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MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

Introduction

Belgian Pork Group NV, and all associated companies, are committed to operate our business in an ethical matter and to adopt working practices to ensure slavery and human trafficking does not take place anywhere in our supply chain.

Our company

Belgian Pork Group is a network of 6 Belgian production sites and handles all the different stages of processing pork from A to Z. From processing, cutting, freezing, packing and labelling to preparing ready-to-cook pork dishes.

We buy livestock from hundreds of farmers, mainly in Belgium, and we sell our products to retail supermarkets, food service, manufacturing and other wholesale distribution markets around the world.

Belgian Pork Group NV, which includes our associated companies, Westvlees NV, Lovenfosse SA, Lavameat NV, Benedikt D'hulster NV, Comeco NV, Covameat NV, Westvlees GmbH, Carnitrans NV and Westvlees GB Ltd.

Our supply chains

The key suppliers and partners in our supply chain supply pigs and raw materials principally related to the provision of food.

Our policy

We are committed to ensure that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. Our purchase policy, employment policy and processes reflect our commitment to act ethical and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implement and enforce effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere.

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Risks

As in the food manufacturing industry, we buy large volumes of livestock and raw ingredients from different networks which make full transparency difficult.

We also call on temporary agency labour, external transport companies and deboning crews, which, according to us, are risky sectors.

Assess and manage the risk

We have a global approach to supplier assurance and all suppliers of key categories are required to complete a detailed supplier questionnaire covering quality, food safety and human rights standards, among other areas of importance. We take a risk-based approach for auditing suppliers using location, sourcing category, possession of certain certificates and historical performance, as some of the criteria.

We are committed to build longstanding relationships with suppliers and customers and make clear our expectations of business behaviour.

We operate a robust recruitment policy and employment policy, including work is done on the basis of free will, child labour is prohibited, fair remuneration, no excessive working hours, discrimination is not allowed and violence and inhumane treatment of the staff is not tolerated.

All appointed recruitment agencies, labour providers and other organisations in the labour supply are required to comply with our values and to ensure that they comply with all applicable laws, regulations and sanctions relating to modern slavery and human trafficking.

Our internal and confidential Whistleblowing Service provides an opportunity for employees to report information about any possible irregularities to a trustworthy person.

Training

We provide training to our purchasing staff and those who are responsible for the management of our supply chain, to ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and within our organisation.

As part of our commitment to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking, we will continue to look for ways to improve upon our existing policies and procedures.

This statement is made in accordance with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the slavery and human trafficking statement.

Approval for this statement

Jos Claeys
CEO