

WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

**STATEMENT OF STEVE RODGERS
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL
INTEL CORPORATION**

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA

HEARING ON CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF THE 2022 BEIJING OLYMPICS

JULY 27, 2021

I. Introduction

Thank you for inviting Intel to testify at the hearing of the Congressional Executive Commission on China. My name is Steve Rodgers, and I am the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Intel Corporation. My role at Intel is to keep the company legal, ethical, and respected in every jurisdiction in which it does business. My day-to-day responsibilities at Intel include managing the company's legal, government affairs, trade, ethics and legal compliance functions globally. Additionally, Intel China's headquarters operation reports to me. Thank you for inviting Intel to testify at today's hearing and thank you for the Congressional Executive Commission's continued leadership and guidance on important issues regarding China.

Intel is proud to be a Sponsor of the Olympic Games. Our sponsorship of the Olympics spans several Games, several cities, and supports the Games' overarching mission to bring athletes together to compete peacefully and to participate in the symbolism of a diverse, inclusive, and global event. As an active participant in the Centre for Sport and Human Rights, we engage with other stakeholders, including other sponsors, sports bodies, government, non-governmental organizations, and representatives of athletes and civil society, to address challenges, collaborate and share knowledge, as well as build capacity in Mega Sporting Events.

Intel has a long-standing commitment to corporate responsibility, which includes a commitment to respecting and promoting human rights, and to maintaining global processes to prevent and mitigate human rights violations in connection with our operations, our supply chain, our business relationships, and our products. The United Nations (UN) Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are the foundation upon which we build our strong governance and management systems, and our approach is aligned with the United States' National Action Plan (NAP) on Responsible Business Conduct. At Intel we pride ourselves on not just complying with the law, but on issues of human rights, being ahead of the law. For example, under our human rights principles we have foregone hundreds of millions of dollars in sales globally, that would have been legal but did not meet our internal standards.

Intel has led in the creation of several cross-industry initiatives to help address global human rights issues for over a decade. We are active in the business and human rights community, and we engage on human rights issues through memberships, partnerships, and participation in external organizations, as well as with leading human rights experts. Our engagement includes serving as a founding member of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) since its inception in 2004. The RBA is the world's largest industry coalition dedicated to corporate social responsibility in global supply chains and helps us hold Intel suppliers to the same high expectations and human rights standards that we have for ourselves. As a result of Intel's efforts with global suppliers to create a framework to detect, prevent, and mitigate risks of forced and bonded labor (such as fees charged to workers to obtain or keep employment), Intel suppliers have returned over \$23 million in fees to their workers in Intel's supply chain since 2014.

We have also been an active member of the Global Business Initiative (GBI) on Business and Human Rights for the past several years, which is comprised of multinational corporations with operations in diverse industries and regions that work to shape practices, inspire commitment, and build capability to implement respect for human rights in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. GBI's expertly led staff advance respect for human rights around the world. Intel's engagement with GBI includes regularly meeting representatives of other businesses, government, and civil society to provide insight and deep experience to address governance gaps and improving our processes to demonstrate our respect for and commitment to upholding human rights around the world.

We also collaborate with others to influence system-level, industry-wide improvements to promote human rights in a variety of different ways and seek to report transparently on our human rights approach and performance, including in our annual Corporate Responsibility Report.¹

We respect and promote human rights and are deeply concerned when we learn about reports of human rights abuses in any jurisdiction in which we do business. We are aware of the determinations made by the U.S. Department of State regarding the Xinjiang region, and the U.S. government's ban on the importation of certain products sourced from the Xinjiang region. We do not source from the Xinjiang region. As a matter of global corporate concern in every jurisdiction in which we operate, as we detail more fully below, we have taken extensive steps to prevent and mitigate the risk of forced labor in connection with our global supply chain, operations, and products. We have also taken steps to prevent and mitigate the risk of our third-party business partners using Intel products to cause, contribute, or be directly linked to human rights abuses. Intel's sponsorship of the 2022 Winter Olympic Games in Beijing, China, in connection with The Olympic Partner Programme does not negate nor does it undermine our commitment to respect human rights or our activities to prevent the risk of human rights violations. We welcome the opportunity to discuss Intel's approach to human rights and the Olympic sponsorship with you and our fellow sponsors. We believe this kind of dialogue is important.

