

## VITAS GENERAL MEETING 2022

HCMC, 16 | 12 | 2022



## AFTEX's 48<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association's CEC/ECs U Kyaw Win, U Kyin Tun, U Thein Pe Win, U Aung Myo Hein, Dr. Khin Khin Kyi, U Kyaw Soe Linn, and U Ye Khant @ Wai Yan were attended the ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries (AFTEX)'s 48<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session on 2022, December 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> at Vinpearl Luxury Hotel, hosted by Vietnam Textile and Garment Association (VITAS).

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## “Power of Interpersonal Skill for the Good Team, MGMA” Team Building Workshop

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) organized the team building workshop “Power of Interpersonal Skill for the Good Team” was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> December at Vertex Bagan Hotel, supported by LIFT Myanmar.

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## Upcoming Activity

<i>No.</i>	<i>Descriptions</i>	<i>Date &amp; Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Labour Law Awareness Training	TBA	MGHRDC
2.	Covid – 19 self-test demonstration in-factory	TBA	Kyar Lay Apparel Co.,Ltd

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# ACTIVITY

## AFTEX's 48<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session



**M**yanmar Garment Manufacturers Association's CEC/ECs U Kyaw Win, U Kyin Tun, U Thein Pe Win, U Aung Myo Hein, Dr.Khin Khin Kyi , U Kyaw Soe Linn, and U Ye Khant @ Wai Yan were attended the ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries (AFTEX)'s 48<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session on 2022, December 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> at Vinpearl Luxury Hotel, hosted by Vietnam Textile and Garment Association (VITAS).



AFTEX Chairman Meeting was held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at HCMC as afternoon session of Day One.

In the AFTEX Meeting, Chairman of AFTEX Mr.Vu Duc Giang delivered opening speech and then AFTEX members representing Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippine, Thailand and Vietnam presented “Joining Hands to Develop

Sustainable Textile and Garment Supply Chains In ASEAN” respectively. Handover ceremony of AFTEX rotating chairman title between Chairman of VITAS and Chairman of Cambodia

Textile and Apparel Association and new chairman of AFTEX gave speech. In the afternoon session, Vice Chairman of VITAS, Mr.Dang Vu Hung presented orientation to Digital Transformation for Sustainable Business Development and then ITMA representative presented technological innovation with Q&A. In the evening session, VITAS organized seminar and gala dinner.







The session attended by delegates from Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS), Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia (GMAC), Indonesia Textile Association (API), Association of the Lao Garment Industry (ALGI), Malaysian Textile Manufacturers Association (MTMA), Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA), Confederation of Garment Exporters of the Philippines (CONGEP), Singapore Textile and Fashion Federation (TAFF), The National Federation of Thai Textile Industries (NFTTI).



## The Monthly MGMA Executive Committee Meeting

The Monthly MGMA Executive Committee Meeting with hybrid meeting was held on December 7, 2022 at MGMA meeting room. Managing Director of MGMA chaired the meeting. In the meeting, CEC/EC members were discussed about issues of recruiting



