# ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE FIGHTING AGAINST FORCED LABOUR AND CHILD LABOUR IN SUPPLY CHAINS ACT

### Introduction

This Report on Abbott's due diligence efforts concerning forced labour and child labour applies to certain Canadian entities of Abbott, namely Abbott Point of Care Canada Limited, Abbott Laboratories Co., Abbott Medical Canada Co./ Medicale Abbott Canada Cie, and Abbott Rapid Diagnostics ULC (together referred to as "**Abbott Canada**" or "we").

Abbott is committed to upholding the fundamental principles of human rights, labour, and environmental protection to ensure long-term business success for Abbott, and to improve lives around the world. Our Position Statement on Human Rights sets out our commitment to human rights and is supported by our Code of Conduct and Supplier Guidelines as it relates to our operations and supply chain, respectively. As set out in our Position Statement, Abbott believes in the dignity of every human being and respects individual rights as set forth in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

Abbott recognizes that companies play a supporting role in promoting human rights within their spheres of influence. We contribute to the fulfilment of human rights through compliance with laws and regulations wherever we operate, as well as through our policies and programs. Abbott's Position Statement is reinforced in our employment, ethics, and procurement policies, which are designed to promote, protect, and respect human rights within Abbott and with our suppliers.

### **Our Structure**

### **Structure and Business**

Abbott Laboratories ("Abbott"), headquartered in Abbott Park, Illinois USA, is the ultimate parent company of each of the entities comprising Abbott Canada. Abbott is a globally diversified healthcare company with a central purpose of helping people live their healthiest possible lives, through our broad portfolio of products. The Abbott global business is organized into four main divisions: Medical Devices, Diagnostics, Nutrition, and Medicines.

As of the date of this Report, we have approximately 114,000 employees worldwide and operate in over 160 countries.

Abbott's approach to human rights, forced labour, and child labour risks (which includes the identification of and ways to address these issues) is directed and guided by Abbott. This is aimed at ensuring a consistent approach across Abbott companies.

## **Supply Chain**

Abbott is a multinational business which procures goods and services from approximately 75,000 suppliers in over 150 countries. With a global footprint, we have an opportunity to leverage our supply chain for positive social change.

We maintain a governance structure that provides oversight of supply chain-related activities, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Supplier Guidelines: <a href="www.abbott.com/partners/suppliers.html">www.abbott.com/partners/suppliers.html</a>; Position Statement on Human Rights: <a href="http://www.abbott.com/policies/other-disclosures.html">http://www.abbott.com/policies/other-disclosures.html</a>

sustainability, reporting up through Abbott's Executive Vice President, Finance, who reports to our Chairman and CEO. We have established global policies that guide our efforts across the supplier life cycle, including supplier selection, performance, and relationship management. Each business is responsible for their respective supply chain, with enterprise efforts coordinated through Abbott's Global Operations Council (GOC).

The GOC collaborates across the enterprise to set the framework for our supply chain, encompassing manufacturing, procurement, and logistics. Several additional groups assist the GOC in our efforts to improve supply chain adaptability, resilience, and flexibility.

# Policies, Employee Training, and Due Diligence Process

### **Policies**

Our approach to identifying, assessing, addressing, and managing forced and child labour risk is guided by company-wide policies and processes. These policies and processes are embedded across our business (including Abbott Canada) and, in relation to our supply chains, are overseen by the GOC. This helps to ensure a consistent approach towards mitigating forced and child labour risk. Our policies and processes which are in place to assess and address forced and child labour risk in our operations and supply chains are listed below.

Abbott Canada, as a member of Abbott's global supply chain, relies on intra-group processes to assess and address its forced and child labour risk. The policies and processes which are listed below detail the actions in place to assess and address risk on suppliers of the products which are traded by Abbott globally. More detailed descriptions of our activities in this area are also available in our most recent Global Sustainability Report.<sup>2</sup>

Policies and Practices Concerning Forced and Child Labour					
Code of Business Conduct	https://www.abbott.com/investors/governance/code-of-business-conduct.html				
Position Statement on Human Rights	www.abbott.com/policies/other-disclosures.html				
Supplier Guidelines	www.abbott.com/partners/suppliers.html				
Diversity and Inclusion	www.abbott.com/careers/diversity-and-				
	inclusion.html				
Incident Reporting and Investigations	http://speakup.abbott.com				

Unless otherwise stated, these policies and processes are applied across Abbott's global supply chain, including the entities covered by this Report.

## **Employee Training**

Every Abbott employee is expected to adhere to all applicable laws and Abbott's policies, procedures, principles, and standards. Abbott employees are obliged to comply with the Abbott's Code of Business Conduct. Our Code of Business Conduct prohibits illegal and inappropriate labour conditions, and cruel or inhumane treatment.

Certain procurement professionals and other stakeholders also undergo mandatory training on modern slavery, forced labour, child labour, and human rights.

 $<sup>^2\</sup> Abbott's\ latest\ Global\ Sustainability\ Report\ is\ available\ at: \underline{www.abbott.com/responsibility/sustainability/sustainability-reporting/current-reports.html.}$ 

Employees must also complete global anti-corruption training annually to help ensure we continue to conduct business the right way.

# **Due Diligence Process**

Our due diligence and risk assessment processes not only aim to identify forced labour and child labour risks, but they also assist us in addressing and assessing these risks. These processes evaluate suppliers for potential sustainability issues, including those related to human rights and labour, health and safety, environment, and management systems.

When selecting suppliers, we consider applicable environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors alongside business capabilities and capacities, quality management systems, financial health, and alignment with our vision.

Our Supply Chain Sustainability Due Diligence program takes a risk-based approach to screening, assessment, and monitoring, considering supplier size, industry, and sourcing location(s).

