



Farm Products Council of Canada

Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act

May 2024



Purpose of the report

Following the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act* (Act) that came into force on January 1, 2024, the Farm Products Council of Canada (FPCC) is submitting a report to document the steps it has taken during its previous financial year (from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024) to prevent and reduce the risk that forced labour or child labour is used at any step of the production of goods produced, purchased or distributed by the FPCC.

Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout this report:

Child labour: labour or services provided or offered to be provided by persons under the age of 18 years and that

- a. are provided or offered to be provided in Canada under circumstances that are contrary to the laws applicable in Canada;
- b. are provided or offered to be provided under circumstances that are mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous to them;
- c. interfere with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school, obliging them to leave school prematurely or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work; or
- d. constitute the worst forms of child labour as defined in article 3 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999, adopted at Geneva on June 17, 1999. (travail des enfants)

Forced labour: labour or service provided or offered to be provided by a person under circumstances that

- a. could be expected to cause the person to believe their safety or the safety of a person known to them would be threatened if they failed to provide or offer to provide the labour or service; or
- b. constitute forced or compulsory labour as defined in article 2 of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, adopted in Geneva on June 28, 1930. (travail forcé)

Structure, activities and supply chain

The FPCC is a public interest oversight body reporting to Parliament through the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food with the mandate to oversee the activities of the agencies created under the *Farm Products Agencies Act* and to work with them to promote more effective marketing of farm products. The FPCC's specific role is to provide oversight of the national supply management marketing agencies for poultry and eggs, and for the promotion-research agencies for farm products.

The FPCC's mission is to work with its stakeholders to ensure that the national poultry and eggs supply management marketing agencies and promotion-research agencies are responding to current and future challenges in a flexible, accountable and transparent manner.

The FPCC is a micro organization of less than 20 employees and is composed of up to seven members, all of whom are Governor in Council appointments.

Policies and due diligence processes

Our procurement practices support fair consideration of suppliers, appropriate risk management and align with the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat recommendations.

In the coming months and year, the FPCC will review its procedures, tools, and policies to ensure a commensurate level of due diligence is in place to mitigate forced labour and child labour risks in its activities and supply chains while taking into account the organization's exposure to such risk.

Forced labour and child labour risks

FPCC has assessed the type of products it procures within its supply chain to identify those that carry a risk of child labour or forced labour and compared them to external resources to evaluate their level of risk.

The procurement level for cellphones, laptops and other information technology equipment is quite limited due to the size of FPCC's workforce. Furthermore, the risk remains low as the procurement of such equipment is conducted through service agreements with other federal departments, such as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Service Canada which have implemented purchase policies aligned with governmental directives.

Measures to remediate any forced labour or child labour

The FPCC has not identified any instances of forced labour or child labour in its operations or supply chains and as such has not taken remediation measures.

Measures to remediate loss of income

Over the reporting period, the FPCC has not identified any instances of forced labour or child labour in its activities and supply chains. As such, there was no remediation measures implemented to mitigate the loss of income for vulnerable families.

Employee training

The FPCC has not implemented any training activities on forced labor and child labour for its employees.

Assessing effectiveness

The FPCC does not currently have policies and procedures in place to assess its effectiveness in ensuring that forced labour and child labour are not being used in its activities and supply chains.

Attestation

In accordance with the requirements of the Act, and in particular section 6 thereof, I attest that I have reviewed the information contained in the report for the entity or entities listed above. Based on my knowledge, and having exercised reasonable diligence, I 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.

Brian Douglas

Deputy Head and Chairperson of the Farm Products Council of Canada

I have the authority to bind the Farm Products Council of Canada