

Anti-slavery and human trafficking statement October 2022

Introduction from the Board

The Institute of Export and International Trade ('IOE&IT') confirms that it has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery. We continuously strive to act ethically and with integrity in all of our charitable and business dealings and relationships to ensure that modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in our own endeavours or in any of our supply chains. We confirm that we will also ensure our approach and stance is clear with our partner organisations.

Organisation's Structure.

The Institute was established over 85 years ago to support UK businesses in growing their international markets and trade. The Institute is the leading association of exporters and importers. We provide education and training to professionalise the UK's international traders.

We are governed by a Board of Trustees Directors who volunteer their time to help direct our work. The IOE&IT Board of Trustee Directors is the elected governing body of the Institute, responsible for overseeing its strategic focus and management as a registered charity whose aim is to support and promotion international trade as a force for social and economic good.

Our policies on anti-slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our organisation. Our Anti-slavery and Human Trafficking Statement reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all of our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in the IOE&IT or our supply chains. We are committed to continually improving our practices to combat slavery and human trafficking. Here at the IOE&IT, we recognise the responsibility we share with our suppliers and clients alike to deliver our services in an ethical manner.

We confirm that we operate with a zero tolerance policy and will treat any breach of our Anti-slavery and Human Trafficking Statement very seriously. For example, any employee who breaches the policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for misconduct or gross misconduct.

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We are committed to regularly reviewing and updating relevant policies and have processes in place to monitor and maintain our policies at regular intervals.

Ensuring partners align to our values and ethics

We want our clients and customers to be confident that we and our business partners treat their employees fairly, with respect to human rights and are not exposed to unsafe working practices or in any way forced to work in slavery. Only suppliers and clients who share our standards and values will be considered appropriate to engage with the IOE&IT. We will only work with organisations who also commit to the eradication of slavery and human trafficking. We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business.

We believe that this Statement reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains. As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk we ensure that all staff are made aware of the antislavery and human trafficking statement and that business appropriate training is given as and when required. As such, relevant staff are able to identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chains and therefore mitigate the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our supply chains.

The IOE&IT's Further Commitment

We recognise the importance of maintaining constant vigilance to identify and address any issues associated with slavery and human trafficking in the IOE&IT and throughout our supply chains. We are committed to continuing to enhance our capacity to identify, prevent and mitigate any actual or potential risks in these areas. This includes communications through various channels to internal staff and also the ability to report concerns through our Whistleblowing process which will protect any employee raising concerns through this method.

This statement is made pursuant our commitment to eradicate modern slavery and it has been approved by the Board and is signed by Marco Forgiione, the charity's Director General.

Signed 

Dated 10 October 2022

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