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# Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement Volkswagen Group Services Iberia

This statement has been prepared pursuant to section 54 of the United Kingdom Modern Slavery Act 2015. In particular, it details the measures implemented throughout the Group to prevent forms of modern slavery and human trafficking.

#### Preamble

In view of the advancing globalisation and the increased complexity of our value creation and supply chain, we recognise our global responsibility which includes the protection of human rights. For us, this responsibility does not end at our facilities, but goes beyond them. We have extended and affirmed this understanding and our commitment to the internationally recognised agreements and conventions in the new "Declaration by the Volkswagen Group on Social Rights, Industrial Relations and Business and Human Rights" (Social Charter). This declaration was signed jointly by the Group Executive Board and the European and Global Group Works Council on 27 November 2020".

### Organisation and supply chain

Volkswagen AG is the parent company of the Volkswagen Group. It primarily develops vehicles and components for the Group brands, and also produces and sells in particular passenger cars and light commercial vehicles of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles and Volkswagen Components brands. In its function as parent company, Volkswagen AG directly or indirectly holds investments in AUDI AG, SEAT S.A., SKODA AUTO a.s., Dr. Ing. h.c. F. Porsche AG, Scania AB, MAN SE, Volkswagen Financial Services AG, Volkswagen Bank GmbH as well as numerous other companies in Germany and other countries.

The Volkswagen Group operates 120 production plants in 19 European countries and a further 10 countries in the Americas, Asia and Africa. 662,575 employees worldwide produce vehicles, and work in vehicle-related services or other fields of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

With its presence in key markets, the Group's global procurement organisation ensures that production materials, assets and services are sourced worldwide in the required quality, in accordance with sustainability standards and at the best possible terms. The competitive advantages of the various procurement markets are utilised by the whole Group as a result of the brands' networking of the various procurement organisations. We currently purchase products, services and parts from approx. 100 countries worldwide.

For us at Volkswagen Group Services Iberia, compliance with sustainability standards in areas such as human rights, occupational health and safety, environmental protection and combating corruption is a basic prerequisite for successful business with our suppliers. Only together with our business partners is it possible to ensure compliance with sustainability standards and contribute to the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To achieve this objective, we are continuing to implement concepts such as the "Sustainability in Supplier Relations". This concept anchors sustainability

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in our procurement processes and procurement organisations. In this way, by 2025 the Volkswagen Group intends to effectively prevent environmental, social and corporate governance risks, including human rights risks, and to ensure that 85% of its direct business partners receive an A-rating in the "Sustainability Rating". The Volkswagen Group has a globally positioned and growing network of sustainability officers in the Procurement departments of the respective brands and regions. This network currently consists of more than 50 experts and assists the Group in gaining a better understanding of local conditions.

#### Internal measures

General

In January 2019, the Group Board of Management – specifically Hiltrud D. Werner from Integrity and Legal Affairs, and Gunnar Kilian from Human Resources – appointed a Business & Human Rights coordinator, who is part of Group Compliance. Combating modern slavery in our value and supply chain is one of the focal areas of our activities in Business & Human Rights – embodied, for example in the key points of our "Salient Issues in Business & Human Rights". For us at Volkswagen Group Services Iberia, child labour and forced labour are serious violations of human rights and are therefore in particular prohibited.

Combating modern slavery also plays an important role here. In addition, since 2019, as the Volkswagen Group, we have been an active member of the Global Business Initiative for Human Rights (GBI), and are the only car manufacturer to take part. The purpose of this corporate network is to discuss issues and participate in peer learning. On this basis, we have been able to develop our engagement in order to even better meet our corporate responsibility for human rights.

Suppliers that enter into a business relationship with the Volkswagen Group shall then pass on these sustainability requirements to their business partners along the supply chain. Together with our direct suppliers we oppose any kind of forced labor and discrimination at Volkswagen Group. The Group takes its corporate responsibility and worldwide due diligence in the field of human rights very seriously - i.e. in China. The work with our factories, sales companies and suppliers is based on our principles, such as respect for minorities, employee representation, social and labor standards. We expect the same of our Business Partners worldwide.

