



International Accord on Health and Safety in the Textile and Garment Industry

Ensuring that no worker needs to fear fire, building collapses or other accidents that can be prevented with reasonable health and safety measures

SIGNATORIES



INDUSTRIALL AND UNI GLOBAL UNIONS



> 170 BRANDS AND RETAILERS



4 WITNESS SIGNATORIES

THE ACCORD IN BANGLADESH

In 2013, the Accord began its factory safety programme of inspections, remediation, training, and a workers' health and safety complaints mechanism in Bangladesh.

Since June 2020, this programme is implemented by the RMG Sustainability Council, jointly governed by brands, trade unions and manufacturers.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2013-2021

> 38,000 safety inspections at Accord covered factories

92% of initial identified safety issues remediated

Almost **400** factories completed initial remediation

US\$ 1.4 MILLION remediation fund to support factories

1.8 MILLION workers informed about essential workplace safety

1,300 Safety Committees trained to monitor workplace safety

1,475 safety complaints received and investigated (90% closed)

2021 INTERNATIONAL ACCORD KEY FEATURES

- Legally-binding agreement between brands and trade unions
- Independent safety inspections and remediation program
- Brands commit to ensure safety remediation is completed and financially feasible
- Disclosure of inspection reports and corrective action plans
- Safety Committee and Safety Training Program
- Health and Safety Complaints Mechanism
- Protection of right to refuse unsafe work
- Ongoing promotion of right to Freedom of Association to advance workplace safety
- Optional listing of home textiles and fabric & knit accessory suppliers

2022 FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT FOR NEW COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SAFETY PROGRAMMES

- Signatories commit to establish health and safety programmes in other countries
- Considerations for establishing new programmes include:
 - Presence of signatory brands in the country
 - Existing safety regulation mechanisms
 - Risk of safety issues in the textile and garment industry
 - Views of stakeholders in the country
- Principles for establishing new country-specific safety programmes include:
 - Alignment of policies and programmes developed under the Bangladesh Accord
 - Inclusion of national stakeholders – manufacturers, brands, trade unions – in governance
 - Coordination with national government institutions to contribute to an improved culture of health and safety in the industry



How the Accord Works to Make Textile and Garment Factories Safe

→ Company signatories disclose all RMG factories to the Accord

