BENETTON GROUP DOUBLES COMPENSATION FOR RANA PLAZA TRUST FUND RECOMMENDED BY INDEPENDENT ASSESSORS

THEREFORE THE TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO RANA PLAZA VICTIMS AMOUNTS TO USD 1,600,000

BENETTON COMMITS ON FACTORY STANDARDS BY APPLYING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ACCORD ON FIRE AND BUILDING SAFETY TO GLOBAL SUPPLIERS

17 April 2015. Benetton Group announces that it has contributed USD 1,100,000 to the Rana Plaza Trust Fund, doubling the sum recommended in an independent assessment of its contribution by PwC and endorsed by WRAP, an NGO focused on social compliance through global supply chains.

In fact Benetton's payment of USD 1,100,000 follows a previous payment of USD 500,000 made through BRAC, before the Rana Plaza Trust Fund was established.

This coincides with a commitment from Benetton to raise working conditions and living standards for workers in the international garment industry via several "people first" sustainability initiatives rolling out across its global supply chain. Benetton will progressively apply the principles of the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh to its producers in other global markets.

"We welcome the PwC report and WRAP's contribution. We have decided to go further to demonstrate very clearly how deeply we care," said Marco Airoldi, CEO of Benetton Group. "Whilst there is no real redress for the tragic loss of life we hope that this robust and clear mechanism for calculating compensation could be used more widely. For this reason, we decided to make the PwC report publicly available to all stakeholders".

"Benetton has a proud history of social commitment. We believe that by working closely with the right suppliers we can help to improve factory conditions for workers in Bangladesh and in many other parts of the world," he added.

Benetton was one of 29 brands connected to companies operating in the Rana Plaza building. PwC based its report on an assessment from the International Labour Organisation that in total USD 30 million compensation should be paid into the Rana Plaza Trust Fund. PwC calculates Benetton Group's contribution to be USD 550,000 based on the level of its commercial association with the Rana Plaza.

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However PwC has not factored in contributions from other third parties, such as the Bangladesh government and the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers Exporters Association, unions and others. This means that, if its mechanism were followed by all brands operating at the Rana Plaza, after payments from other third parties the total fund could significantly exceed USD 30 million.

"Based on Benetton's commercial association with Rana Plaza, we believe this is a fair basis to calculate payments to the Rana Plaza Trust Fund as quantified by ILO" said **Sudhir Singh Dungarpur**, **Partner PwC India**.

"With a tragedy of this scale, no financial compensation can ever really be enough, but we welcome Benetton's decision to pay more than its calculated share of the fund based on the report published by PwC," said **Avedis Seferian, President and CEO of WRAP**. "If everyone took the same approach as Benetton, the overall fund could more than exceed its stated goals".

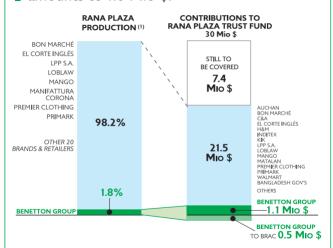
Benetton was one of the first signatories of the Accord on Fire and Building Safety, which has improved factory safety in Bangladesh in the wake of the Rana Plaza disaster. Now, in addition to applying the Accord globally, the company plans to work with its suppliers to raise workers' living standards.

For further information:

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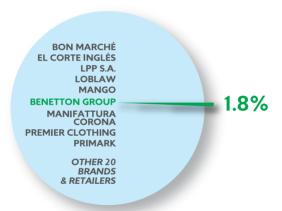
Total contribution of Benetton Group amounts to 1.6 Mio \$.



⁽¹⁾ RANA PLAZA PRODUCTION CAPACITY IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE COLLAPSE.

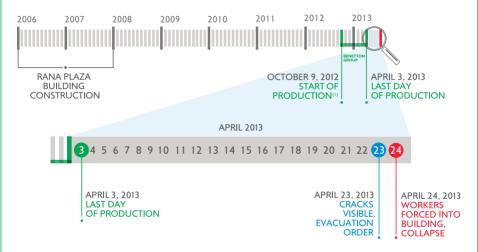
(DATA SOURCE: PWC REPORT 2015 - THE GUARDIAN WEBSITE - RANA PLAZA ARRANGEMENT WEBSITE - BENETTON GROUP'S PROCESSING BASED ON PWC REPORT 2015)

Incidence of Benetton Group on total Rana Plaza's production in the 12 months before the collapse.



RANA PLAZA PRODUCTION CAPACITY (in pcs): 14.5 Mio BENETTON GROUP'S SOURCING IN RANA PLAZA (in pcs): 0.26 Mio (DATA SOURCE: PWC REPORT 2015 - THE GUARDIAN WEBSITE)

Benetton Group had already stopped the relationship with Rana Plaza at the time of the collapse.



 $^{(l)}$ incidence of Benetton group on total rana plaza's production < 2% in the last 12 months before the collapse

(DATA SOURCE: PWC REPORT 2015 - BENETTON GROUP'S PROCESSING BASED ON PWC REPORT 2015)

Timeline of Benetton Group's actions and relevant events.

APRII 24 2013 **APRII 16 2015** MAY 2013 JANUARY 2014 FFRRUARY 2015 RANA PI A7A BENETTON GROUP RANA PI A7A BENETTON GROUP BENETTON GROUP **COLLAPSES** SIGNS THE ACCORD **DONORS LAUNCHES DOUBLES** ON FIRE AND TRUST FUND THE SECOND PHASE COMPENSATION BUILDING SAFFTY OF 30 MIO\$ OF SUPPORT FOR RANA PLAZA IN BANGLADESH established FOR VICTIMS OF VICTIMS **RECOMMENDED** by the ILO RANA PLAZA BY INDEPENDENT MAY 23, 2013 and announces **ASSESSORS** a further contribution BENETTON GROUP (PWC AND WRAP) throught the Rana Plaza DECIDES TO and applies Trust Fund SUPPORT BRAC the principles of AND LAUNCHES the Accord on Fire THE FIRST PHASE and Building Safety OF SUPPORT to global suppliers FOR VICTIMS OF RANA PLAZA

BENETTON GROUP'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Benetton Group's Sustainability Committee defines and oversees the implementation of the company's sustainability strategy, therefore becoming the internal reference point for sustainability, as well as an authoritative voice with respect to external stakeholders.

The creation of the Committee shows the company's commitment at the highest level to become an agent of social change, through its sustainability initiatives.

The objectives of Benetton Group's Sustainability Committee include:

- ✓ to promote an effective and continuous integration of sustainability initiatives into the company's business, while supporting the CSR manager;
 - ✓ to harmonize Benetton Group's sustainability activities;
 - ✓ to promote a dialogue with internal and external actors concerning relevant sustainability issues;
 - ✓ to examine and periodically review corporate sustainability implementation tools - starting from the Code of Conduct and the Code's implementation procedures - also in light of possible risks related to the brand reputation;
 - ✓ to provide the Board of Directors with constant information and indications regarding the application of the corporate sustainability strategy and its tools;
 - ✓ to provide substantial contribution for an effective stakeholders engagement on material issues;
 - ✓ to encourage the adoption of the integrated reporting and the disclosure of KPIs and of information concerning environmental and social issues.

The structure of the Committee is determined in a manner that guarantees representation and effectiveness.

Its composition shows the highest level of engagement of the company and is extended to all the company directions for their activities related to sustainability.

For further information:

http://www.benettongroup.com/sustainability

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