



## THE CENTRE FOR CHILD RIGHTS AND BUSINESS

Concept note for a thematic session on

# **Responding to child labour responding to child labour in times of crisis: best practice case studies from companies**

at the 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour, Durban, South Africa

Tuesday May 17 from 11:15am to 12:15pm

### Objective

Identify and explore which business approaches and actions have proved to be the most effective in tackling child labour, both before and during the pandemic, drawing on best practice from both agriculture and manufacturing. Using real-life case study examples presented by businesses from across different sectors, demonstrate how companies can take practical steps to develop scalable, impactful and resilient systems to address child labour and advance child rights.

### Overview

COVID-19 has created a heightened risks of child labour, with the numbers of child labour cases rising even before the pandemic hit. To achieve faster progress in addressing child labour - and to avoid reversing progress in the global fight against child labour - it's critically important that businesses, governments and policy makers, learn from and replicate the strategies which are proved to be most effective in tackling child labour. This proposed session will present examples and best practice case studies from businesses who are showing leadership and taking effective action to address child labour in extended global supply chains. The session will highlight practical actions that the private sector can take to develop scalable, effective and resilient systems to prevent and remediate child labour which are better able to withstand future socio-economic shocks. These case studies will address a broad range of child labour themes including transparency and traceability, direct engagement with communities and bottom-up communication, living wage, decent work and child labour, child rights-centred remediation systems, and linking child labour response with responsible business practices. Key learning outcomes for delegates will include:

- Understand what private sector approaches are to address both the 'push' and 'pull' factors for child labour

- Learn from best practice approaches to tackling child labour cases, presented by leading companies with global supply chains
- Discover steps which businesses need to take to develop robust and scalable strategies which are effective in preventing and remediation child labour in the long-term

