

# MFAF Bangladesh: Dhaka Conference: Conference

Agendas: Day 1

## International MFA Forum: **FORUM FOR THE FUTURE**

June 27th 2005: 9.30am - 5.30pm

### Introduction

This first day of the two day event is devoted to an examination of the prospects for Bangladesh's textile and garments industry in the post quota era, assuming no changes to policy and approaches; followed by an analysis of current and future obstacles to progress, leading to agreement on strategies & mechanisms needed to safeguard & promote the industry and including the role to be played by each of the stakeholders therein. It is intended that the day should finish not only with such agreement but also with consensus on the practical actions needed for implementation.

The second day which will be a smaller, and by invite only, is devoted to intensive group sessions of different stakeholders to examine key areas of weaknesses in relationships, and examining opportunities for collaboration and joint action in efforts to promote an integrated national approach to stabilizing and growing the textile and clothing industry in Bangladesh.

### Agenda

9.30am Registrations

10.00am Opening Ceremony

10:10 - 10:30 Tea

10.30am **SESSION 1: Life without the MFA / A Brave New World**

Short introduction on the research projections & experience to date, on the impact of trade liberalization in textiles & garments.

11.15am	<p><b>SESSION 2: Roadblocks to Progress</b></p> <p>A SWOT analysis of Bangladesh's textile and garments industry. This session may take the form of a panel; made up of representatives of international brands &amp; retailers, which would examine the strengths &amp; weaknesses of and the opportunities and threats to Bangladesh's textiles and garment industry.</p>
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch
1.30pm	<p><b>SESSION 3: Riding the Tiger</b></p> <p>A national strategy to stabilize and grow the textile and garment industry. This session would begin with a presentation by an expert on translating the global strategy adopted by the MFA forum into a homegrown / home owned strategy for the country.</p>
2.30pm	<p><b>SESSION 4: A role for all - All with a role</b></p> <p>A panel comprising representatives of manufacturers, workers, the brands and retailers, the Govt. of Bangladesh, Importing governments and the international agencies will be invited to respond to suggestions on the role each could play in creating and rolling out a strategy for the future.</p>
3:45 - 4:00	Tea
4.00pm	<p><b>SESSION 5: Structuring Success</b></p> <p>What forms of national, economic and social development mechanisms are needed for textiles and garments. This session will attempt to bring together conclusions from all earlier sessions with the objective of agreeing the formal mechanisms needed to promote the economic and social development of the textile &amp; garment industry and to implement strategies for the future.</p>
5.00pm	<p><b>SESSION 6: Next Steps</b></p> <p>This session will determine immediate actions needed to establish agreed mechanisms and to begin implementing strategies.</p>