





Letter of Intent

between

the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

<u>and</u>

the International Labour Organization

and

the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Federal Republic of Germany

Bangladesh, Germany and the International Labour Organization (ILO) recognize the rapid growth of the Ready Made Garment Industry in Bangladesh and the crucial role it plays in positively contributing to improving lives and livelihoods of people and overall development of the country. The Sides also acknowledge the need for sustainable and inclusive growth and the opportunity for further enhancement in the industry.

Following up on the vision to establish a National Employment Injury Insurance system in Bangladesh that was the subject of public tripartite consultations in Dhaka on 24 January 2015, and as outlined in a preliminary feasibility study by the ILO and later discussed during the tripartite exchange visit to Germany in August 2015 and stipulated in the Bangladesh National Social Security Strategy 2015, this Letter of Intent outlines the intention for cooperation between the Sides to develop and institutionalize a National Employment Injury Insurance system in Bangladesh. This initiative will be designed in keeping with relevant ILO conventions and, as appropriate, Bangladesh's legislative and regulatory regime and shall integrate prevention, compliance and rehabilitation services.

The above mentioned purpose should be accomplished through the joint implementation of the following envisioned activities:

- 1. Under the tripartite dialogue and facilitation role of the ILO: agree on the design of a suitable National Employment Injury Insurance system which can meet the aspirations of all Sides, as well as a bridging solution for the period until the scheme is operational.
- 2. Establish a legal framework on National Employment Injury Insurance system.

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- 3. Develop in-country national government institutional capacities particularly related to the administrative capacity required for the implementation of National Employment Injury Insurance system.
- Facilitate the implementation of the National Employment Injury Insurance system including the implementation of the respective legal framework and piloting of the initiative before scaling up country wide and possibly across other sectors.

The implementation of the specific activities envisaged shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funding and, where required, the conclusion of an agreement setting out the detailed modalities of cooperation between the Parties.

The Parties welcome the collaboration initiated by the ILO in RMG Sector since 2013 and its lead at the technical level to drive the envisioned activities forward and further deepen their cooperation with international best practices. They also welcome the offer by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support this endeavor by making available financial resources to ensure part of the required technical assistance and capacity development expertise through ILO and German instaurations such as GIZ and to invite the German Social Accident Insurance (BGUV) to cooperate.

Signed in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 6 October 2015

For and on behalf of

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Germany

Gerd Müller Minister

Ministry of Labour and **Employment** Bangladesh

International Labour Organization

Mr. Mikail Shipar

Secretary

Mr. Srinivas B. Reddy **Country Director**