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## Media information

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## Global Social Business Summit Berlin - The Gathering 2019: Volkswagen promotes ideas for social and sustainable business

- **550 participants discuss sustainable and social business ideas at the Global Social Business Summit in Berlin on November 7 and 8**
- **Volkswagen Board Member for Human Resources, Gunnar Kilian: "It's time for a change."**
- **Andreas Renschler, Board Member for Brand Group Truck & Bus and CEO of TRATON SE: "We are responsible for much more than just bare business figures."**
- **Hiltrud Werner, Board Member for Integrity and Legal Affairs, pointed out the company's core social competence: mobility**

Berlin, November 7, 2019 - Social, economic and ecological: At the Global Social Business Summit Berlin - The Gathering 2019 (GSBS) - 550 representatives from business, science, politics and society are discussing business models that pursue social and ecological goals and are profitable at the same time. The conference with participants from 54 countries is taking place on 7 and 8 November in Berlin. For the fourth time, Volkswagen Group is supporting the annual conference with Nobel Peace Prize laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus and is represented by three members of the Group Management Board: Hiltrud Werner, Integrity and Law, Gunnar Kilian, Human Resources, and Andreas Renschler, Truck & Bus brand group and CEO of TRATON SE.



**Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and Gunnar Kilian, Volkswagen Group Board Member for Human Resources, at the Global Social Business Summit**

"Volkswagen is more and more addressing the question of how we, as one of the world's leading automotive companies, can contribute to changing the world for the better, not only in terms of mobility, but also socially and ecologically," says Kilian. "Disruptive leaps in technology, social imbalances and the increasing environmental sensitivity of our society demand solution focused answers from business, politics and society."

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Andreas Renschler explains: "Especially as managers, we are responsible for far more than just bare business figures. We are partly responsible for creating a society that offers opportunities for all".

Hiltrud Werner, board member for Integrity and Legal Affairs, points out that the Volkswagen Group assumes social responsibility in the sector of its core competence - mobility. "With electric driving, digital networking and autonomous driving, we want to make the car cleaner, quieter, more intelligent and safer. The Volkswagen ID.3<sup>1</sup> is the first net CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral car," says Werner. "We are absolutely convinced that by sustainable and social action we can simultaneously create employment, soften monostructural economic imbalances and support people find work who do not have access to traditional industrial labor.

The GSBS also commemorated the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989. Gunnar Kilian: "30 years later, again a new era is taking shape. This time, change is being driven by rapid technological progress. If, in times of change, we work together, being open minded to the world and working peacefully on solutions to address the current challenges of transformation, then we can cope with the upheaval as a new beginning and jointly design it socially sound," continues Gunnar Kilian. Considering this background, Volkswagen believes that cooperation with the Global Social Business Summit provides advantage for both: "It's time for a change.

The Global Social Business Summit is the world's leading forum for social business. It was launched in 2009 under the leadership of the Nobel Peace Prize winner and Bengali economist Professor Muhammad Yunus. "We are blessed to have been born in an age of great opportunity - an age of amazing technologies, great wealth and limitless human potential. Now the solutions to many of the world's most pressing problems - including hunger, poverty and diseases that have plagued humanity even before history began - are within reach. Most of these solutions could be accelerated by the creation of a new economic order that includes the powerful instrument of social business," says Professor Yunus.

International social business protagonists present their ideas for a more sustainable and social world in various workshops and work with the Volkswagen Group on their own possible social business projects. The goal is to combine social and environmentally friendly solutions with a profitable business model.

<sup>1</sup>) This vehicle is not yet for sale in Europe.

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## About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group, with its headquarters in Wolfsburg, is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. The Group comprises twelve brands from seven European countries: Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche, Ducati, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania and MAN. The passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products include ranges from pick-ups, buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 664,496 employees around the globe produce on average 44,567 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2018, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,8 million (2017: 10,7 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.3 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2018 totalled €235.8 billion (2017: €231 billion). Earnings after tax in 2017 amounted to €17.1 billion (2017: €11.6 billion).

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