

Greg Smith  
Executive Vice President, Supply Chain, Walmart U.S.  
702 SW 8th St  
Bentonville, AR 72712

Dear Mr. Smith:

As a Walmart customer and consumer of your products, I am writing to express my deep concern about the humanitarian crisis impacting workers who are an indispensable part of your supply chain. I refer to the men and women who transport 90% of the world's cargo by sea - including the food, medicine and goods sold at Walmart's 10,500 stores located throughout the United States and 23 additional countries.

As a result of COVID-19 travel restrictions and border closings, over 400,000 seafarers have been trapped aboard vessels long after their contacts have expired. Many have been forced to continue working under deteriorating conditions and severe mental and physical stress. These conditions place in jeopardy the global supply chain on which Walmart's success depends. They also grossly undermine the "salient human rights priorities" that Walmart has identified for its company, such as "promoting a safe & healthy work environment", "combating forced labor", and upholding "the dignity of workers in supply chains".

Walmart's Human Rights Statement not only acknowledges that businesses have a responsibility to respect human rights, but publicly commits to leverage Walmart's "capabilities and influence to bring about positive change". At a time of great uncertainty and hardship for the world, Walmart has an extraordinary opportunity to act upon this commitment by Signing the *Neptune Document for Seafarer Welfare and Crew Change*. By doing so, Walmart will be promoting the designation of seafarers as key workers to ensure they have priority access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Walmart will also be advocating for increased collaboration between ship owners and charterers to make sure a ship's crew can leave the vessel and repatriate once their contract ends. These actions serve to protect the supply of critical merchandise that Walmart sells to its more than 220 million customers weekly, and more importantly, to uphold the wellbeing, safety, and labor rights of the men and women who make up an essential part of your supply chain.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Name

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Signature