¹ See [Intel's Corporate Responsibility Report](#).

II. Intel's Unwavering Commitment to Human Rights

We believe Intel's technology has an important role to play in making the world a better place. We also believe that information technology can and should improve the lives of people everywhere. Intel provides a range of technology and tools to our customers, and our customers use that technology as building blocks to develop countless beneficial solutions and applications across a range of industries, including robotics, health and medical, industrial and manufacturing, retail, and automotive. We also constantly look for and pursue opportunities to apply our technology to support the advancement of human rights. Customers all over the world use Intel technology. Intel technology sold to Chinese customers has many positive applications, including improving traffic flows in Beijing and decreasing the response time needed for emergency first responders in Hangzhou.

Consistent with our mission as a company to create world-changing technology that enriches the lives of every person on earth, we remain committed to maintaining and improving systems and processes to avoid being linked to human rights violations related to our own operations, our supply chain, and our products.

A. Intel's Approach to Respecting Human Rights

Intel has established an integrated approach to managing human rights across our business which includes board-level oversight. A committee of the board oversees our human rights program, with day-to-day responsibility assigned to senior management. In addition to board-level oversight and senior-level management review, we have a long-standing cross-functional Human Rights Steering Committee. Further, there are multiple teams across our organization that coordinate and are responsible for conducting due diligence as well as implementing policies and procedures to address salient human rights risks.

Both the public-facing Intel Code of Conduct and Intel Global Human Rights Principles² – which apply to all Intel employees, contingent workers, and Intel subsidiaries – formalize our commitment to respecting human rights and embody common principles laid out in external guidelines, including the UN Guiding Principles, the UN Global Compact, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, core International Labour Organization Conventions, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the U.S. Department of State's Guidance on Implementing the UN Guiding Principles for Transactions Linked to Foreign Government End-Users for Products or Services with Surveillance Capabilities ("Dual-Use Guidance"). Intel's annual public Statement on Combating Modern Slavery³ provides detail about the steps we take to reduce the possibility of complicity in human rights violations related to slavery and human trafficking around the world. Furthermore, details about our approach to navigating specific human rights issues related to our operations, supply chain, and products are published in our Corporate Responsibility Report.

B. Intel's Human Rights Diligence Assessments

Intel performs human rights due diligence assessments consistent with the UN Guiding Principles. In 2016, we engaged a third party to conduct a human rights impact assessment to

² See [Intel's Code of Conduct](#).

³ See Intel's [Statement on Combatting Modern Slavery](#).

review our processes and assess our human rights risks. The human rights impact assessment confirmed that Intel was addressing its most critical human rights risks and reaffirmed our need to assess potential risks associated with emerging technologies.

Building upon the results of the 2016 Human Rights Impact Assessment, in 2018, we conducted an additional internal Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Driving Human Rights Impact Assessment, which included an assessment of potential risks related to product misuse, algorithmic bias, algorithmic transparency, privacy infringement, limits on freedom of expression, and health and safety.

Between late 2020 and early 2021, we conducted another updated Human Rights Impact Assessment to ensure that we continue to address the most prominent human rights risks around the globe,⁴ including those following the U.S. government's determination of human rights concerns regarding Xinjiang and subsequent requirement on US companies to assess their supply chains sourcing from that region.

III. Intel's Focus on Human Rights in Its Supply Chain

A. Intel's Supply Chain Strategy

For over a decade, Intel has maintained an extensive Supply Chain Responsibility program. Through Intel's Supply Chain Responsibility program, over 2,200 risk assessments have been conducted globally and over 1,300 audits have been performed to validate conformance to the Intel and the RBA Code of Conduct. We have worked with suppliers to remediate and close over 3,400 findings and are committed to continuing our work to advance and evolve our programs and invest resources to further improve our global supply chain. In 2019, Intel was awarded the Advancing Supply Chain Responsibility Award by Reuters Events.⁵

Specific to the human rights issues encountered with conditions of forced and bonded labor, since 2014, our ongoing assessments and efforts to reach deeper into the supply chain have positively impacted more than 45,500 workers in our extended supply chain. Positive impacts have included the return of over \$23 million in fees to 20,000 workers by our suppliers since 2014. The fees returned could equate to approximately three to five months of base pay, depending on location and situation.