Volkswagen Group Code of Conduct1

The Volkswagen Group updated its Code of Conduct in 2017 and introduced it uniformly to all its brands and companies around the world. The Code of Conduct embodies the ethical principles of the Volkswagen Group and is based on common values, with a focus on honesty, integrity, compliance and ethical behaviour as well as on the subject of responsibility. The Code of Conduct helps employees observe existing company rules at their workplace, as business partners and as members of society, providing them with practical guidance, assistance and advice. The rejection of all forms of modern slavery and human trafficking is an integral part of the Volkswagen Group Code of Conduct. In addition, we base our actions on the principles of the UN Global Compact, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the requirements of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), as set out in our Social Charter.



The Volkswagen Group rejects forced labor and all forms of modern slavery including human trafficking.2 This includes, in particular, work carried out involuntarily by people due to intimidation, penalty or threat of being disadvantaged (e.g. debt slavery or involuntary prison labor). Employment relationships are based on voluntary participation and can be terminated at any time by the employees of their own free will and within a reasonable period of notice.

The Code of Conduct is available at all times to all employees on the Intranet and also to third parties on the Internet, and is continuously communicated in digital and print media as well as at internal company events. Regular training on the Code of Conduct is mandatory for all employees, regardless of hierarchical level. Additionally, members of the senior management confirm their knowledge and responsibility with regard to the Code of Conduct each year following a risk based approach. The Volkswagen Group has also specially formulated the Code of Conduct for Business Partners. This details the Group's expectations regarding the attitude and conduct of business partners in their corporate activities, particularly with regard to suppliers and sales partners. The requirements are regarded as the basis for successfully shaping the business relationship between the Volkswagen Group and its partners. They include observance of human rights, such as the prohibition of child labour, human trafficking and slavery, as well as ensuring environmental protection and preventing corruption. The requirements for business partner are going to be updated in 2022.

#### Volkswagen Group Whistleblower System<sup>3</sup>

The Whistleblower System is responsible for reporting Serious Regulatory Violations. The violation of human rights is an example of an issue that involves in principle a Serious Regulatory Violation. It enables not only employees, but also business partners and customers around the world to report misconduct by employees any day of the year: written information can be submitted in any language using a specially protected online reporting channel. An international 24-hour telephone hotline is available for reporting information in a total of 15 languages. Information can also be submitted via commissioned external lawyers (ombudspersons). The reports can be made anonymously on all channels, if desired. Strict confidentiality and secrecy are maintained throughout the entire process. The Whistleblower System guarantees the highest possible protection for whistleblowers and all persons who contribute to an investigation and the termination of misconduct and Regulatory Violations. Their retaliation constitutes in principle a Serious Regulatory Violation and will not be tolerated. aAt the same time the Whistleblower System preserves the interests of Persons Implicated. For them, the presumption of innocence applies as long as a violation is not proven.

#### Risk analysis

Within the framework of the established Risk Management processes, represented by elements such us the Quarterly Risk Process and the Internal Control System (ICS), risk assessments on the subject of human rights can be recorded by the main Group divisions and companies. Within the Quarterly Risk Process, essential business risks are regularly recorded and evaluated, and the necessary countermeasures are tracked. As part of the annual Standard ICS process, control activities are carried out and tested for effectiveness in the Volkswagen Group's essential core processes in order to reduce process risks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ILO Conventions 29 and 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.volkswagenag.com/en/group/compliance-and-risk-management/whistleblowersystem.html



This is done on the basis of a standardized risk catalog including clearly defined control objectives. The correct drafting of contracts - including requirements for human rights - in the supply chain, as well as the compliance with legal and internal requirements on human rights are verified in the standard ICS process. Reporting to the Board of Management of the brands, the Group Board of Management and the Audit Committee is carried out quarterly, annually and on an event-related basis and may contain -if the materiality thresholds are reached- risks or significant weaknesses in the topic of human rights.

In addition, a cross-departmental working group in Group Compliance of the Volkswagen Group developed a concept in 2019 for assessing risk exposures alongside a correlation of country risks and business model risks in the area of "Business & Human Rights" for controlled entities. Based on this, measures that in particular develop viable and uniform structures for this topic are defined for the entities. These measures are integrated in the general measures for traditional compliance topics such as the prevention of corruption and money laundering. These measures were communicated to the entities in the reporting period and became a mandatory component of the internal compliance risk management process at the end of 2021. For non-controlled companies respective compliance risks are assessed individually in close cooperation with our social partners. We rely on the cooperation of these partners. The Volkswagen Group integrates business and human rights into the Group's existing Compliance Management System in accordance with the UN human rights due diligence guidelines. The Business & Human Rights Centre of Competence advises other business units on human rights issues, ad hoc cases and implementation of legal requirements, especially those related to compliance. This advisory function has been established in the Volkswagen Group since 2020.