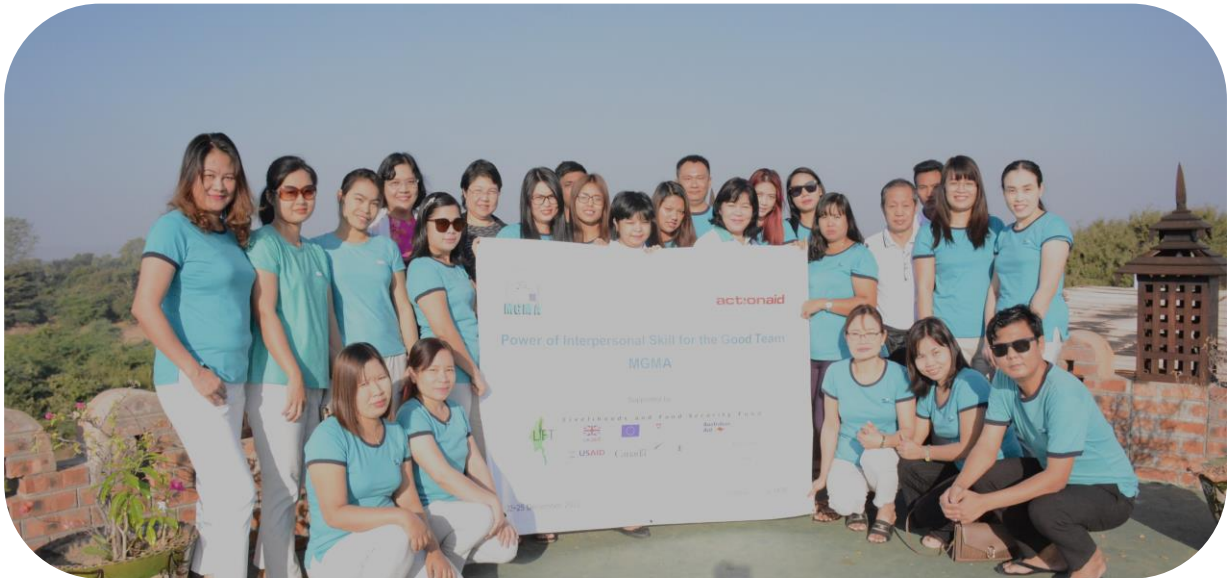
volunteers to help with faster and easier processes in the CMP information table, liaising with the relevant departments and association officials, appointing additional staff in timely calculation the finished material of KG, delayed sending by member factories that are imported raw materials from abroad, discussed issues to support the MRGMA (Mandalay Region Garment Manufacturers Association) as the umbrella association of MGMA, meeting

with partner proposals of RBF funding projects and forward process of association.

The association's Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary General and members of Executive Committee attended the meeting.







## “ Power of Interpersonal Skill for the Good Team, MGMA” Team Building Workshop

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) organized the team building workshop “ Power of Interpersonal Skill for the Good Team” was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 at Vertex Bagan Hotel, supported by LIFT Myanmar.

The workshop kicked off welcome and motivational remarks by Managing Director of MGMA Daw Aye Mi Shein.

In the workshop, Reflect Personal Leadership Style, Good Leader Vs Bad

Leader, Interpersonal Communication, Resolving tensions between team members, Leadership and Team Building Role Play and Vision Board for future, lectured by Trainer Daw Kay Thi and team from Future Development Initiatives Learning Hub (FDILH) with fun activities.

The workshop was attended by (22) MGMA staffs with soft contents of manifesting and thankfulness session in first section of each days.



MD of MGMA Daw Aye Mi Shien giving motivational remarks



Fun Team Building Game



Group activities



Group activities



Group activities



Fun Team Building Game



Making Vision Board for Future



Group Photo



## Advanced Sewing Machine Operator Training



**Trainer from MGHRDC lecturing  
Advanced Sewing Machine Operator**

**M**yanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) organized Advanced Sewing Machine Operator Training was held on November 29<sup>th</sup> to December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Center (MGHRDC).

In this course, the trainer conducted parts of the fabric such as bag cover, spiral, shoulder corner seam, pocket, different types of bags, simple zip



method, how to install a zipper, sewing sailor's tongue, long sleeve shirt and "A" skirt with belt. In addition, (6) special sewing method such as Buttonhole sewing machine, how to sew button using sewing machine, Bartack Machine, Overlock 4 thread, Overlock 5 thread, 2 Needle taught by trainer from MGHRDC. The training attended by (10) participants and included practice session.



**Trainer from MGHRDC lecturing  
Advanced Sewing Machine Operator**





Group Photo



Awarding Certificate



Group Photo



Awarding Certificate



Practice Session



Practice Session

## Labour Law Awareness Training – Compulsory Program (Batch – 6 & 7)

Labour Law Awareness Training was held on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Center (MGHRDC), organized as compulsory training of Batch (6 & 7) by Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA).

In accordance with mandatory of MGMA, the purpose of this training is to strengthen compliance with labour law awareness in the garment factories.

In this training, Labour Officer of MGMA, U Min Soe Han, lectured Induction & Employment, Working Hours & Overtime, Paying Wages, Workplace Relations, Settlement of Disputes & WCC and Labour Organization with discussion and Q & A session.

