

# Modern Slavery Statement

30 June 2021

# **APPROVAL**

This Modern Slavery Statement was approved by the Board of MFF Capital Investments Limited on 1 October 2021.

Annabelle Chaplain AM

Chairman, MFF Capital Investments Limited

# 1. REPORTING CRITERION 1 – REPORTING ENTITY

This Modern Slavery Statement ("**Statement**") is made by MFF Capital Investments Limited ("**MFF**" or the "**Company**"), a reporting entity under the Australian *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth*). The Statement covers the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 (the "**Reporting Period**").

The Company aims to be a responsible corporate citizen and places importance on environmental, social and governance ("**ESG**") issues including the risk of modern slavery within its supply chain and operations.

The Company is committed to acting ethically and with honesty and integrity. The Company maintains a Code of Conduct applicable to all directors and employees of the Company, which is supported by other key policies such as the Whistleblowing Policy.

To prepare this Statement, the Company has undertaken an overarching review of its supply chain and operations with the intention of identifying and assessing its exposure to modern slavery. The analysis, together with an overview of MFF's due diligence and remediation processes, is outlined in this Statement.

# 2. REPORTING CRITERION 2 - STRUCTURE, OPERATIONS AND SUPPLY CHAIN

#### **STRUCTURE**

The Company is a listed public company incorporated in Australia. Its principal place of business is Level 36, 25 Martin Place, Sydney, New South Wales, 2000. The Company's shares and options are listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX code: MFF and MFFOA respectively).

The Company has only one employee, the Managing Director and Portfolio Manager, based in Sydney, Australia.

#### **OPERATIONS**

MFF's operations include any activity or business relationship undertaken to pursue its business objectives and corporate strategy.

The Company is a listed investment company and its principal activity is the investment in a minimum of 20 exchange listed international or Australian companies.

# **SUPPLY CHAIN**

Magellan Asset Management Limited ("**Magellan**") is the principal supplier of research and administration services to the Company in accordance with a Services Agreement. Services provided include the analysis of modern slavery risks in MFF's investment portfolio and supply chain.

The Company also receives services from Merrill Lynch International (a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America) under an International Prime Brokerage Agreement including clearing and settlement of transactions, securities lending and acting as custodian for most of the Company's assets.

The Company's supply chain also includes registry, fund administration and professional services (e.g. accounting, legal advice) and brokerage services.

The Company's supplier engagements are typically long-term. Direct suppliers (where MFF has a direct contractual relationship) are located in Australia and the US, however some services are provided from other locations such as Hong Kong and India or may be subcontracted to third party suppliers (indirect suppliers) based in offshore locations.

MFF sees its exposure to modern slavery as emanating from both its supply chain (direct and indirect suppliers) and from the Company's investment activities. These risks are expanded upon in Section 3 below.



# 3. REPORTING CRITERION 3 – IDENTIFYING AND ASSESSING RISKS OF MODERN SLAVERY

#### **OPERATIONAL RISKS**

# **Investment Operations**

The Company understands that it is possible to be directly linked<sup>1</sup> to modern slavery practices through the activities and supply chains of global companies it chooses as investments.

Magellan's Investment Team, on behalf of the Company, is responsible for identifying and assessing modern slavery risks in the operations of MFF's investee companies.

Magellan assesses investee companies with reference to their structure, operations and supply chain, using information obtained from Magellan's own proprietary analysis, independently sourced data and material issued by the investee companies, including but not limited to, Modern Slavery Statements, Code of Ethics and Supplier Codes of Practice.

Each investee company is assessed based on risk factors including:

- sector and industry exposures (e.g. operating in a sector that uses mainly contract, temporary or unskilled workers);
- product and services exposures (e.g. the product, or its components or materials are made in countries where there is a high risk of labour exploitation);
- geographic exposures (e.g. country specific risks due to poor governance or socio-economic factors); and
- entity exposures (e.g. poor governance structures or a record of treating workers poorly).

The analysis of these factors considers if the structure, operations or supply chain of the company cause, contribute to or are directly linked to modern slavery.

Individual modern slavery assessments have been completed for over half of investee companies held by MFF, with the balance to be completed by the end of the 2022 financial year.

