

GMM MULTI UTILITIES LTD - BONDED LABOUR STATEMENT

It is the commitment of the Directors of GMM MULTI UTILITIES LTD to ensure that under no circumstances will the company be a party to or to offer any adherence or complicity to any party who undertakes or inflicts upon others any form of Bonded Labour commitment of any nature. Whether they be an employee, subcontractor or agent of GMM MULTI UTILITIES LTD.

Bonded labour is the most widespread – yet the least known - form of slavery in the world. A person becomes a bonded labourer when their labour is demanded as a means of repayment for a loan. The person is then tricked or trapped into working for very little or no pay. The value of their work becomes invariably greater than the original sum of money borrowed. Often the debts are passed onto the next generations.

Many bonded labourers are forced to work to repay debts their employer says they owe, and they are not allowed to work for anyone else. Violence and threats can be used to coerce them to stay, and in some cases they are kept under surveillance – sometimes under lock and key.

Bonded labour has existed for hundreds of years. Debt bondage was used to trap indentured labourers into working. Today the International Labour Organisation estimates a minimum 11.7 million people are in forced labour

Bonded labour exists because of the persistence of poverty, widespread discrimination making large groups of people vulnerable to exploitation and the existence of people who are prepared to exploit the desperation of others. The need for cash for daily survival forces people to sell their labour in exchange for a lump sum of money or a loan.

Despite the fact that bonded labour is illegal governments are rarely willing to enforce the law, or to ensure that those who profit from it are punished. Widespread discrimination against some social groups means they have limited access to justice, education and ways to get themselves out of poverty which is one of the main reasons the debt is taken in the first place.

Responsibility for reporting incidents of Bonded Labour and the detection and reporting of Bonded Labour is the responsibility of all of us. You should raise any concerns about any issue or suspicion of Bonded Labour in any part of our business or supply chain at the earliest possible stage. Suitable channels of communication by which you can report confidentially any suspicion of Bonded Labour are available.

Signed:

Managing Director

Date November 2017