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Alyn Smith MEP
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Gordon Lamb House
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18 November 2014

Dear Mr Smith,

Re: Conflict Minerals

Thank you for your recent letter to Andy Griffiths, President of Samsung Electronics UK, regarding the issue of conflict minerals and labour issues. As Head of Government Relations and Citizenship, Andy has asked me to reply and I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that Samsung strongly supports the ban on conflict minerals and takes supplier compliance very seriously.

Samsung Electronics demonstrates its commitment to these issues via its active membership of the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC), which was created in 2004 by global electronics companies to improve working and environmental conditions. The EICC Code of Conduct establishes standards to ensure that working conditions in the electronics industry supply chain are safe, that workers are treated with respect and dignity, and that business operations are environmentally responsible and conducted ethically. In addition to its activities as a full member, Samsung Electronics assists its partners to understand and identify their obligations establishing CSR systems based on EICC guidelines.

Samsung also participates in the EICC's Conflict Free Sourcing Program (CFSP). Through the CFSP the electronics industry has developed an audit process to validate smelters' and refiners' sourcing practices - CFSP compliant smelters and refiners receive a "conflict free" designation. Focussing on this "pinch point" in the supply chain is important, as beyond this point it becomes technically impossible to identify the origin of minerals or metals. According to the OECD Guidance, internal control mechanisms based on tracing minerals in a company's possession are generally unfeasible after smelting, with refined metals entering the consumer market as small parts of various components in end products. By virtue of these practical difficulties, Samsung Electronics actively engages in industry-wide

initiatives to build leverage, overcome practical challenges and effectively discharge the due diligence recommendations of the OECD.

Samsung encourages smelters in its supply chain to participate in conflict-free sourcing certification programs. Since 2011, we have organised annual training and briefing sessions for suppliers to stress the importance of the ban on conflict minerals and conducted audit investigations. We continue to work closely with suppliers to ensure conflict minerals are not used.

The success of the CFSP is increasing demand for responsible sourcing with other industry sectors supporting the initiative. This voluntary scheme is helping to achieve the goal of breaking the link between minerals trade and the financing of armed conflicts; therefore, Samsung supports the Digital Europe position for a voluntary EU self-certification scheme of responsible importers of conflict minerals. We want the existing, non-legislative initiatives to continue to exist and to further evolve.

I hope this information sufficiently addresses the questions you raise in your letter. If you would like any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me on aleyne.j@samsung.com.

Yours sincerely,



Aleyne Johnson
Head of Government Relations and Citizenship