

## STATEMENT FROM THE PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF BETTER FACTORIES CAMBODIA ON ITS 54th MEETING on 21 June 2023

*On 21 June 2023, the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) of the ILO Better Factories Cambodia (BFC) programme held its 54th meeting. The BFC programme PAC comprises of representatives from the Royal Government of Cambodia (the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and the Ministry of Commerce), employers (Textile, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods Association in Cambodia – TAFTAC) and workers (representatives from different confederations and federations).*

*Better Factories Cambodia programme links trade with labour standards in the garment, footwear and travel goods and bag sector in Cambodia to promote compliance with, and effective enforcement of, existing labour law and internationally recognized core labour standards. 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 is currently implementing its new five-year phases of its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and its strategy. We, the members of the new PAC of Better Factories Cambodia programme, would like to reaffirm our commitment in jointly implementing BFC's five-year strategy. We are committed to increased collaboration and joint implementation of activities over the next five years to ensure positive impact on working conditions in the Cambodian garment, footwear and travel goods and bag sectors.
2. Together with other relevant garment industry stakeholders, we also commit to collaborate at the industry level and to solve issues at the enterprise level 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** in the industry and to understand the challenges of each constituency.
3. In the 54<sup>th</sup> PAC meeting, the members also expressed commitment to the Joint Action Plan between the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and BFC, and especially on the efforts made on capacity development of labour inspectors and the pilot of joint assessments between the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and BFC.
4. Finally, the PAC members discussed the importance of collaboration between PAC members to ensure all exporting garment and travel goods and bag factories are complying with registering for the mandatory BFC assessments.
5. The PAC members continue to be highly committed in strengthening working conditions, health and safety, and productivity in Cambodia and being an ethical sourcing country.

Phnom Penh, 22 June 2023