

## Inditex's response to Earthsight's findings in Fashion Crimes

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Regarding the textile companies based in Pakistan and Bangladesh that are mentioned in your letter:

- *We have commercial relationships with all these companies. Inditex's purchases from these organisations represents a fraction of their total production.*
- *Accordingly to suppliers' information, these companies do not directly purchase cotton to any Brazilian producer. They purchase cotton with different origins throughout specialized traders depending on the raw material characteristics, certification and price. Brazilian cotton - certified by Better Cotton- is not the main one for them, representing between 5 and 25% of their total cotton purchase.*
- *Better Cotton's requirements include, among other social and environmental conditions, the non-conversion of natural ecosystems and the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities in areas of operation. According to their terms, "prior to any activity that may affect the surrounding local communities in terms of their rights, lands, resources, territories, livelihoods or food security, producers should inform and consult with concerned and affected stakeholders to obtain free, prior and informed consent". Therefore, improper practices such as land grabbing or deforestation should not be allowed at any circumstances.*

*Cotton used in our garments is certified by well-known entities internationally recognized by their expertise, following recommendations of regulatory authorities, social and environmental third sector organizations and textile industry experts.*

*As sustainability is a work-in-progress, we continuously collaborate with certifying organizations and other specialized third parties to enhance the quality of these standards, their requirements, their traceability tools and compliance policies.*

*We take very seriously any information regarding to improper practices in the textile industry. After receiving your letter, we have shared its contents with Better Cotton, who confirmed us that they have launched an investigation, in collaboration with their on-the-ground partner, ABRAPA.*