

MEDIA RELEASE

29 July 2015 – For immediate release

## **Modern slavery: government must ensure that new measures shine a light into company supply chain practices**

- **CORE welcomes today's announcement from Prime Minister David Cameron that companies with a turnover of more than £36 million will be required to report on slavery and human trafficking in their supply chains from October.**
- **Companies should be guided to report on what they are doing to address the risks of slavery in their supply chains.**

The new measure, which will cover over 12,000 companies, is being introduced as part of the Modern Slavery Act.

CORE is now calling on the government to provide clear guidelines to business, detailing: the steps they are taking to assess and manage the risks of modern slavery in their supply chains; their organisational structure; policies; and staff training on the issue.

The government must also ensure that a centralised repository for all slavery and human trafficking statements is established. Without this, it will be very difficult for investors, consumers and civil society organisations to find out what actions companies are taking, and to hold them to account.

Marilyn Croser, Director of CORE said "Civil society organisations have called for a critical mass of vigilance to eradicate slavery from company supply chains. Today's announcement is a welcome step in that direction. The government must now ensure that companies provide the right information in their reports and that those reports are easily accessible. Without this, the risk remains that the measure won't be effective."

ENDS.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Croser or Will de Villiers on +44 203 752 5712.

Notes to editors:

1. The Modern Slavery Act passed into law in March 2015
2. CORE is a coalition of human rights, development and environmental organisations working to improve corporate accountability. For more information see [www.corporate-responsibility.org](http://www.corporate-responsibility.org)