Insights collected through our Supply Chain Sustainability Due Diligence program support better supplier engagement and inform sustainability initiative development at the supplier, sourcing, and/or business levels. Our supply chain initiatives prioritise topics such as the environment and human rights and labour, and drive collective action in two ways:

- (1) Issue-specific initiatives: Cover the whole supply chain and address targeted topics, such as supplier diversity and emissions, water, and inbound materials management; and
- (2) Sourcing category, business, and region-specific initiatives cover multiple risks and opportunities in high-sustainability-risk areas.

Using industry-recognized forced and child labour indices, our third-party due diligence tool indicates that certain geographies and industries (chemicals, finished drugs, food and beverage, packaging) may contain a possible risk of forced and child labour. Abbott sources products from many different industries, categories, and geographies, and given the breadth and complexity of our global supply chain, risks may change over time.

In 2023, Abbott (including Abbott Canada) did not identify any instances of forced labour or child labour in our supply chain. If instances of forced or child labour are identified in the future, we have processes and procedures to investigate and, if warranted, work with our suppliers to remediate the concern.

We continue to proactively identify and mitigate potential human rights impacts across our operations and supply chain, including those associated with the previously identified risk areas, as well as risks of discrimination and unequal pay, unsafe working conditions, and human trafficking. As detailed further below, Abbott conducts periodic reviews of our risk exposure, including annual risk assessments.

We engage with our suppliers of potentially high sustainability risk to encourage compliance with our Supplier Guidelines. Desktop assessments, conducted by a third party, are tailored to the nature of the supplier's operations, location, and size. Assessments cover the topics of forced labour, child labour, human rights, environment, and sustainable procurement. On-site audits are conducted by an external auditor using the Workplace Conditions Assessment (WCA) or other globally recognised sustainability audit standards to assess social and labour conditions, and health and safety, environment, and business practices at the site. Additional risk-specific analyses are performed for strategic sourcing categories and regions when potential risks are identified. Insights from these programs then inform our sourcing

strategy and contingency plans.

We also address human rights risk in our other business relationships, including through our Third-Party Compliance Process, which requires Abbott businesses, subsidiaries, and affiliates engaging business partners outside the U.S. to complete due diligence before engaging third-party companies. This includes screening companies, identifying high-risk partners, and monitoring and mitigating potential risks.

# **Effectiveness of Our Program**

We continue to refine and improve our approach to assessing effectiveness. For the 2023 Supply Chain Sustainability Due Diligence programming, Abbott (which includes Abbott Canada) assessed the effectiveness of its actions in the following ways:

- (1) Abbott completed inherent sustainability risk screening of strategic suppliers utilising a third-party supply chain sustainability risk screening technology to assign sustainability risk intensity factors based on a supplier's industry and region. Through this exercise, we screened 90% of spend affiliated with raw materials, components and services that are directly traceable to Abbott's final finished products. Results of this preliminary screening drive prioritisation and supplier engagements in 2024. In 2023, our due diligence program evaluated more than 900 potentially high-sustainability-risk suppliers through desktop assessments and, where necessary, completed onsite audits of high-sustainability-risk suppliers. We also engaged with select suppliers to address employee health and safety, environment, and supply chain management issues.
- (2) We also continued partnering with suppliers from key sourcing categories, engaging over 4,000 suppliers on sustainability risks and opportunities.

## Reporting Mechanism

Internal and external parties can confidentially and anonymously raise concerns of potential forced or child labour by using Abbott's Speak Up tool. Speak Up is available in 16 languages and can be accessed by telephone, email, or internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Speak Up can be found here: http://speakup.abbott.com.

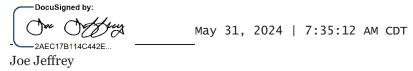
# Report Approval

This Report is made pursuant to section 11(1) of the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act and constitutes Abbott's Report for the financial year ending December 31, 2023. Pursuant to section 11(4)(b)(i), this Report was approved by the governing bodies of Abbott entities which are the subject of this Report.

In accordance with the requirements of the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act, and in particular section 11 thereof, the below members of the governing bodies covered in this Report attest that they have reviewed the information contained in this Report for the entities listed above. Based on their knowledge, and having exercised reasonable diligence, the members attest that the information in the report is true, accurate, and complete in all material respects for the purposes of the Act, for the reporting year listed above.

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General Manager, Abbott Diabe	etes C	are C	anada				
I have authority to bind Abbott Laboratories Co.							
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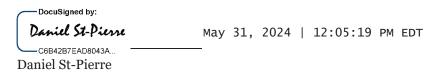
Divisional Vice President, Manufacturing Operations, Abbott Point of Care Canada I have authority to bind **Abbott Point of Care Canada Limited** 



Country Manager

Ted O'Neill

I have authority to bind Abbott Medical Canada Co./Medicale Abbott Canada Cie



General Manager

I have authority to bind **Abbott Rapid Diagnostics ULC** 

### **REFERENCES:**

**Abbott's Third-Party** 

Guidelines

Third-Party Guidelines | Abbott U.S.

Abbott's Supplier

Guidelines

Suppliers | Products and Services | Abbott U.S.

**Abbott's Position Statement on Human** 

**Rights** 

Position Statement on Human Rights (abbott.com)

**Abbott's Environmental** 

**Policies** 

Environmental Policy | Abbott U.S.

Abbott's position statement on Conflict

**Minerals** 

Conflict Minerals | Abbott U.S.

**Abbott's Code of Business** 

Conduct

Code of Business Conduct | Governance | Investors (abbott.com)

**United Nations Universal Declaration of Human** 

**Rights** 

Universal Declaration of Human Rights | United Nations

**OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible** 

**Business Conduct** 

OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct -

<u>OECD</u>

**ILO Core Conventions** 

Conventions and Recommendations (ilo.org)