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HOUSE OF COMMONS
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Elizabeth May

Member of Parliament / Député(e)
Saanich — Gulf Islands

Circonscription

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The Honourable Steve MacKinnon
Minister of Labour

August 20, 2024

Re: Human rights abuses in Canadian supply chains

Dear Minister MacKinnon,

I am writing to share my support for the expedited fulfillment of the 2021 Minister of Labour mandate letter commitment to “introduce legislation to eradicate forced labour from Canadian supply chains and ensure that Canadian businesses operating abroad do not contribute to human rights abuses.”

Canadian companies operate around the world and often profit from operations in other jurisdictions that perpetrate human rights abuses and pollute the planet. Forced labour, environmental contamination and sexual violence are all common in the overseas operations of Canadian companies.

There is ample evidence around the world indicating that this legislation must:

- Require companies to exercise due diligence to prevent human rights abuses;
- Help affected people outside of Canada access remedy in Canadian courts;
- Apply to all human rights.

The Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability has produced a blueprint for legislation containing these elements that has been endorsed by 200+ organisations and unions around the world.



The government renewed variations of this commitment in both Budget 2023 and 2024. I ask that you ensure this legislation is introduced and moves through Parliament prior to the next federal election.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth May". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Elizabeth May, O.C.
Member of Parliament
Saanich-Gulf Islands

