

# **Samsung Electronic's response to concerns regarding poor working conditions in factories leading to reproductive toxicity**

*The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre invited Samsung Electronics to respond to the following item:*

*"Samsung's Devastating Secret: the Tears of 'Semiconductor Children'",*

*[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/01/samsung-semiconductor-children\\_n\\_6200380.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/01/samsung-semiconductor-children_n_6200380.html).*

*Samsung Electronics provided the following response on 17 December 2014.*

Samsung Electronics is aware of the accusations published on the Huffington Post's "The World Post" site on December 1, 2014, regarding congenital anomalies in the children of semiconductor employees. While we are carefully looking into the slightest possibility of any discrepancies, we would like to take this opportunity to correct the misunderstanding caused by the article, which has been written based on inaccurate information and analysis.

At Samsung Electronics, our most important asset is our people and protecting the health and safety of our employees is and has always been our top priority. As such, the company continually strives to keep health and safety policies through careful monitoring and improvement procedures meant to guarantee the safest work environment possible to prevent potential danger to our employees, their families and the community at large.

While we are deeply concerned about those battling illness, there is no conclusive evidence to support the causal claim in the Huffington Post article (which is translated from Hankeore's article published on November 14, 2014) about a potential link between work at Samsung and reproductive illness. We strongly believed that the data Huffington Post used to support the article's conclusion were not credible.

For 40 years and counting, we have innovated new practices and advanced responsible chemical and process safety management both in our facilities and across the semiconductor industry. We continuously monitor and assess our semiconductor facilities to ensure they comply with the highest standards, and we constantly evaluate and upgrade our safety controls to ensure employees and our communities are not exposed to any potentially harmful chemicals.