



The Honourable
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina
Office of the Prime Minister
Tejgaon, Dhaka
BANGLADESH

Stockholm 18 August 2010

Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina,

As a major buyer of ready-made garments from Bangladesh, we at H & M Hennes & Mauritz AB (H&M) are closely following the negotiations of the Minimum Wage Board.

We urge the parties involved to

- agree on a fair salary increase across all grades within the apparel sector
- implement the revised wages as soon as possible so that the Eid bonuses will reflect the new figures
- oversee the implementation of the new wages and take action against any deviations that are to workers' disadvantage and
- establish a mechanism to review the minimum wages of the apparel sector on an annual basis.

H&M will accept the price increase that might arise as a consequence of the salary revision.

H&M is strongly opposed to all forms of violence and it is with great concern that we have observed the civil unrest in connection with the recent wage negotiations, where factory workers and labour activists have been dismissed and/or arrested. We would especially like to draw your attention to the case of Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity (BCWS), where criminal charges have been filed against several of the organisation's staff. Furthermore, we urge that your Government ensures that all accused individuals and organisations receive fair and proper treatment.

We hope and are confident that the Government of Bangladesh and all other involved parties will take peaceful and constructive measures to prevent any further violence, so that the apparel sector and its employees can go back to a normal and stable condition.

Yours faithfully,

Karl-Johan Persson
Chief Executive Officer
H & M Hennes & Mauritz AB