

APSCA APPOINTS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PROFESSIONALISM AND CREDIBILITY OF THE SOCIAL COMPLIANCE AUDITING INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 26, 2024: The Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA), the leading organization driving increased trust and transparency in social compliance auditing, has appointed a new Board of Directors to drive the profession's growth amid increasing global demand for social compliance auditing.

The transition from an Executive Board, formerly operating with close involvement in day-to-day operations, to a governance-focused Board of Directors will strengthen APSCA by ensuring the long-term sustainability of a profession that plays a critical role in improving conditions globally for millions of supply chain workers.

APSCA's nomination process commenced in February 2024 and more than 80 percent of Member Firms cast votes, demonstrating excellent participation and engagement from the organization's global membership. All three of the newly elected Board members are women, and all eight Board members, both newly elected and re-elected, have decades of social compliance industry experience, operate in global business markets and serve in senior-level roles within their respective organizations.

"We are delighted to welcome our new board, the first elected under APSCA's new structure," said Colleen Vien, APSCA President & CEO. "This group's collective expertise and depth of experience will allow us to meet our stakeholders' needs by facilitating greater innovation, stronger governance and improved member and partner engagement. We recognize there is much progress to be made in the field of social compliance auditing and look forward to charting a stronger future together."

The new Board comprises four seats for APSCA Member Firms and four for the Stakeholder Advisory Board (SAB), promoting balanced representation for the non-profit organization's approximately 5,000 Auditors and 64 Member Firms from more than 120 countries worldwide. Member Firm seats include one each for APSCA A-Firms, B-Firms, C-Firms and an 'At-Large' seat, with SAB seats including one each for Brands/Retailers, Collaborative Programs, Independents and an 'At-Large' seat. The newly elected Board members include:

- **Laurent Corbaz** (re-elected). Currently serving as Vice President, Strategic Planning at SGS, Mr. Corbaz has served in various senior management roles in both Switzerland and the United States. He is responsible for strategic development and planning within the Business Assurance Division covering audit, certification, training, CSR, supply chain services, risk management and technical consultancy across multiple industries.
- **Greg Gardner** (re-elected). As President and CEO of ARCHE Advisors, Mr. Gardner has an extensive career in corporate social responsibility, with a background dating back to 1995 as a social auditor in Los Angeles garment factories. He has investigated issues ranging from child labor to human trafficking and forced labor, including audits in China, Iraq, Nepal, North Korea, Myanmar, Russia and beyond.
- **Gabriela Lopes** (newly elected). Currently serving as COO International Markets at APCER. Her career at APCER has included 16 years in social responsibility, serving at APCER China as COO and currently as Member of the Board and as Executive Director of APCER in Portugal, a leading global provider of certification, audit and training services.

- **Rajan Kamalanathan** (re-elected). Currently serving as Vice President Sustainability and CSR at Bureau Veritas Consumer Product Services, Mr. Kamalanathan has more than 20+ years' experience working within the environmental, social and human rights and supply chain sector, with a global mandate, in developing and managing credible and robust social and environmental audit service programs for clients worldwide.
- **Barbara Gregory** (newly elected). Currently serving as Senior Manager – Responsible Sourcing, Human Rights & Environment at leading U.S. retailer Walmart, Ms. Gregory has more than 15 years' experience in the responsible sourcing sector, including management of global supply chain investigations and analysis of third-party social audit standards and audit protocols.
- **Avedis Seferian** (re-elected; Chair). Mr. Seferian is President and CEO of WRAP (Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production). A recognized expert in social compliance and responsible sourcing, he was named by Assent Compliance as one of the Top 100 Corporate Social Responsibility Influence Leaders globally. Mr. Seferian was previously the Chair of the former Executive Board and will remain in that capacity as Chair for the new Board of Directors.
- **Craig Moss** (re-elected). Currently serving as Executive Vice President – Measurement at Ethisphere, Mr. Moss is a leading expert on using management systems to improve compliance and risk management performance within companies and across supply chains, having designed and led numerous programs helping Fortune 500 companies and private equity firms around the world to reduce supply chain risk and improve performance.
- **Linda Kromjong** (newly elected). Currently serving as President of amfori, a leading global business association for sustainable trade. Supporting its members with actionable due diligence tools and solutions to understand and improve the ESG performance of their supply chains. amfori's BSCI solution being a well-known and widely used tool in the industry. Prior to this role, Ms. Kromjong held leadership roles with other industry stakeholders including brands.

APSCA welcomed nominations from individuals of diverse racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds; nominees who could bring diverse experiences, expertise and perspectives were encouraged to apply. Nineteen candidates were nominated and evaluated by the Nomination Committee, which used an established "Board Skills Matrix" for nominee evaluation, interviewing prospective nominees to further evaluate suitability and qualification.

About APSCA

The Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA) was founded to help drive increased trust and transparency in social compliance auditing, a critical component of brand efforts to make supply chains more resilient and advance workplace conditions globally. Its mission is to enhance the professionalism, consistency and credibility of individual auditors and organizations performing independent social compliance audits, which it accomplishes through its Certified Social Compliance Auditor (CSCA) program and other tools and resources for audit firms, collaborative programs and initiatives, brands and retailers who rely on social compliance auditors' expertise. For more information, please visit <https://www.theapsca.org/>