

LONGi

Response received by BHRRC from LONGi regarding assessment of exposure to and steps taken in response to forced labour issues in XUAR as documented by Sheffield Hallam University, among others, 5 August 2023.

(1) Assessment of exposure

“LONGi is committed to complying with applicable laws and business ethics in all jurisdictions in which we operate. In 2019, LONGi joined the United Nations Global Compact to support and promote the Compact's Ten Principles including labour and human rights. In addition, in our Code of Business Conduct, LONGi emphasizes its commitment to social responsibilities including the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor. Specifically, LONGi emphasizes that “in the process of production activities or provision of services, we resolutely prohibit the employment of child labor and all forms of forced labor” and that “We do not use or purchase any raw materials for products produced by forced labor, and are committed to ensuring that the products we provide are free of forced labor”. Besides, LONGi keeps improving its compliance management system and CSR management system in accordance with the requirements of ISO 37301 and ISO 26000 standards respectively, and LONGi has been certified with ISO 37301 & GB/T 35770 (the compliance management system certification) and ISO 26000 (the social responsibility management maturity assessment), and also obtained SA8000 certificates for some of its factories.”

(2) Steps taken in response

“In order to promote legal and social compliance of the entire supply chain, LONGi required all suppliers to sign the Supplier Statement and CSR Code of Conduct of LONGi Suppliers (“Supplier CoC”) or similar agreement (or equivalent), the consent to which is the prerequisite to becoming LONGi’s supplier. Supplier CoC mandates labor protection (Clause 6) and responsible supply chain (Clause 15). The compliance with the Supplier CoC is a contractual obligation of any supplier. Material violation of the obligation will trigger termination of the supplier relationship with LONGi. Supplier CoC (Clause 6) extends LONGi’s requirements to indirect suppliers by requiring that “suppliers shall oblige their suppliers/partners not to violate labor protection principles or purchase products or raw materials produced in violation of labor protection principles, etc.” We have devoted substantial resources to make sure that the Supplier CoC is implemented in a professional manner.

In addition, LONGi requires suppliers to actively fulfil their social responsibilities and continuously improve their CSR management capacity. For those who have obtained relevant international/national standards and established a management system in accordance with the relevant standards or obtained third-party audits and certifications, LONGi will include them in the supplier management bonus points and prioritize cooperation under the same conditions.

If serious or systematic violations of the labor protection requirements is detected and identified, LONGi will terminate the cooperation with the supplier. In cases of minor and sporadic non-compliance, LONGi will require the parties concerned to rectify the non-compliance and provide technical assistance when necessary.”