We have hosted training for our suppliers and their labor agents at dozens of sites around the world, including in Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan. We've also engaged extensively with suppliers in Korea and Japan to ensure that policies and processes were put in place to prevent instances of conditions of forced labor.

Our work to combat forced and bonded labor has earned Intel between the number one and four positions on KnowTheChain's ICT benchmark list of 49 public information and communications technology firms in the three times they have performed the evaluation since 2016. This globally well-respected resource for companies and investors to understand and

⁴ See [here](#) to view Intel's Human Rights Impact Assessment from our Corporate Social Responsibility Report.

⁵ See *Reuters Events*: [Intel's "ground-breaking work on human rights in the supply chain particularly in tackling and abolishing recruitment fees."](#)

address forced labor risks within global supply chains confirms that our work on this issue around the globe, is having a meaningful impact in driving change and addressing this critical human rights issue.

In 2020, we set a new, ambitious goal for the decade ahead, as part of our 2030 RISE Corporate Responsibility strategy. We will scale our supplier responsibility programs to ensure respect for human rights across 100% of our Tier 1 contracted suppliers and higher risk Tier 2 suppliers, which will further our work and drive ever greater collaboration across global stakeholders to continue to assess and remedy human rights issues in supply chains.

B. Sourcing in China

Intel developed a robust supplier capacity building program in 2012 and has engaged with suppliers globally to help increase their understanding of our expectations relative to human rights and other critical corporate social responsibility (CSR) topics. We led multi-stakeholder summits focused on CSR in Shanghai for several years, with strong engagement from our suppliers, to improve supplier maturity level and provide resources to help them increase their conformance to the RBA and Intel Code of Conduct, which include extensive human rights elements.

We source goods and services in China and work with many Chinese partners. Over the past year, multiple governments have imposed restrictions on products sourced from the Xinjiang region of China. Our investors and customers have inquired whether Intel purchases goods or services from the region and, after conducting due diligence, we have confirmed that Intel does not use any labor or source goods or services from the Xinjiang region.

Further, as required by the U.S. government determinations regarding Xinjiang, we have placed a policy in our systems, which prohibits business units from adding new suppliers from the region to our database. We also systematically review our global supplier base for emerging risks and have policies and processes in place so that if we become aware of human rights concerns, we take immediate actions to address them with our suppliers and business partners, including quickly halting suppliers from additional transactions in order to conduct appropriate due diligence.

We regularly communicate expectations and policy updates to suppliers through several channels and have been addressing and engaging on the issue of forced labor since 2014. In March 2020, as required by the U.S. government determinations regarding the region, we communicated proactively with specific suppliers in China to request data about and set expectations regarding the use of labor from Xinjiang. We also communicated high level expectations to all active global Intel suppliers in December 2020.

IV. Intel's Commitment to Product Responsibility

Most of Intel's products are general-purpose computing products that can be incorporated into systems and applications that are sold to end users by distributors, system manufacturers, and others, and not directly by Intel. As the range of products and services we offer broadens and changes, and as new technologies emerge and advance, we evaluate potential concerns about how technology products may be used to infringe on human rights. These challenges can range

from concerns around product development and deployment, such as privacy and safety concerns, to product misuse, such as potential limits on freedom of expression. Intel has developed a number of programs and initiatives to address these concerns and to proactively address these challenges.

Intel's purpose is to create world changing technology that enriches the lives of every person. Consistent with that purpose, which is aligned with our Global Human Rights Principles and our Code of Conduct, we do not support or tolerate our products being used to violate human rights anywhere in the world. To that end, Intel strengthened its Global Human Rights Principles, which has resulted in some positive movement regarding the development of certain of our customers' compliance programs.

Under Intel's Global Human Rights Principles, when one or more of our customers are identified by the U.S. Government (e.g., U.S. Department of Commerce or U.S. Department of State) as having caused, contributed, or been linked to human rights abuses, such as being placed on the U.S. Entity List for facilitating human rights abuses, we take action to restrict or suspend business with that party until and unless we have gained high confidence that Intel's products are not being used to violate human rights. Our high confidence standard is applied globally and is designed to prevent and minimize the risk of a third-party business partner using Intel products to cause, contribute, or be directly linked to human rights abuses, consistent with expectations set forth in the UN Guiding Principles as well as the Dual-Use Guidance.

