

March 20, 2018

Prof. Anita Ramasastry
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group
on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations
and other business enterprises

Prof. David Kaye
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection
of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

Mr. Baskut Tuncak
Special Rapporteur on the implications
for human rights of the environmentally sound management
and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

CC: Ms. Beatriz Balbin
Chief, Special Procedures Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations

Dear Prof. Ramasastry, Prof. Kaye and Mr. Tuncak,

Thank you for your letter referenced AL OTH 10/2018, dated March 16, 2018.

First of all, please allow me to express my gratitude for bringing this important matter to my attention. As a senior executive in charge of the global sustainability efforts at Samsung Electronics headquarters, I take the claims in your letter very seriously and will work with you in a transparent manner.

Samsung has the Global Code of Conduct and Business Conduct Guidelines that require all of our employees globally to follow in protecting and respecting human rights. We are very concerned to hear the claims that our global principles and policies were not respected in one of our Vietnamese facilities. We wish to take your letter as an opportunity to listen to various stakeholders' voices in the international community, and improve in providing a workplace that assures the highest standards of health, safety and welfare.

We are proceeding immediately to work with respective teams within the company, and will provide you with thorough responses to your inquiries as diligently and timely as possible.

We fully respect your potential plan to publicly express your concerns related to this issue in the near future. On the other hand, we believe it is critical for a company to be afforded sufficient time in responding to such questions, so that the public can receive balanced facts regarding this important matter. We would also respectfully request an opportunity to meet with you to further elaborate our perspectives and exchange views.

While we respect the important roles civil society organizations play in improving human rights conditions, in this particular case we have certain questions and doubts related to the research methodology and process adopted to produce the IPEN report.

We express our sincere appreciation for your endeavor in defending and promoting human rights around the globe. We would like to thank you again for contacting us, and for giving us this opportunity to share our views with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Won Kyong Kim', is written over the typed name and title.

Won Kyong Kim
Executive Vice President
Global Public Affairs Team
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.