



# Modern Slavery Statement

1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

This statement is published by the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ABN 47 956 969 590) (**ANSTO**) in accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth).

Three core values underpin the ANSTO organisation: safe, secure and sustainable. At ANSTO, we understand that ethical conduct and protecting human rights is critical to upholding these values. We are committed to contributing to the eradication of modern slavery through compliant, responsible and ethical business practices. This statement outlines how we assess and address modern slavery risks in our business and supply chain, and our plans for continuous improvement in the future.

## About Us

ANSTO is an Australian Government Corporate Commonwealth entity established under the *Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act 1987* (Cth).

ANSTO is one of the largest public research organisations in Australia, conducting research in nuclear science and technology across a number of fields including health. We provide expert advice to the Australian government in relation to nuclear-related matters, coordinate with international nuclear organisations and partner with research bodies and universities. We facilitate training and education, including through scientific research fellowships, and make available our state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and expertise to further research and development.

ANSTO operates landmark Australian infrastructure for its research including the Open Pool Australian Lightwater (OPAL) multi-purpose reactor, the Centre for Accelerator Science, Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering, the National Deuteration Facility, the Australian Synchrotron and the National Research Cyclotron (jointly with the University of Sydney).

ANSTO's main campus and registered office is New Illawarra Road, Lucas Heights NSW. There are two other key facilities located in Clayton Victoria and Camperdown NSW. We employ approximately 1,370 people across Australia and regularly host scientists and students to further their research.

ANSTO performs the procurement function behalf of its subsidiaries.

# Unclassified

## **Our Supply Chain**

ANSTO has over 4,000 suppliers and procures a diverse range of goods and services, predominantly scientific and engineering plant and equipment, nuclear materials, IT hardware and software, security and laboratory consumables.

ANSTO supports and engages in research partnerships and knowledge sharing activities with a number of international partners through both formal institutional partnerships and approved collaborations.

ANSTO participates in whole-of-government procurement through shared Commonwealth contracts, as well as engaging in direct procurement from suppliers. ANSTO records procurement activities on Austender as required by the applicable Commonwealth Procurement Rules, and it also discloses contracts entered into in accordance with the requirements of a Commonwealth entity.

## **Risks of Modern Slavery**

Consistent with the risk-based approach of the Commonwealth Government and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, ANSTO's approach to assessing the risk of modern slavery is primarily through its supply chain. In assessing the risk ANSTO relies on Commonwealth and other relevant guidance to target products and services, sectors and locations in which modern slavery has been found to take place, including high risk communities, countries and industries.

ANSTO has identified the following products as being the highest risk:

- Garments (uniforms, gloves and other protective equipment).
- Electronics.

ANSTO does not procure the above products directly from producers linked to geographical locations identified to be at a higher risk of modern slavery. ANSTO procures its electronics from a whole-of-government contract, leveraging the benefit of the Commonwealth's due diligence process. Garments are purchased through an Australian distributor which has provided ANSTO with a statement confirming that it has zero tolerance to all forms of Modern Slavery and is constantly evaluating the compliance of its supply chain. ANSTO will be establishing steps to increase its ability to screen suppliers to identify whether any high risk products may be sourced indirectly from high risk communities or geographic locations and the steps taken to ensure compliance with the Modern Slavery Act.

There have been no claims or reported instances of modern slavery in our supply chain, however ANSTO recognises that modern slavery is a very real risk and there is more work to do.

# Unclassified

## **Our Progress**

Our priority in the reporting period was to examine our supply chain, understand the key areas of risk and to evaluate the maturity of our policies and processes to meet these risks. The findings have formed the basis of our plans for continuous improvement.

Consistent with ANSTO's values, our policies and processes have a strong focus on ethics. We introduced a new Code of Conduct during the reporting period, which sets clear expectations of all personnel in respect to ethical and legal compliance. Our procurement guidelines and policy both align with the Code of Conduct, with an emphasis on transparency, ethics and risk management. ANSTO's procurement function has well-defined processes to ensure that all procurement activity complies with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, including that the lowest price is not the sole determinant in achieving value for money.

ANSTO expects its suppliers to adhere to the same high ethical standards. Our standard contract templates promote compliance-based engagement and require our suppliers to comply with all relevant laws, including worker health and safety, and to adhere to internally recognised standards. We updated our approach-to-market template during the period to reference compliance with modern slavery laws.

ANSTO has commenced the process of approaching its suppliers of high-volume items, including the garment distributor, to review their policies and processes with respect to modern slavery.

In terms of remediation, ANSTO encourages its people to report any instances of illegal or unethical conduct. All personnel have access to FairCall, an independently monitored reporting service.

## **Our next steps**

ANSTO aims to move beyond this development phase in the next period by taking the following actions:

- Conduct a regular review of the actions we are taking to assess their effectiveness;
- Implement a modern slavery risk-screening process at the procurement stage to bolster our due diligence of suppliers including with respect to indirect sourcing of high-risk products;
- Require suppliers deemed to be of higher risk by product type or geographical location to provide additional information about their modern slavery policies and practices;
- Enhance the knowledge of our procurement personnel through modern slavery training;
- Further refine our procurement templates to incorporate best-practice modern slavery clauses;
- Update our policies to reflect our position with respect to modern slavery; and
- Introduce an anonymous means for external parties to report instances of modern slavery.

# Unclassified

## Approval

The Board is the principal governing body of ANSTO and approves this statement.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board for and on behalf of the ANSTO by its responsible member:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A Bennett', written over a horizontal line.

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The Hon Dr Annabelle Bennett, AC SC  
Board Chair  
30 March 2021