

Newsletter issue: September 2015

Dear members, collaborators and supporters of the GAN,

It has been an eventful summer for the GAN as we are pleased to announce GAN input at Randstad Holding's annual global affairs meeting and advocacy at high-level events, including the G20 ministerial meetings in Turkey.



#### **US Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez and Shea Gopaul discuss apprenticeships**

At the G20 in Ankara in September 2015, Senior Council at USCIB and IOE Regional Vice-President for North America, Ms Ronnie Goldberg and Shea Gopaul had the opportunity to discuss the important role of apprenticeships in tackling youth unemployment with US Secretary of Labor Perez. Secretary Perez hopes to continue collaboration with the GAN and applauds the Swiss model of vocational training. [Further information.](#)

#### **GAN highlighted by Director-General of the ILO as a good example of creating jobs for youth in Turkey**



Also at the G20, The GAN was referenced on two separate occasions. Calling on governments to act as an engine for change and global policy coordination, the B20 and L20 signed a joint declaration stressing the urgent need to tackle youth unemployment. The declaration mentions the GAN as an example of businesses promoting quality apprenticeships. [Further information.](#)

At the ministerial level, the DG of the ILO, Mr Guy Ryder, reminded stakeholders that the most serious global epidemic is unemployment. At the national level, Mr Ryder gave an example of the GAN National Network (GNN) in Turkey as a concrete example of employers investing in youth

skills. [Further information.](#)

#### **GAN emphasizes apprenticeships and vocational training at the landmark MEDEF Summer University Conference**



On 27 August, MEDEF hosted their annual groundbreaking conference in Paris, providing a leading forum for Heads of States, political leaders, entrepreneurs, intellectuals and economists to discuss future developments and new ideas on the world society as a whole. As a panelist on the role of the educational system and private sector in preparing French youth for future quality jobs in an increasingly globalized and competitive economy, Ms Gopaul advocated for the GAN as a response to combat youth

unemployment. With a youth unemployment rate of about 25% in France, Ms Gopaul proposed the promotion of apprenticeships through a GAN National Network (GNN) as a favourable solution for employers to make a real impact in increasing opportunities for youth. Further information:

→ [GAN at MEDEF Summer University](#)

→ [GAN-MEDEF Reports](#)

### **Leveraging GAN partnership at Randstad Holding's global annual affairs meeting**

Ms Gopaul was invited to GAN member Randstad Holding's annual global affairs meeting at their headquarters in Amsterdam. This was a fruitful opportunity for Randstad and the GAN to make the most out of leveraging a public-private partnership as Ms Gopaul was able to meet and present the GAN to various country focal points of Randstad. Randstad showed keen interest in supporting the GAN in alleviating youth unemployment not just on a global level, but also on a country level where GNNs are present. It was also an opportunity for Randstad to showcase their impressive Youth@Work initiative which supported 10,000 youth to find jobs within five weeks. The GAN offers to all members, assistance on maximizing GAN partnership by presenting to key focal points within the member company.

### **GAN Executive Director discusses inclusive growth and decent work at the UN Global Compact's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Ms Shea Gopaul and GAN Member Nestlé presented at the UN Global Compact's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary "Business as a Force for Good" at the UN Headquarters in New York. As table discussion leader, Ms Gopaul was called upon to envision the future of multi-stakeholder partnerships designed to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in identifying opportunities to employ new partnership models. Under SDG8 on "Decent Work and Economic Growth," Ms Gopaul discussed how GAN's mandate supports this theme.

Finally, I would like to say that our commitment to address youth unemployment globally is stronger than it ever was. As we are using social media tools such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter to accomplish this, we encourage you to follow us at: #GAN4YOUTH

With kind regards,

Shea Gopaul, Executive Director