

CGF's Work on the Eradication of Forced Labour in Global Supply Chains

The Full Resolution

"As the Board of The Consumer Goods Forum, we recognise our role as responsible businesses to respect and promote human rights and decent working conditions worldwide, in alignment with ongoing efforts such as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other international frameworks including the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the recently launched United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

As part of our wider efforts to promote human rights and decent working conditions worldwide, we acknowledge the broad societal problem of modern slavery and we strive to eradicate forced labour from our value chains. We will also continue not to tolerate forced labour within our own operations.

To do so, we will harness the power of collective action as an industry group to identify and address issues and geographies of shared concern, enhancing the efficiency of any individual company initiatives in this area.

In areas of shared concern, we will jointly develop specific action plans supporting the eradication of forced labour, in alignment with the widely embraced guidance provided by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

To achieve this ambitious goal, we will work closely with other industries, with governments and with civil society".

Priority Industry Principles

"Forced labour is an unacceptable human rights violation that can take multiple forms, and must be addressed.

While certain employment and recruitment practices may not initially appear problematic, in aggregate or combined with other forms of leverage, they can result in forced labour, particularly among vulnerable workers.

We will take active measures to apply these Principles across our global value chains and own operations, to cases where such practices may lead to forced labour. We will seek to apply these Principles to all workers regardless of their employment status, location, contractual arrangements or role. We will do this as part of our collective journey to advance the human rights of workers and positively shape global labour markets."

I. Every worker should have freedom of movement.

The ability of workers to move freely should not be restricted by their employer through abuse, threats and practices such as retention of passport and valuable possessions.

II. No worker should pay for a job.

Fees and costs associated with recruitment and employment should be paid by the employer, not the employee.

III. No worker should be indebted or coerced to work.

Workers should work freely, aware of the terms and conditions of their work in advance, and paid regularly as agreed.

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