Cotton On Response re. Forced labour in factories in Xinjiang, China 24 July 2019

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Cotton On to respond to the following item:

"Cotton On and Target investigate suppliers after forced labour of Uyghurs exposed in China's Xinjiang", ABC News, 17 July 2019: <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-15/uyghur-forced-labour-xinjiang-china/11298750">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-15/uyghur-forced-labour-xinjiang-china/11298750</a>

Cotton on sent us the following response:

As a people first business, the Cotton On Group takes a zero tolerance approach to any form of modern slavery, including forced labour. Before partnering with a supplier they, and any subcontracted partners, must adhere to our 14 Rules to Trade which underpins our <a href="Ethical Sourcing Program"><u>Ethical Sourcing Program</u></a> (established in 2009).

Having traced and audited 100 per cent of our direct suppliers, our program continues to extend its focus to auditing subcontractors within our supply chain.

On becoming aware of the issues raised by Four Corners we commenced our own investigation. Should we identify any breeches of our 14 Rules to Trade, the Cotton On Group require immediate corrective action to be taken by our suppliers.