Staffs of HR department and production team from members' factories joined the training. Total (54) participants from (32) member's factories attended the training. MGMA will hold this training in monthly basis regularly as part of sustainable development goal in garment industry.



Batch – 6 Group Photo



Labour Officer of MGMA presenting Labour Law Awareness



Batch – 7 Group Photo



Q & A Session



## Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment Program



Charming Garments MFG Co.,Ltd



Karisma Apparel (Myanmar) Co.,Ltd



Yangon Fukuyama Apparel Co.,Ltd

Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment Program of Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) scrutinized (2) member factories in December 2022. They are Yangon Fukuyama Apparel Co.,Ltd, Charming Garments Mfg Co.,Ltd and Karisma Apparel (Myanmar) Co.,Ltd.

Inspected various factories Yangon Fukuyama Apparel Co.,Ltd, at Shwe Pyi Thar Township on December 7, Charming Garments Mfg Co.,Ltd at Hlaing Thar Yar Township on December 9, Karisma Apparel (Myanmar) Co.,Ltd at Bago Township on December 27.

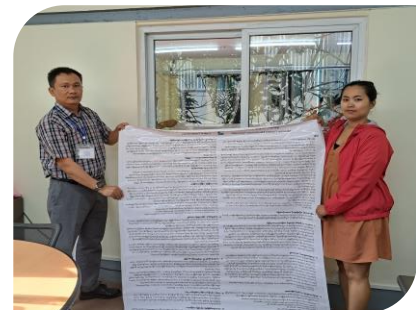
Labour Officer of MGMA scrutinized all the documents relation to the VLCA. Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment is an assessment tool implemented by the collaboration project between MGMA and ILO/ACTEMP, Bureau for Employer Activity under International Labor Organization, in 2019. VLCA was officially launched on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 by MGMA to all its member factories.



Charming Garments  
MFG Co.,Ltd



Karisma Apparel  
(Myanmar) Co.,Ltd



Yangon Fukuyama Apparel  
Co.,Ltd

## Sustainable Textile of the Asian Region (STAR)

**T**he STAR Network (Sustainable Textile of the Asian Region) is the first inter-Asian network of producer associations. It was initiated by GIZs FABRIC project, which is promoting sustainability in the textile and garment industry in Asia. The network brings together representatives of the producing associations from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Pakistan and Vietnam. The network's members all meet regularly and have undertaken work together in order to promote sustainable production.

STTI is one of the GIZ FABRIC project activities and organize the members of Myanmar, Turkish, India, Egypt, Moroccan, Indonesia, Chinese, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Cambodia. The objective of STTI to deliver a major contribution towards purchasing practices that allow textile and garment manufacturers to run a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable operation, taking strongly into account the concept of commercial compliance.





## STTI Survey of Measuring Commercial Compliance is Open for Manufacturers

### STTI GWG Phase 2 Survey - 2022

Your company is invited to participate in this survey that evaluates your buyer company's adherence to commercial compliance. It will take less than 10 minutes to complete the survey for each buyer company you choose to evaluate.

Survey Link Here >>>> [STTI GWG Phase 2 Survey - 2022](#)



### STTI GWG Phase 2 Survey - 2022

Your company is invited to participate in this survey that evaluates your buyer company's adherence to commercial compliance. It will take **less than 10 minutes** to complete the survey for each buyer company you choose to evaluate.

Please be assured that your identity will be kept completely confidential. The survey is being conducted by [Better Buying Institute](#), whose well-established and secure operating procedures ensure that your anonymity is maintained at all times, and your responses grouped with those from other suppliers.

Commercial compliance is defined as 'purchasing practices that do not cause obvious and avoidable harm to manufacturers'. A set of key recommendations for improved purchasing practices was delivered at the end of Phase 1 of the Sustainable Terms of Trade Initiative (STTI), based on the input gathered from global textile and garment manufacturers and industry associations.

This Phase 2 survey invites you to evaluate each of your buyer company's commercial compliance against these key recommendations, so as to track buyers' progress throughout the STTI project. The survey has been simplified since the Baseline study was carried out last year, in order to encourage more supplier participation.

