

Inditex' response

11 March 2020

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Inditex to respond to the following items:

- "Uyghurs for sale: 'Re-education', forced labour and surveillance beyond Xinjiang", 1 March 2020, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI): https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/2020-03/Uyghurs%20for%20sale_Final.pdf

Inditex sent the following response:

"Thank you very much for contacting us. We take the information published in the report very seriously. Inditex strictly prohibits forced labour in its supply chain and strives to uphold the best international labour standards by fully committing to the respect and promotion of human rights. In order to secure the sustainability of Inditex's supply chain, we conduct comprehensive due diligence and remediation and continuously update these processes to set best practice in all of our sourcing markets.

Furthermore, as established in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, we go further by collaborating with expert stakeholders to develop solutions to maintain a sustainable supply chain. With regards to the issues highlighted in the report, we have taken the following actions across three levels:

- Actions taken at the Workplace level
 - We continue to conduct thorough due diligence across our supply chain in China through our internal teams and expert external partners to ensure the absence of forced labour and compliance with our Code of Conduct and international labour standards.
 - Furthermore – and while we recognize this report doesn't relate to facilities in Xinjiang itself – it is worth being aware that Inditex does not have commercial relations with any factory located in Xinjiang.
- Actions at Community level
 - Since 2017, we have been working on a Public Private Partnership with the International Labour Organization to enhance human and labour rights covering the fundamental rights and principles at work – including the prevention of Forced Labour. China is among the four countries involved in this collaboration, with the project running in different provinces such as Hebei, Shandong, Hubei and Anhui, where different stakeholders (such as employers and workers' organisations) have been involved.
- Actions at Industry Level
 - This is an industry-wide issue and we continue to engage on this issue with relevant stakeholders, predominantly other fashion retailers and industry associations, to further understand the issues highlighted in the report to create leverage and develop the best solutions for workers.

A commitment to the highest international labour standards is of the utmost importance to Inditex, and we will continue to strive both individually and collectively to promote the human

and labour rights of workers within the global textile supply chain, including for workers in China.”