



## **Steering Committee Conference Call**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2014**

**8am EST, 1pm GMT, 2pm CET, 6pm Dhaka (1.5 hour scheduled)**

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### **Attendees:**

*Chairs:* Dan Rees

*Witness Signatories:* Ineke Zeldenrust\*, Scott Nova\*

*Labour:* Christy Hoffman, Jenny Holdcroft, Monika Kemperle, Amirul Haque

*Brands:* Aleix Gonzalez, Andy York, Lisa Fairclough

*Executive Team:* Alan Roberts, Rob Wayss, Brad Loewen

*Accord staff:* Tatiana Delany, Miriam Neale, Joris Oldenziel

\* Two witness signatories request to participate in this meeting because it is easier to follow decision making process. Steering Committee agree to two witness signatories participating on this occasion.

### **Apologies:**

Philip Chamberlain, Jenny Fagerlin (tbc)

Item	Agenda Items	Who	Completion Date
1.	<p><u>Alliance Inspections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Background: CSI in his position as independent inspector had provided advice on acceptance of Alliance inspections, SC in principle noted that advice, but wanted to reach a position on communications of that policy. WG was tasked with seeking agreement on a communication to enable the policy to be accepted and implemented. WG have not reached agreement on wording of communications piece.</li> <li>- Recognition that Accord is holding off on inspections of common facilities and time is running out to inspect them under Accord inspection program.</li> </ul> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SC brand reps to finalize who will participate in the WG (two original members are currently on annual leave) by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August and notify SC</li> <li>- WG reconvene over email to look at language of communications piece and seek resolutions</li> <li>- WG look again at language to seek resolution and firm agreement by 15<sup>th</sup> August</li> </ul>	<p>Working Group (tbc) Joris Oldenziel Brad Loewen</p>	<p>15/8/14</p>
2.	<p><u>BGMEA involvement at SC level:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Background: BGMEA repeatedly request to join the SC. Previous discussions by the SC about exploring option of how to involve BGMEA at SC level. Under governance of the Accord BGMEA cannot become an SC member.</li> </ul> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accord Executive Team to draft proposal/recommendation of engagement with BGMEA and outlining specific role</li> </ul>	<p>Rob Wayss</p>	<p>15/8/14</p>
3.	<p><u>Escalated Review Panel Cases to SC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Background: Previous SC meeting, ED BD brought forward that in a handful of critical findings cases, factories are refusing to accept decision of Accord inspectors/and/or Inspector General.</li> <li>- Update on 9 specific cases of which only 1 remains non-compliant (with workers still</li> </ul>	<p>Joris Oldenziel Alan Roberts</p>	<p>14/8/14</p>

	<p>in the building)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need for strong brand response from all brands in factories to support the order of the Inspector General and Accord inspectors</li> <li>- Accord is drafting SOP relating to Article 21</li> </ul> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secretariat to draft communication on website for non-compliant factory</li> <li>- Accord to draft letter (on behalf of) from brands/lead brands in factory ensuring their signatories are on letter to be used as a model for future cases and stating consequences in non-compliance with accord articles</li> </ul>		
4.	<p><u>Monitoring brands de-listing update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updated report circulated prior to call</li> <li>- Concerns from SC about categories of reasons for why brands are exiting factories e.g.; 'breach of code of conduct' – what types of code of conduct (health and safety)? Some of the reasons given are not 'valid reasons' under the Accord</li> <li>- Clarification from Secretariat that all brands received communication that if they did not correctly tier their factories by 20<sup>th</sup> July 2014 all their factories would be classified as Tier 1 and 2.</li> </ul> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear education to all brands on this process and what is not acceptable under Article 23</li> <li>- Clarify obligations to all brands on their relationship with agents under the Accord</li> <li>- Secretariat to gather clearer explanation of categories for exiting a factory</li> <li>- Monthly report to be issued at next SC meeting</li> </ul>	Alan Roberts Miriam Neale	4/9/14
5.	<p><u>Standard Chartered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not discussed</li> </ul>	Rob Wayss	
6.	<p><u>Update on Brands remediation call:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Challenge of setting up calls during holiday season.</li> <li>- 4 successful calls so far with participation from 42 brands</li> <li>- Further 27 brands confirmed to participate in next 3 calls.</li> <li>- Will schedule 3-4 calls in last week of August for all those brands who did not attend</li> </ul>	Tatiana Delany	31/8/14

	'first round'		
7.	<p><u>AOB:</u></p> <p>SC request update from CSI on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- common inspection findings &amp; related cost information</li> <li>- List of contractors/suppliers</li> </ul> <p>SC request update from ED BD on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examples of financing/how brands are financing remediation to be collated in aggregate</li> </ul>	Brad Loewen Rob Wayss	15/8/14
	Next meeting: Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September, 8am EST, 1pm GMT, 2pm CET, 6pm Dhaka (1.5 hour scheduled).	Tatiana Delany	4/9/14