

May 10, 2021

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

Prof. Karima Bennoune
Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

Prof. Fernand de Varennes
Special Rapporteur on minority issues

Mr. Ahmed Shaheed
Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

Prof. Tomoya Obokata
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery,
including its causes and consequences

Prof. Nils Melzer
Special Rapporteur on torture
and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Prof. Siobhán Mullally
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons,
especially women and children

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

Dear Professor Pesce, Professor Bennoune, Professor Varennes, Mr. Shaheed, Professor Obokata, Professor Nils and Professor Mullally,

Thank you for your letter (AL OTH 148/2021), dated March 12, 2021 to Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. ("Samsung") and for reaching out to us. We respect and appreciate the critical role of the UN system and Special Rapporteurs in protecting and promoting human rights. We value the opportunity for dialogue with you and all other relevant UN bodies and experts.

We have established a robust set of labor and human rights policies based on: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs); Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC); International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work; in short the ILO Core Conventions.

Despite our best efforts and commitment to continuous improvement, issues can still arise and we investigate such matters thoroughly. We rigorously monitor compliance in our facilities, consult outside experts and regularly examine our working practices to identify areas for further improvement.

We pay special attention to the human rights of vulnerable groups, such as both internal and foreign migrant workers. We would like to emphasize that Samsung stands firm with the UN in respecting human rights with the understanding that violations of human rights should not be tolerated. As a global brand, we strongly support the right of voluntary work and are committed to banning participation in, or imposition of, forced labor, bonded or indentured labor, involuntary or exploitive prison labor, slavery or tracking of persons as articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and The International Convention on Migrant Workers, the relevant conventions by the ILO.

That is why Samsung prohibits its suppliers from using all forms of forced labor and requires that all employment be freely chosen as stipulated both in our Migrant Worker Policy and in our Supplier Code of Conduct. Suppliers who are doing directly business with us and we have a contractual relationship with are obliged to apply our policies at the same level to their suppliers.

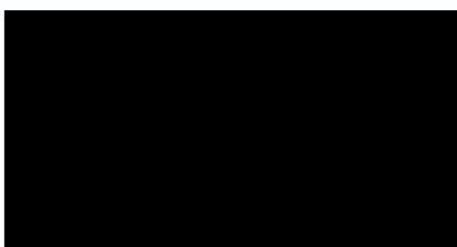
As a member of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA), the world's largest industry coalition dedicated to corporate social responsibility in global supply chains, we apply their Code of Conduct across our businesses and our supply chain and comply with the global standards and principles of human rights. At Samsung, we take seriously our responsibility in advancing human rights management within our own operations and along the supply chain. We regularly monitor our suppliers in accordance with RBA's verification standards to identify issues and make necessary improvements. We use the RBA on-site audit protocols to identify the working environment risks in labor, health and safety, environment, business ethics, and management system so we can implement corrective action plans.

Samsung has in this matter been closely collaborating with the RBA and is committed to upholding the labor rights of workers in supply chains throughout the world. With RBA's assistance and in addition to our normal auditing programs, Samsung conducted rigorous due diligence in line with international standards related to this matter but found no specific evidence of forced labor in the manufacturing of Samsung products.

We know, however, that the current due diligence process on human rights and forced labor may not be perfect. Therefore, Samsung helps suppliers to manage their human rights and work environment risks in accordance with global standards through various channels of grievance handling and training, along with on-site audits, 3rd party audits and special audits on forced labor.

As part of our labor and human rights journey we strive to continuously improve our labor and human rights processes and policies and incorporate the views and opinions of experts and our stakeholders to the benefit of our workers and society. In that sense, thank you again for the opportunity to engage with the UN and please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Won-kyong Kim
Executive Vice President
Corporate Sustainability Center
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.