

STATEMENT FROM THE PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF BETTER FACTORIES CAMBODIA ON ITS 55th MEETING on 27 May 2024

On 27 May 2024, the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) of the ILO Better Factories Cambodia (BFC) programme held its 55th meeting. The BFC PAC comprises of representatives from the Royal Government of Cambodia (the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and the Ministry of Commerce), sectoral employers' associations (represented by three garment, textile and travel goods associations in Cambodia) and workers (representatives from different trade union confederations and federations).

Better Factories Cambodia programme is mandated to promote labour compliance with an effective enforcement of existing national labour laws and internationally recognized core labour standards in the garment, footwear and travel goods and bag sector in Cambodia. The programme's approach includes from cultivating social dialogue through worker-management committees, to offering factories tailored advisory services to help them solve their own labour law challenges or using public reporting to spur improvements in factory working conditions and workplace environment across the industry.

1. Better Factories Cambodia with its constituents continues to implement its second year of the five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and its strategy. We, the members of the PAC of Better Factories Cambodia programme, would like to reaffirm our commitment in jointly implementing BFC's five-year strategy. We are committed to continued collaboration and joint implementation of activities to ensure sustaining the positive impact made on working conditions in the Cambodian garment, footwear and travel goods and bag sectors.
2. Together with other relevant garment industry stakeholders, we are committed to collaborating at the industry level and solving issues at the enterprises through social dialogue. In particular, we agree on the importance of working in collaboration to address key barriers to **ensuring a responsible transition towards digital wages** and to understand the challenges of each constituency by **ensuring a sustainable and accountable monitoring mechanism** in the industry.
3. We expressed our commitment to continue working on the collaboration with BFC, including the Joint Action Plan between the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and BFC especially on the efforts made on capacity development of labour inspectors and BFC enterprise assessors.
4. In the meeting, the PAC members also discussed Better Work's global strategy and how to work more efficiently to sustain the impact we are creating together. The PAC members engaged in discussions about the potential shape of this new factory engagement model and agreed to conduct consultation workshops with BFC to provide valuable inputs for designing the new BFC model in ensuring the culture of compliance.
5. The PAC members continue to be highly committed in strengthening working conditions, occupational safety and health, and productivity in Cambodia and being an ethical sourcing country.

Phnom Penh, 10 June 2024