

## Statement on SAIC Volkswagen (Turpan) Test Center (14.02.2024)

- All matters currently reported relate exclusively to the past up to 2019 and do not refer to current events.
- The Volkswagen Group bases its global activities on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. They are part of the company's Code of Conduct.
- We consistently fulfill our responsibility under regulatory provisions in numerous markets as well as internal voluntary guidelines - also in China.
- We agree with our Chinese joint venture partners that fundamental values and the law must be observed and protected in all business activities. This also applies to the proving ground in Turpan, which is operated by a subsidiary of the non-controlled joint venture SAIC Volkswagen.
- The decision to build the proving ground by SAIC Volkswagen Automotive Co., Ltd. was made in direct connection with the construction of the joint venture plant in Urumqi in 2013 and therefore long before the opening of the proving ground in 2019.
- Turpan offers special conditions for vehicle testing due to the extremely dry and hot climate conditions. Against this backdrop, the test site was chosen by the SAIC Volkswagen joint venture in 2013.
- An ESG audit is an option to have working conditions and environmental standards checked on site by an independent party. It was not possible to audit the test track in Turpan as part of the previous ESG audit at the Urumqi site. The two facilities belong to different operating entities.
- Any audit of the test track in Turpan would have had to be coordinated with the JV partner SAIC and the responsible authorities in China separately from the ESG audit of the plant site in Urumqi and approved by them. The first priority was to audit the joint venture plant in Urumqi. We are in contact with our joint venture partner SAIC regarding the further procedure with regards to the test track.
- To date, we have had no indications of human rights violations in connection with the test site in Turpan. Should new findings emerge, or we receive any such information, we will take this as an opportunity - as in the past - to investigate them immediately and take appropriate action if necessary.
- Apart from the matters ascribed before the Volkswagen Group is currently in talks with the non-controlled joint venture SAIC-Volkswagen regarding the future direction of the JVs business activities in Xinjiang Province. Various scenarios are currently being examined intensively.