In 2020, we enhanced Intel's due diligence measures and review processes to assist in implementing the high confidence standard as well as complying with the U.S. Entity List restrictions placed on certain Intel customers.

Where the U.S. Government has identified an Intel customer as having caused, contributed, or been linked to human rights abuses, we make a determination whether doing business with the customer is legal, ethical, in line with Intel's Global Human Rights Principles and Intel's Code of Conduct, and how it may impact Intel's reputation. To determine whether high confidence can be achieved, we evaluate several factors, including the foreseeable end use of the Intel products at issue, the customer's compliance infrastructure as well as its willingness and ability to prevent and mitigate human rights abuses involving Intel products, the end users to the extent known, and where the Intel products may be used if known. We then collaborate with our customers to align on how they can mitigate the risk of Intel products being used to violate human rights in a manner that is consistent with Intel's Global Human Rights Principles.

Since implementing the high confidence standard, Intel has restricted or terminated the sale of Intel products in certain circumstances. We have positively influenced the maturation of certain of our customers' internal compliance programs to strengthen controls designed to mitigate the risk of Intel products being used to cause, contribute, or be directly linked to human rights abuses. Furthermore, we continue to work with our customers to evaluate whether and under what circumstances, if any, high confidence under Intel's Global Human Rights Principles can be achieved.

V. Intel's Sponsorship of the Olympic Games

In 2017, Intel became a sponsor of the Olympic Movement, starting with the 2018 Winter Games in PyongChang and running through the Paris Summer Games in 2024. Our sponsorship stems from our unwavering support for the athletes who compete in the Games, including athletes from the United States and around the world. We believe bringing those athletes together to compete, to have fellowship, and to participate in the symbolism of a diverse, inclusive, and global event helps break down barriers and serves as a beacon for human achievement.

We are mindful, of course, of potential human rights concerns that may exist in host countries and in connection with preparing for Mega Sporting Events. We do not believe our sponsorship degrades our global commitment to human rights. Our sponsorship is not an endorsement of any specific host country or its government, nor an acceptance or approval of domestic activities that may take place within that country.

We actively engage with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) regarding issues connected to the Games themselves. We also are strong supporters of the Centre for Sport and Human Rights (CSHR). Its team includes global leaders in business and human rights. The CSHR's mission is to engage on issues related to human rights and sports, including Mega Sporting Events, and it has engaged with the IOC and openly commented on the 2022 Olympic Games. It also has commented publicly on the Recommendations for an IOC Human Rights Strategy produced by independent experts, including a former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Like many stakeholders, we are in favor of the Recommendations, which were published in December 2020, and very much encourage the IOC to implement them.

VI. Conclusion

At Intel, our commitment to ethical conduct⁶ and respecting and advancing human rights globally remains clear. We have a long-standing commitment to corporate responsibility, which includes respecting and promoting human rights and maintaining and improving systems and processes to avoid human rights violations related to our own operations, supply chain, business relationships and products globally. For over a decade, we have directly engaged with our suppliers to ensure compliance with our corporate responsibility expectations and build capacity to address risks of forced and bonded labor, and other human rights issues. Furthermore, Intel does not support or tolerate our products being connected to human rights violations – whether upstream in the creation of raw materials used in our products or downstream in connection with the use of our products.

Over the years, we have emphasized this commitment by making continuously improving internal controls and processes to avoid complicity in human rights violations related to our own operations, our supply chain, our business relationships and our products. We have implemented steps that enable us to take corrective action in accordance with Intel's Global Human Rights Principles.

⁶ In 2021, Intel was acknowledged as a World's Most Ethical Company for the 10th consecutive year. See [Honorees 2021 - Ethisphere® Institute | Good. Smart. Business. Profit.® \(worldsmoethicalcompanies.com\)](https://www.worldsmoethicalcompanies.com/). Last accessed July 21, 2021.

Our commitment to human rights and the steps we have taken and continue to take to promote human rights is not undermined by our sponsorship of the Olympics Games. Moreover, Intel's sponsorship of the Olympic Games is neither an endorsement of any specific host country nor an acceptance or approval of every activity that may take place within any specific host country.

Thank you for the invitation to testify concerning Intel's commitment to the Olympic Games as a movement and to Intel's long-standing commitment to protecting human rights.