what a phenomenon Dr Mehra is until I participated at the Global Summit on Sustainability in London. The proceedings were so engaging that every participants remained glued from 9am though to well past dinner at 10 pm. Most participants said it was the most memorable conference they have been with a*

*galaxy of eminent speakers, every speaker giving a new shade to sustainability. Madhav Mehra remote controlled the conference in such a way that every minute detail from design of the agenda, selection of speakers, menu for vegetarians was meticulously attended to. I wondered whether the Lord Gladstone, who founded the National Liberal Club, imagined that some 128 years later this venue will be a witness to proceedings that will shape the way humans will engage in their business.*

*Dr Mehra's theme address "A strategy for sustainability for governance in a turbulent world got a thunderous applause. His redefinition of sustainability – a process of creative destruction that continually disrupts the status quo and harnesses turbulence to achieve an organisation's long term goals through TEAR – Transparency, Engagement, Accountability and Responsibility" captured the imagination of everyone.*

*The extraordinary aspect of Dr Mehra is not that he is a rare visionary he is also down to earth practitioner of what he preaches. Soon after the conference I had the occasion to visit a school and hospital he has set up under S M Charitable Trust for the most disadvantaged children. Talking to these children I felt they had more confidence than children from public school. This is because he not only supervises every detail of the conference how each child is groomed. It is rare to find such combination of vision, passion and compassion, He is a true role model for those who wish to make this world a better place"*

**Dr Justice Arijit Pasayat, Judge of Supreme Court of India (Retd) and Chairman Competition Authority of India**

I enclose the Report and Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations.

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