

15 August 2023

Statement from Primark:

Since taking the very difficult decision to stop sourcing from Myanmar, we've been working in close collaboration with local and international stakeholders including IndustriALL, local trade unions and basic labour organisations in addition to factories and suppliers, to exit responsibly. We've also doubled our Ethical Trade team's presence on the ground, allowing us to increase our factory visits and oversight.

We were aware of the allegations raised by the BHRRC previously and have investigated and attempted remediation in each case. This report highlights the stark reality of sourcing from Myanmar in the current environment and the worrying impact on workers' rights and safety. We welcome the spotlight organisations such as the BHRRC put on these issues, and we will continue to fully investigate and remediate any allegations we are made aware of, where possible. The safety of our team and that of the workers in our suppliers' factories remains our priority throughout.

Other information:

- Our exit approach is guided by the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) and [ACT's guidelines](#). Additionally, alongside other brands we worked closely with IndustriALL to create [a framework for responsible business disengagement](#).
- We don't own any of the factories we source from in Myanmar or elsewhere, these are supplier-run factories used by other international brands and businesses which is why it is important that we work collectively across all stakeholders.
- As we work towards our exit, we've doubled the size of our Ethical Trade team on the ground, enabling us to more regularly visit the factories we still work with and giving us greater visibility.

Additional information on each allegation referenced:

- 1. GY Sen, March 2021, workers prevented from leaving factory during pro-democracy protests:** Primark immediately took action to investigate and resolve the issue raised about this supplier.
- 2. Myanmar Guotai Huasheng Glory, April 2022, dismissal of workplace coordinating committees:** Primark immediately took action to investigate the issue raised about this supplier. A remediation plan was put in place and remains ongoing. Actions include working closely with the supplier to ensure election of workplace coordinating committee (WCC) is facilitated fairly, WCC members are upskilled through regular on-site coaching, and frequent monitoring to ensure wages and working hours are managed correctly in line with our supplier code of conduct.
- 3. Kaixi Myanmar Fashion, November 2022, excess production targets and forced overtime:** Primark immediately took action to investigate the issues raised about this supplier. A remediation plan has been put in place with the factory to strengthen internal processes.