

Report  
on  
**Task Force Meeting on Textile & Garments**  
Dhaka, Bangladesh  
8 October 2012

The Task Force Meeting on Textile & Garments under 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Industrial Cooperation of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Meeting was held at 12:30 PM on 08 October 2012 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Shafiul Islam Mohiuddin, President, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA), Bangladesh and attended by the delegations from the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Republic of Turkey. The meeting was moderated by Prof. Dr. Syed Masud Hossain, VC, BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (BUFT). A key note paper was presented by Prof. Md. Monirul Islam, Dean, Bangladesh University of Textiles. During the session a vast number of participants from D-8 countries including private & public sector representatives, academics, businessmen, industrialists, media personalities were present. The list of participants is contained in **Annex I**.

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Mr. Shafiul Islam Mohiuddin, President of Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA) of Bangladesh was selected unanimously as Chair of the Meeting.

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Meeting adopted the agenda as distributed previously (Annex II).

**3. ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEURS**

The Meeting consented on the previous selection of the rapporteurs. Mr. Md. Masum, Lecturer of Textile Management & Business Studies of Bangladesh University of Textiles and Mr. Delwar Hossain, Senior Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Industries played the role of rapporteurs as previous selected.

**4. COUNTRY REPORT ON STATUS OF TEXTILE & GARMENTS TASK FORCE**

Delegations from Turkey, Egypt, Nigeria, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Pakistan presented national reports on the status and performance of their textile and garment industries. The full texts of the presentations are contained in **Annex III**

**5. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAM AND PROGRESS REPORT BASED ON THE**

## PREVIOUS MEETING

The session reviewed the implementation of the last meeting resolutions. The participants exchanged views on the priorities and expectations for the future activities of the Task Force, especially in light of the Terms of Reference adopted at the last Meeting. Matter of regretting is that no decisions yet implemented

## 6. OUTLINE OF FUTURE COOPERATION IN TEXTILE & GARMENTS TASK FORCE

### 6.a Bangladesh (detailed as Annex IV)

- ✓ **To form Common Textile Market** for the nearly 1 billion population amongst the D-8 countries as textile & garments is the basic need for the all the population which is not less than USD 20.00 billion textile & garments market with the provision of:
  - Removing tariff and non tariff barrier
  - On arrival Visa service for businessmen & experts
  - D8 Intra market trading of textile & garments items
  - Common Website for all D8 textile & garments information
  - Forming D8 Chamber of Textile Business
  - Revival of Traditional Textile & Clothing
  - Regular Meeting of the Textile Business Delegates
  
- ✓ **To exchange education program**, Expert exchanges, Training programs for the respective employees, officers and workers, Collaborative R&D and Formation of Textile Accreditation body for this sector may bring new dimension of textile business.
  
- ✓ **To transfer appropriate technology & HR** with the provision of:
  - Industry Relocation as per factor endowment
  - Human Resource exchanges within D8 countries
  - Joint Venture Initiatives
  
- ✓ **To form Common Fund** with the provision of:
  - Helping the weaker economies for developing infrastructural and logistic supports
  - The common fund facilities should have provision for manufacturing capital machinery for Primary & Secondary sector
  - Research & Development to remain in competition

- Research scholarship programs for the members
- ✓ **To create Common D-8 Garments Brand** for global market. Made in Bangladesh products are popular globally but this is veiled reputation because we are producing the products of other companies like Puma, Arrow, Nike, PVH, etc. We should have to think collaboratively to survive for long with the provision of:
  - D-8 Garments Brand Creation for global market
  - Real development of the sector through branding
  - Taking Cutting & making benefit
  - Taking Profits of selling the product
  - Reducing dependency for receiving orders
  - Ensuring Economies of scale
  - Lowering marketing costs
  - Charging premium prices
- ✓ **To Revive the Traditional Textile & Clothing** including Moslin & Jamdani.
- ✓ **To cooperate in building "greener" production** within the Cleaner Production Initiative, as envisaged by the global demand with the provision of:
  - Cooperate in "greener & Cleaner" production
  - Cooperation in Energy efficiency practices
  - Cooperation in ETP set up
  - Uniform social accountability and compliances
  - Cooperation for utilization of ETP Residual

#### **6.b Turkey (detailed as Annex V)**

- ✓ In addition to their previous proposal for Preparation of a guide line on academic/research capabilities of the Member Countries, with special focus on **R&D** and innovation cooperation
- ✓ They are also willing to increase joint ventures and trade volumes in all industrial fields, and ready to share all our knowledge and experiences.
- ✓ They also proposed to set up a focal point regarding R&D among the D-8 member countries

#### **6.c Indonesia (detailed as Annex VI)**

- ✓ Harmonization on Textile Testing Standards Among D8 Countries
- ✓ Investment on Manufacturing of Spareparts and Accessories for Textile Machineries

- ✓ Harmonization on Pre-Shipment Inspection Standards for Textile Products Among D8 Countries
- ✓ Eliminate the NTBs among D8 Countries

#### **6.d Egypt (detailed as Annex VII)**

- ✓ Formation of a common body among D-8 countries to facilitate investment by allowing free flow of information and regulations in each country with follow up on a monthly basis
- ✓ Nominating a focal point in each country as soon as possible
- ✓ Transfer new technologies to less developed countries in D-8 group on a basis of mutual benefits.

### **7. DATE & VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date and venue of the next meeting of the Task Force on Textile and Garment will be decided in the Ministerial meeting and communicated to the Member Countries' as soon as decided.

### **8. CONSENSUS & PRIORITIZED AREAS**

- ✓ Making the D-8 secretariat functional
- ✓ Creating a Garments & Textile unit in the secretariat
- ✓ Regular follow up through selecting a focal point
- ✓ Initial Focal Point has been selected as Ms. Saleha Afroz, Deputy Secretary of Ministry of Industries, Government of Bangladesh
- ✓ Formation of T&G business forum
- ✓ Formation of T&G academic & research forum

### **9. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

The session adopted the previous report as basis for further cooperation.

### **10. CLOSING SESSION**

Delegations expressed their gratitude to the Government of-the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the excellent arrangements and generous hospitality for the Meeting. The Chairperson also expressed appreciation for the active participation of delegations in the course of deliberations and wished them a pleasant stay in Dhaka, Bangladesh and safe return journey.