Please respond to the questions about one of your buyer companies at a time. After evaluating one buyer, you can restart the survey with another buyer using the link provided. We encourage you to respond to the survey about more than one buyer company, ideally evaluating all your buyers in order to get a full picture of compliance across the industry. You can start by evaluating the buyer company whose business accounts for a majority of your business, followed by starting a new survey for each of your other buyers with a smaller share of business.

You can choose who is the most appropriate person or persons in your company to complete the survey - some might choose to have senior managers complete the survey together using their combined knowledge. The topics covered are related to various terms in the buyer companies' contracts and their performance against those terms, forecasting, pricing, lead times, terms with nominated suppliers, adherence to deadlines, and the processes they follow when their performance does not meet expectations for commercial compliance.

This survey asks you to name the specific buyer company you are rating. Without knowing this, there are limits to how companies like yours and industry associations can work with buyers to improve. If you are unwilling to name your buyer, there is no need to complete the survey. Please remember, however, that your anonymity will be protected.

1. Please name the buyer company you are rating. \* *TIP: Preference is for you to name the brand or retailer company whose label is on the products you are making. You may have received this order through a 3rd party, and we'll ask about that on the next page.* \*

Next

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## STTI and Others Set Out to Improve Planned Responsible Supply Chain Regulation in the EU

### Joint Recommendations From an Alliance of Garment Industry Representatives for the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive



JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS  
FROM AN ALLIANCE OF  
GARMENT INDUSTRY  
REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE EU  
CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY  
DUE DILIGENCE DIRECTIVE

*Due diligence:  
taking responsibility in value chains*

The signatories of this joint letter support the commitment of EU decision makers to implement a regulatory approach to due diligence, in order to ensure companies are taking their responsibility to respect human rights and the environment throughout their value chains. We therefore welcome the proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CSDD) Directive that was published on 23 February 2022 as a very important step.

In both the Explanatory notes and the Preamble, the proposal refers to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) [i] as well as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's guidelines for multinational enterprises (OECD guidelines)[ii] including three (high risk) sector-specific guidelines, including Textile and Garment supply chains.

The following points are most urgent:

1. Performing Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence should be risk based.
2. Due diligence does not shift responsibility.
3. Due diligence legislation must provide certainty and clarity.

**CSDD Directive PDF file Download  
Link >>>>**

**[JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS  
FROM AN ALLIANCE OF  
GARMENT INDUSTRY  
REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE EU  
CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY  
DUE DILIGENCE DIRECTIVE](#)**





## 37<sup>th</sup> IAF World Fashion Convention in Bangladesh: The Industry Needs a Sustainable Transformation



### IAF Urges Key Stakeholders for Sustainable Transformation of Fashion Industry

In order to protect the environment, major consumer countries including Europe are emphasizing sustainable clothing. For this, the policymakers of the clothing sector in Europe have advised working with everyone at the product producer as well as the supplier and consumer level. They said that if environmental safety is not ensured, it will be difficult for Bangladesh to retain the European market.

The speakers said these things at the 37th IAF World Fashion Conference organized by the International Apparel Federation (IAF) on 15 November at a hotel in Dhaka. The theme of this year's conference is sustainable transformation of the fashion sector by bringing together brands, producers, suppliers and consumers.

“Now everybody should understand the need to come together as an industry to solve the complications and the key challenges including playing a vital role in a successful industry transformation, lessening CO2 emissions and investments in lower energy use machines and processes,” said Cem Altan, President, IAF.

He highlighted the need for holistic business sustainability throughout the apparel value chain. He said “It should be a win-win situation for all. Most importantly workers should not be forgotten. Manufacturers are facing immense trouble. To resolve this, brands, associations, manufacturers and coming together and find a way out. And IAF is creating a united voice,” IAF President added.

From Bangladesh's apparel industry perspective, he stressed that Bangladesh's RMG industry needs new investment and it should be more environment-friendly as many western countries and the EU are adopting green policies.

"Climate change is now a global problem," said Cem Altan.

"Garment industry is one of the biggest sectors to reduce environmental pollution there. The European apparel market has adopted various policies with an emphasis on environmental protection. So, if we want to retain the global market, we have to be proactive in tackling climate change."