Magellan's review to date has identified that there is predominantly a low risk of modern slavery in the direct operations of investee companies. MFF is concentrated in global major service providers and does not typically invest in areas with a higher risk of modern slavery, such as manufacturing companies. MFF is aware that a number of companies have been, or are exposed to modern slavery risks through their indirect business operations and hardware assembly plants. However, MFF is satisfied that these companies have implemented practices to mitigate against these risks and are committed to eliminating any instance of modern slavery.

In addition, there is a risk that modern slavery may exist in the supply chains of investee companies (as a result of subcontracting certain functions, or from having many thousands of suppliers), or in their outsourced operations (e.g. from outsourcing back-office operations to offshore locations). These risks are mitigated by the fact that these companies have clear policies in place relating to human rights and supplier codes of conduct, accompanied by strong governance practices.

#### **SUPPLY CHAIN RISKS**

# **Material Business Suppliers**

As at 30 June 2021, Magellan, on behalf of the Company, has performed an initial risk-based assessment of MFF's key suppliers for risks of modern slavery. The process included a review of suppliers' own modern slavery statements (where available), geographic locations, the nature of services provided, and, where necessary, requiring service providers to complete a questionnaire relating to their business processes and modern slavery risks. For the suppliers reviewed for the reporting period, no material modern slavery risks were identified.

Due to their geographic locations and the fact that services are typically provided by a highly skilled professional workforce, the Company considers that its key service providers have a low risk of modern slavery. The Company however sees some risk where services are provided from offshore centres where services are subcontracted to third party organisations that may reside in higher risk countries and where there are complex supply chains with low transparency over indirect suppliers. One of MFF's direct suppliers has received direct acknowledgment of modern slavery practices in its own supply chain (reported in its FY2020 modern slavery statement). The Company is satisfied that its supplier is taking appropriate steps to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Directly linked" means the risk that MFF's operations may be connected to modern slavery through the activities of another entity with whom there is a business relationship.



monitor and engage its own suppliers on the issues identified.

During the year to 30 June 2022, the Company intends to extend its detailed analysis to other suppliers in its supply chain through review of their own Modern Slavery Statements (where available) or, if appropriate, by requiring the completion of a modern slavery questionnaire.

# 4. REPORTING CRITERION 4 – ASSESSING AND ADDRESSING RISKS

# **Operations and Supply Chain**

Should any modern slavery risks be identified in the Company's operations and supply chain they are further assessed for severity.

Where the Company is directly linked to severe instances of modern slavery through a business relationship, whilst it is not responsible for remediating the impact, it is the Company's intention to use its influence with the entity (if appropriate) to effect positive change.

In respect of the risks of modern slavery in MFF's investee companies, the Company will look to mitigate severe risks by, for example, selling the investment. The Company may also engage directly with investee companies to discuss matters such as supply chain issues, with the objective of effecting positive change.

If a supplier is found to be in breach of its agreement or if a supplier reports a modern slavery risk, MFF will engage with the supplier to effect positive change. MFF may terminate a relationship with a supplier if the situation is not remedied to its satisfaction.

Identified modern slavery risks and the engagement process with suppliers and investee companies is documented and reported to the MFF Board. Any material breaches and incidents related to modern slavery are reported to the MFF Board when identified.

# 5. REPORTING CRITERION 5 – THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ACTIONS TAKEN TO ASSESS AND ADDRESS MODERN SLAVERY RISKS

On an annual basis, Magellan's Risk & Compliance team reviews MFF's processes for assessing and addressing modern slavery risks to assess whether they provide reasonable assurance that they can adequately identify modern slavery risks and that processes are in line with regulatory guidance.

The results of this review will be reported to the MFF Board and will include:

- updated supplier due diligence (e.g. the results of the review of suppliers' own Modern Slavery Statements and/or completed supplier questionnaires);
- the outcome of the annual assessment of modern slavery risks in MFF's investee companies from the Magellan Investment Team;
- details of any high modern slavery risks that have been reported or identified, any action that has been taken to address them and progress to date; and
- any gaps identified in MFF's processes and, if any, proposed updates to these processes.

# 6. REPORTING CRITERION 6 – PROCESS OF CONSULTATION

This reporting criterion is not applicable to the Company as it does not own or control any other entity.

