

## **Modern Slavery Act 2015 – Transparency in Supply Chains Statement**

**Abbott Laboratories Limited**

**for the year ended 31 December 2017**

This statement is made pursuant to Part 6, Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Transparency in Supply Chains).

### **Our Structure and Business**

Abbott Laboratories Limited is a global healthcare company that conducts innovative research and manufacturers products for human health through every life stage. Abbott is a subsidiary of Abbott Laboratories and is headquartered in Chicago, USA.

Abbott is committed to safe and fair working conditions and this extends to the partners in our supply chain. Abbott always has had, and will continue to have, a zero tolerance policy regarding human trafficking and slavery. Abbott's understanding of slavery and human trafficking is based on the definitions set out in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and is guided by the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), particular relating to forced or compulsory labour.

### **Policies and Training**

Abbott is committed to complying with laws and regulations through its various corporate policies and procedures, which can be found here: <http://www.abbott.com/policies.html>.

Abbott employees, contract workers and agents are obliged to comply with Abbott's Code of Business Conduct, which incorporates standards prohibiting slavery and human trafficking or engaging in illegal behaviour, by carrying out training on an annual basis. Abbott's Code of Business Conduct can be found here: <http://www.abbott.com/investors/governance/code-of-business-conduct.html>.

Abbott provides training to its employees and management who have direct responsibility for supply chain management, regarding human trafficking and slavery, particularly with respect to mitigating risks within the supply chains of products. On an annual basis, Abbott employees involved in the purchasing function or who are in the position to influence a purchasing decision are required to review Abbott's Purchasing Code for Interacting with Suppliers, including in respect of ethical practices.

All Abbott suppliers are expected to follow the Abbott Supplier Guidelines, which document our principles, guidelines and expectations in areas including ethical behaviour, business integrity and fair competition; human rights, privacy, labour rights and worker protection; animal welfare, environmental stewardship; and health and safety practices. Our Guidelines, published in multiple languages, state that suppliers are prohibited from using forced, bonded or indentured labour, involuntary prison labour or human trafficking. As part of our contract process with direct suppliers, Abbott requires direct suppliers to represent that materials incorporated into Abbott's products

comply with applicable laws. Abbott's Supplier Guidelines can be found here: <http://www.abbott.com/partners/suppliers.html>.

## **Due Diligence**

Abbott engages in verification of its global product supply chains to evaluate and address risks of human trafficking and slavery. At a global level, Abbott uses a supplier classification model to determine appropriate activity level to assess risk. Abbott proactively identifies suppliers for screening with a focus on those in business-critical industries, geographies and spend categories, as well as those in emerging markets. A supplier may receive a letter, a survey or an on-site audit based on this model. Information received from the supplier is then assessed to determine whether to take further steps.

Abbott has established a programme to monitor Supplier Social Responsibility, which includes surveying and auditing supplier adherence to Abbott's Supplier Guidelines. As reported in Abbott's Global Sustainability Report, in addition to the audits carried out by Abbott, we developed an approach to evaluating suppliers using the DHL Resilience360 tool, which identifies suppliers at higher risk for failing to meet our social and environmental supplier standards.

## **Accountability**

Adhering to our Code of Business Conduct is a condition of continued employment with Abbott. All reports of potential violations of our Code, or any policy or procedure, are taken seriously and handled appropriately through follow-up steps, such as investigation and remediation. Where necessary, corrective action is taken to address issues and avoid recurrence. Abbott maintains internal accountability standards and procedures for both employees and contractors failing to meet Abbott's standards regarding slavery and trafficking. Any Abbott employee who violates our Code, or any policy or procedure, is subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Abbott employees and suppliers are expected to report violations or possible violations of the Supplier Guidelines to Abbott Purchasing or to the Abbott Office of Ethics and Compliance.

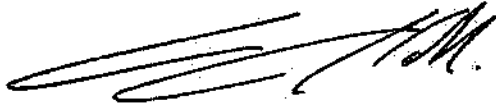
Abbott will promptly investigate reported violations of the Abbott Supplier Guidelines and expect employees and suppliers to cooperate in the investigation. If corrective action is required, Abbott will outline steps to address the issue.

## **Governance**

Abbott have several channels where questions can be asked and concerns can be raised, including via our "Speak Up" programme. Our Ethics and Compliance Helpline is multilingual and available globally 24/7 where there are concerns of a potential violation of Abbott's values and standards of conduct.

We proactively manage social risks in our supply chain to guard against abuses and exploitation, and to protect human rights. By striving for excellence in our supplier relationships, we seek to spread economic opportunity, build shared value and promote sustainable growth in our markets.

Abbott's position on human rights is reinforced in our Code of Conduct and employment, ethics and procurement policies, which are designed to ensure that neither we, nor our suppliers, engage in human rights abuses.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hall', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gary Hall  
Director  
Abbott Laboratories Limited  
Date: 25/04/18