Cem Altan added, "There are challenges not only from the environmental side but from the business side as well. Global inflation has reduced consumer demand, purchasing orders and production. As a result, it will be difficult to retain the market if the issue of environmental protection is not ensured."

IAF President stressed, "Even If the brands and buyers don't feel that responsibility, in Europe the Green Deal promises the biggest set of environmental legislation for the fashion industry and unfortunately at this moment brands, retailers and a big portion of the end consumers do not have a very green reputation," he added.



BGMEA President Faruque Hassan and Knit Garment Owners Association Fazle Shamim Ehsan gave a welcome speech on the occasion.

BGMEA President Faruque Hassan said, "Despite many challenges, we have been able to continue the trend of exports. Besides, we are moving towards sustainable production by setting up environment-friendly green factories. Still, there is room for improvement in several areas. Such as reduction of water consumption and carbon emissions in product manufacturing, reduction of waste generation, and increase of occupational health safety and transparency.



BGMEA president said regarding the huge potential for recycling waste in the country, ‘About four lakh tons of recyclable waste is produced in the country’s textile and ready-made garments sector every year. Less than 5 percent of this waste is recycled or recycled locally. On the other hand, about 60 percent of the waste is exported to various countries including India and Sweden. There these wastes are recycled as yarn and sold to us at a high price.’

Fazle Shamim Ehsan, vice president of BKMEA said, “Our factories are emphasizing reducing the environmental pollution. Through this, we are working to create a sustainable clothing sector. But for this, we have to work with everyone from the supplier to the consumer as well as the producer.

Duck Ventingham, Director General of the European Apparel and Textile Organization (Euratex) presented the keynote article at the event. The European Commission has approved the Green Deal to create a climate-neutral environment by 2050.



Duck Ventingham discussed how this could impact the readymade garments sector. He said, European countries now want to buy sustainable products; that means products that are durable, repairable and recyclable will dominate the European market.

He also said that according to the eco-friendly agreement, manufacturers and suppliers have to take product responsibility. Each product will have a digital passport or identity. By seeing this, the buyer will get an idea of whether the product is produced in a sustainable process or not. Also, producers must take responsibility for waste management. In order to maintain the clothing market in Europe, Bangladesh also needs to make products according to these issues.

A week-long mega event ‘Made in Bangladesh Week-2022’ is organized by BGMEA, to highlight the branding or positive image of Bangladesh in the garment industry. Bangladesh Apparel Exchange (BAE) is assisting in this. As part of this, the IAF World Fashion Conference was held in Dhaka.

Ref: Article >>>>>> [IAF Urges Key Stakeholders for Sustainable Transformation of Fashion Industry](#)

## How Can We Achieve Decarbonized Supply Chains?

### DECARBONIZATION – THREE MANUFACTURERS ON WHETHER THEY HAVE MAPPED PATHWAYS FOR ACHIEVING THEIR DECARBONIZATION TARGETS



### 84. THREE MANUFACTURERS ON WHETHER THEY HAVE MAPPED PATHWAYS FOR ACHIEVING THEIR DECARBONIZATION TARGETS

This is the fourth episode in a mini series on decarbonization. Do apparel manufacturers have mapped pathways for achieving their decarbonization targets, or not? This episode features responses to this question from three different manufacturers: Mustafa Ahmad the General Manager of Sustainability for US Apparel & Textiles in Pakistan, Krishna Manda the Vice President of Corporate Sustainability for Lenzing, and Matthew Guenther, the Director of Environmental Sustainability for TAL Apparel.

Audio File Here >>>> [Three Manufacturers Podcast](#)



## UPCOMING ACTIVITY

No.	Description	Date & Time	Venue
1.	Labour Law Awareness Training	TBA	MGHRDC
2.	Covid – 19 self-test demonstration in-factory	TBA	Kyar Lay Apparel Co.,Ltd

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

New Members in December 2022

Country	No. of New Member Factories
China	2
Myanmar	1
Total	3

Membership Update as of December 2022

Status	Country	No. of Factories
Active	Myanmar	71
	China	300
	Korea	56
	Japan	18
	Others	22
	Joint Venture	28
	Local, Sub-Con, Marketing, Inspection ,Textile	48
Total (Active)		543
Grand Total		789