

## STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT

Copenhagen - June 2011

To whom it may concern

**I hereby express our continued support for the Global Compact initiative.**

Since VLA's latest communication on progress in June 2010 the implementation of environmentally sustainable measures in our various building projects has become even more present. Many of our projects are now designed with energy optimized features like high insulating glass, integration of solar cells and efficient climate shells.

Most notably is our part in the development of a low energy housing concept which will offer affordable 'green' homes to all levels of income.

For actions taken and outcomes achieved I kindly refer to the following pages.

Best regards



**Søren Daugbjerg**  
CEO and partner Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects

## ACTIONS

### Human rights

- As a firm founded and based in Denmark – who has been a member of The United Nations since its creation in 1945 - we of course strive to be in compliance with the 30 articles of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- As architects we have a special obligation in regards to article 25 (1) concerning the right to adequate housing. At VLA we have a strong focus on housing projects and have over the last years designed several projects with a high degree of both environmental and economic sustainable measures.

### Labour

- Continued update of the 'VLA employee information' with description of rights and rules concerning employment in the firm. The information is available on the company's intranet and handed out in hard copy to every new employee. The information includes description of maternity leave, rights in case of illness, insurance, working hours, holidays and name of the elected union representative.
- Continued agreements with professional organizations ensuring the rights of employees at VLA.

### Environment

- VLA has a defined strategy concerning environmentally sustainable approaches to building design. The strategy is built around five focal points; the job, the architecture, the technology, finance and the strategy.
- Working with various business partners on developing new sustainable solutions for both private and public clients.

### Anti-corruption

- Compliance with Danish law in respect to anti-corruption – also when working abroad.

## OUTCOMES

### 'Energy Zero Home'



Since the first communication on progress in June 2010, VLA has continued the development of a housing concept with focus on low energy consumption, affordability and flexibility.

Continued collaboration with different business partners on this project provides VLA valuable challenges, feedback and inspiration for working with both environmental and social sustainability.

The concept's flexibility means that the houses are now being realized on several locations across Denmark. Some as family homes and some as homes for disabled.

The project is designed with inspiration from the Nordic townhouse tradition of modern and liveable houses. Human scale and vibrant facades make it an attractive type of housing.

Affordable quality housing requires a build system with a high degree of repetition and prefabrication. The building elements are prefabricated as room-size elements at a factory and erected and installed on foundations on site.

The low energy consumption is possible with the integration of measures like solar arrays and solar traps, extra insulation, ventilation plant with heat recycling and heat pumps.

The units are light constructions in recyclable materials such as timber, aluminium, galvanized steel and zinc.

## OUTCOMES

### Facts - 'Energy Zero Home'



Energy consumption: <math>< 1\text{kWh/m}^2\text{/year}</math>

Thermal transmittance

Windows: <math>0.65\text{W/m}^2\text{K}</math>

Facades/roof/floor: <math>0.08\text{-}0.1\text{W/m}^2\text{K}</math>

### Sustainable Energy Europe

The 'Energy Zero Home' project has been selected to be part of the EU 'Sustainable Energy Europe' campaign which is dedicated to energy-efficient, sustainable solutions.

Sustainable Energy Europe is an attempt to present an overall picture of European efforts in this field and to spread best practice in sustainable technologies, develop networks, and inspire new ideas and approaches. Some 450 projects and events are currently involved.