#### Qualification of employees

Preventive measures promote compliance at Volkswagen Group and raise compliance awareness among employees. Target group-oriented communication and training measures for employees at all hierarchical levels play a key role in this. In the reporting period, specific communication and training activities continued to focus primarily on the Code of Conduct, the whistleblower system and the prevention of corruption. The latter is also mandatory for relevant groups of employees (e.g. procurers, members of local management) and has been rolled out across the Group since 2019. In addition, the Volkswagen Group also trains its business partners in procurement and sales on key aspects of compliance and anti-corruption. In the financial year 2021, dedicated employee training measures were held on various subjects, for example basic and advanced courses on human rights. The contents can be flexibly integrated into wider compliance training but can also be used as intensive courses to provide a separate and comprehensive introduction to the topic. For example: The groupwide Code of Conduct training, which has been updated in 2021, now contains a deep dive for the topic human rights. The Volkswagen Group also continues to pursue the communication strategy it developed the previous year in order to increase the transparency in human rights.

#### Measures in the supply chain

Sustainability requirements of our suppliers (Code of Conduct for Business Partners)<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.volkswagenag.com/presence/nachhaltigkeit/documents/policy-intern/CodeofConduct\_BusinessPartners\_V2020.pdf

We want to fulfil our responsibility in our business relations on a global level and act proactively beyond simply meeting legal requirements. In procurement, we pursue a three-pronged approach. The basic prerequisite for these steps is transparency in supplier relationships that go beyond the first level:

- Prevent: sustainability requirements are anchored in contracts and specifications.
- Detect: sustainability risks in the supply chain are systematically identified and prioritised. Sustainability is anchored across the Group in all important contract award decisions and a sustainability performance rating of potential suppliers ("S-Rating") is used. This is based on self-disclosures and risk-based checks on site.
- React: various measures are provided in order to respond to the identified risks and effects. These include a standardised process for dealing with violations by individual suppliers and action plans from on-site inspections.

#### Clear specifications for suppliers (Prevent)

The "Requirements of the Volkswagen Group for Sustainability in Relationships with Business Partners" - the code of conduct for business partners - is a key part of our supplier management system. It is applicable for all suppliers of the Volkswagen Group. Our expectations as regards our business partners' conduct with respect to core environmental, social and compliance standards are set out contractually there. The requirements are based among others on the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the relevant conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). However, the Code of Conduct is not only based on international standards, but also on the Volkswagen Group's objectives, rules and directives.

The expanded requirements for suppliers specific to the topic of modern slavery are as follows:

"No slavery and no human trafficking - business partners reject all conscious use of forced or compulsory labour as well as all forms of modern slavery and human trafficking. There is no bonded labor or involuntary prison labor. Employment relationships are entered into on a voluntary basis and may be terminated by employees at their own discretion and within a reasonable notice period."

## Systematic determination of sustainability risks (Detect)

Our aim is to be aware of the sustainability risks in our supply chain at all times and effectively address them. A key measure introduced in 2019 in the Volkswagen Group was the sustainability rating (S-Rating, The S-Rating, indicates relevant suppliers' sustainability performance and opportunities for continuous improvement. It evaluates the ecological performance of suppliers as well as their social sustainability and integrity. The S-Rating is of direct relevance to our direct suppliers in terms of contract awards. If a supplier does not meet our requirements for compliance with sustainability standards, they will generally not be awarded contracts. This is a direct incentive for suppliers to improve their sustainability performance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The relevance of a business partner for the S-Rating comes from factors such as company size or risk exposure, which is derived from the type of service

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Using a risk-based approach, further checks are carried out on site after an initial analysis of the supplier's details. If the results of the check show severe deficits in the implementation of our sustainability requirements, the supplier will receive a negative rating. This means that no contract can generally be awarded.

