



# NEWSLETTER

MYANMAR GARMENT MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

MGMA

NEWSLETTER

April 2019

NEWS

## MGMA's New Members Orientation



Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) held its "MGMA's New Members Orientation" on 2nd April 2019 at UMFCCL. The event was held to introduce new members to background history and current projects of the association with the purpose of improving connectivity among MGMA members as well as between MGMA members and MGMA.

MGMA's New Members Orientation was attended by 31 participants of employers and employers' representatives from 21 factories which joined to the association in 2018, MGMA's vice chairmen Dr. Aung Win and U Kyaw Win, members of CEC and EC. MGMA's vice chairman, U Kyaw Win recalled how the association was established and some background history in his opening speech.

Afterward, MGMA's Managing Director Daw Aye Mi Shein explained the association's organization structure, functions and responsibilities of each departments, projects collaborating with international organizations, services provided by MGMA. She also introduced participants to the members of CEC and EC. Then details of MGMA's services were explained by officers in charge of each service.





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## **Advisory Committee Meeting, Renewable Energy Technologies Fair Regional Conference and MGMA Training Schools Visit**

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH conducted Advisory Committee on Asian Dialogue Meeting on 2nd April 2019 at Lottee Hotel. In the meeting, opportunities for further collaboration to promote the garment industry were explored and discussed. Continuously, on 3rd April 2019, "Renewable Energy Technologies Fair" was held and MGMA hosted dinner to members of international organizations which were co-organizing the fair. On 4th April 2019, MGMA organized "Regional Conference" and visits to its training schools in Insein township.







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## Renewable Energy Solutions for the Garment & Textile Industry in Myanmar (Renewable Energy Technologies Fair)



Renewable Energy Solutions for the Garment & Textile Industry in Myanmar (Renewable Energy Technologies Fair) was held by Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) in collaboration with Smart Myanmar, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and H&M on 3rd April 2019 at Lottee Hotel.

In the event, MGMA Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe gave welcome remark and GIZ Bangladesh's Textile Cluster Coordinator Mr. Werner Lange gave opening speech. Then domestic and international organizations and companies took the stage for presenting their products and services.

As the country, for economic development, is inviting foreign investments and manufacturing sector is being focal point, energy efficiency and adopting renewable energy technologies are more and more important. Meanwhile, Renewable Energy Solutions for the Garment & Textile Industry in Myanmar (Renewable Energy Technologies Fair) was the event in which MGMA members and textile manufacturing factories were able to learn renewable energy technologies such as Solar photovoltaic, Solar thermal, Biomass from rice husks and wood scrap, Steam condensate recycling.



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Moreover, AYA Bank introduced its financing schemes to the manufacturing factories in case of financial needs to adopt the new technologies.

## PRIORITY

### **Occupational Safety & Health Law Enacted**

Myanmar's Occupational Safety & Health Law (OSH Law) has been enacted by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the date of 2019-03-15. The law will take legal effect starting from the date prescribed in the notification which will be issued by the president. The newly enacted OSH Law has been uploaded on Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's web page while relevant webpage of Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population has not been updated yet. [The Occupational Safety & Health Law](#) for download.

According to the newly enacted Occupational Safety & Health Law, it is legal requirement to form Occupational Safety & Health Committee (OSH Committee) in workplace and appoint Occupational Safety & Health Officer (OSH Officer) in the committee. The employer convicted on failure of forming the OSH Committee and appointing the OSH Officer, will be punished by imprisonment of not more than 3 month or fine starting from 1 million kyat to 5 million kyat or both of them.

The Occupational Safety & Health Law is one kind of law which needs rules to be fully enforced and its enforcement area is wider, experts said.

Therefore, the president will issue a notification so that the Occupational Safety & Health Law takes legal effect and also the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population will write and enact the Occupational Safety & Health Rules.

### **Drafting FoA Guideline between Factories and Unions**

In the late of 2018 and beginning of 2019, there have been complaints of labour organizations that labour strikes are caused by so-called illegal dismissals and crack-downs on labour organizations and the situation is deteriorating. In effort to respond the situation, Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar (IWMF) is drafting a Guideline on Freedom of Association (FoA Guideline) in collaboration of international brands like H&M, Bestseller and Tchibo. The guideline is intended to apply in factories from which the international brands are sourcing. Five factories' names are listed as participants in drafting the guideline and the factories in which the guideline will be



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initially applied. The factories are members of MGMA. The draft of FoA Guideline will be reportedly discussed on 5-6 April 2019.

IWFM will shape FoA Guideline as a result of social dialogue between employers and workers and make it legally binding like Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The labour organization will make it spread to other factories starting from the five factories.

### ACTIVITY

#### Upgrading Training Schools

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) is, with the help of Ministry of Education, conducting Garment Technology ToT Training, Employers' Package Trainings and Social Compliance Trainings on the 1st Floor of Dakkhina Building in Insein GTI.

Moreover, MGMA is also providing Basic Sewing Trainings and Supervisor Trainings at Myanmar Garment Human Resource Development Center (MGHRDC) situated at No. 400/B, Sint Ngu Ward, Lower Mingalardon Rd, Insein Township.

MGMA is now upgrading the training schools with the support of Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE).

#### MGMA Jobs Opening

As Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) is doing more and more garment industry development projects in collaboration with international organizations, the association's need for manpower is increasing. MGMA's the current Jobs Opening is for the positions of Communication/Public Relation Officer, Finance Officer/Accountant and Training Center Director. Vacancy Announcements can be seen at <https://www.myanmargarments.org/job-opening-from-mgma/> and <http://themimu.info/jobs-for-myanmar-nationals>

### TRAINING

Training is one of the services of Employers' Package. According to 6 Months Training Calendar, "Employment Contract and Workplace Rules" and "Payment of Wages, Overtime Calculation and Variable Pay Systems" are respectively conducted on 2019-03-16 and 2019-03-23 at 1st Floor of Dakkhina Building of Insein GTI.





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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Meeting & Conference

Sr.	Description	Date	Place
1.	Garment Sector Initiative Coordination Meeting	10th May 2019, 8:30am to 12:45PM	1st Floor, Dakkhina Building, Insein GTI
2.	MGMA Annual General Meeting (AGM)	11th May 2019 10:00am to 12:00pm	UMFCCI, Mingalar Hall
3.	2nd MGMA Members' Day & Buyer Forum MGMA will host the forum in collaboration with Smart Myanmar and AVE	23-24 May, 2019	Sedona

#### Training

Sr.	Title	Date	Place
1.	Dealing with Absenteeism & Turnover (Service by Employers' Package)	27 April 2019 1:30pm to 4:30pm	1st Floor, Dakkhina Building, Insein GTI Compound
2.	Social Compliance	29-30 April 2019	1st Floor, Dakkhina Building, Insein GTI Compound
3.	Preparing for Audit (Service by Employers' Package)	25 May 2019 1:30pm to 4:30pm	1st Floor, Dakkhina Building, Insein GTI Compound

### NEW MEMBERS IN APRIL 2019

Number of New Factories in September 2018		0
Country	No. of Factories	No. of Workers
Korea	2	1274
Cambodia	1	200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1474</b>

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE AS OF 2019-04-30

Status	Country	No. of Factories	No. of Workers
Active	Myanmar	109	73341
	Chinese	202	187373
	Korea	60	58225
	Japan	19	54462
	Others	133	68578
Inactive	All	72	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>595</b>	<b>441979</b>