



BALI PROCESS GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS FORUM

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Good Morning – it’s a privilege to be with you here today – thank you to the co-chairs and organizers for the vision of bringing us together, and your hospitality. It is my hope that today marks the beginning of a great collaboration.

Combatting forced labor is an important area of focus for social impact in our supply chain. Why focus on forced labor? At Walmart, we believe in the dignity and opportunity that good work provides. Good work creates respect for the individual and a way to better oneself or one’s family. Forced labor, then, strikes at the very heart of this proposition – it takes the good of work, and turns it into an evil.

It is hard to believe that forced labor continues to exist in our time. Together, how do we combat it?

First, there is no substitute for good governance in the battle against forced labor. It is necessary to enforce existing laws, have strong laws against forced labor, and align the laws of different jurisdictions. This includes the creation of independent oversight bodies that are empowered to address the issue. Better alignment of laws enhances the ability of companies around the globe to adopt policies that support these laws, and creates better collaborations to support their enforcement. This is why Walmart has elected

to be a founding member and support a number of collaborative groups, including the Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment, which is advocating for better laws and regulation in this area, and why today's meeting is so important.

Second, sharing of information is important. Forced labor is a systemic problem, which means that it can be hard to see in any one place or time. A systemic problem requires a systemic and coordinated solution, meaning that sharing of information is critical to creating visibility to where the problem exists and what the best solutions are. The Walmart Foundation is investing in solutions that make information from forced labor victims available, and data fusion solutions to allow this information to be pulled together across jurisdictions so that, collectively, collaborators can take action.

Third, we are committed to helping make responsible recruitment the norm for global supply chains. Walmart, along with other companies who are members of the Consumer Goods Forum, is committed to the Priority Principles on Forced Labor, that is,

- 1) Every worker should have freedom of movement
- 2) No worker should pay for a job
- 3) No worker should be indebted or coerced to work

New business and regulatory models to realize these principles are the cornerstones seeking to eradicate forced labor. We are supporting programs like the Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition's Responsible Labor Initiative and Clearview to bring these programs to life. We also believe that governments should model the responsible recruitment in their own

procurement practices. Together, we can give employers throughout the supply chain the knowledge and choices that can help prevent forced labor.

I will end by noting that complex, systemic issues such as forced labor require humility and collaboration – no one company, government or NGO can eradicate forced labor alone; we all bear a responsibility, and progress is not happening as quickly as any of us would like. I am excited to share with, and learn from, all of you here today – it is essential to the furtherance of our collective goal. Thank you.