Achieving improvements together (React)

A range of measures are available in order to be able to react to risks identified in the supply chain and to specific violations by suppliers, and therefore to actively effect improvements.

Employees and external parties can also report potential violations by our suppliers to the Volkswagen Group works council or trade unions, or use the Volkswagen Group whistleblower system. This concerns possible violations by our direct suppliers as well as by subcontractors in the supply chain. External ombudspersons are another point of contact.

Special due diligence for human rights in the supply chain

As part of our sustainable supplier management, we are especially committed to protecting those groups along our supply chains who face a high risk of potential human rights violations. In order to meet the international framework agreements and requirements, in 2021 the Volkswagen Group implemented our developed human rights due diligence management system in relevant regions, which we use to systematically analyse, prioritise and minimise human rights risks in our supply chain. In 2021 a total number of 575 supplier employees in 15 high risk countries have been trained on human rights due diligence within this management system.

Our complaints process is crucial for violations that are reported to us or are identified by us. In this case, we enter a dialogue with the supplier on an individual basis with the aim of achieving an improvement. If there is no improvement in the event of serious violations, this can lead to exclusion from the supply chain.

Digital innovations for greater transparency and safety in the supply chain

To increase transparency in upstream supply chains and prevent risks in raw materials procurement, the Volkswagen Group asks direct suppliers to disclose the supply chains, and also uses second-party supply chain mapping audits. These risks include forms of modern slavery, for example.

Another approach that has been pursued by the Volkswagen Group since 2020 is the use of a service provider which comprehensively audits suppliers using artificial intelligence. Constant monitoring of freely available internet sources including social media allows information on possible violations by suppliers to be reported in real time.

Commitment to international initiatives

In addition to working more closely with direct suppliers and sub-suppliers, the Volkswagen Group is engaged in international cross-industry initiatives and on-site projects to address human rights risks in the upstream supply chain and beyond our contractual relationships. These cross-industry and in some raw cases material-specific initiatives are listed in our "Responsible Raw Materials Report 2020". The "Responsible Raw Materials Report 2021" contains additional information on the goals of these initiatives and the progress of our projects on site. One example of our approach is the accession of Volkswagen AG to

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the Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR), under whose umbrella we are committed to a sustainable supply chain for natural rubber.

When it comes to the battery raw material cobalt, the Volkswagen Group is working together with other partners in the "Cobalt for Development" project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to improve the working and living conditions for people in small-scale cobalt mines and in the communities surrounding the mine sites. The pilot project aims to strengthen legal compliance, improve health and safety conditions and social well-being for local people. Additional information is available on the project website.

When it comes to lithium as a raw material for batteries, the Volkswagen Group and other partners have launched the "Responsible Lithium Partnership" initiative, which promotes the responsible use of natural resources and sustainable lithium production in the Salar de Atacama in Chile. This is to be achieved through a multi-stakeholder platform that includes all relevant stakeholders in the Salar – from civil society groups, including Indigenous communities, to state institutions and local mining companies.

Beyond the raw materials activities, our involvement in the industry initiative DRIVE Sustainability under the umbrella of CSR Europe is still central. The development of the common questionnaire standard for checking sustainability aspects at suppliers was a milestone in this respect, as was the further training approach pursued jointly with other OEMs of suppliers via training events in selected countries.

Sustainability training for employees and partners

The systematic training of our employees and suppliers is a central component of our strategy and essential for improving sustainability in the supply chain.

Supply chain progress report

As described in the last statement by the Volkswagen Group for the financial year 2020, various measures for preventing modern slavery and human trafficking were implemented in 2020: as well as updating the Code of Conduct for Business Partners, we rolled out the sustainability rating (S-rating) to the full extend, which also includes human rights risks and has been integrated in the contract award processes for the relevant procurement organisation globally.

In the coming year, we will continue to expand our activities to implement sustainability in our supply chains. To this end, we are taking steps to streamline our supply chains even better and focus the activities we have started on. Our aim is not only to identify risks in the future, but also to continuously minimise them using various instruments such as auditing, certification and qualification. To this end, we are taking steps to structure our processes relating to human rights due diligence even more systematically. The objective is to identify, prioritise and then prevent or mitigate our sustainability risks comprehensively. This aim fundamentally applies to the entire supply chain.

Volkswagen Group Services Iberia June 2022

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