

NCP Cases in the Garment and Footwear Sector

Denmark: In October 2016, the Danish NCP issued a statement thoroughly criticising the due diligence practices of a Danish textile company in relation to, amongst others, occupational health and safety standards at the supplier in Rana Plaza. The statement specifically noted that the company neglected to make adequate requirements of the supplier in relation to a CSR policy; neglected to require the supplier to perform self-evaluation; and neglected to monitor and follow up on such self-evaluations.

Brazil: Recently the Brazil NCP concluded a complaint against C&A related to the Tazreen fire in Bangladesh. The NCP acknowledged many changes C&A made after the fire to their supply chain due diligence processes.

Denmark: In 2008, through a process led by the Danish NCP, Clean Clothes Campaign and India Committee of the Netherlands (CCC and ICN), and Fiber & Fabrics International, a factory that was a supplier of jeans brand G-Star, resolved a complaint related to labour conditions at the Indian clothing production facilities. In consultation with local organisations and unions in Bangalore, an Ombudsperson in Bangalore was appointed to resolve problems concerning labour conditions.

Germany: In May 2016, the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), together with FEMNET, medico international, Garment Workers Unity Forum and the Comrade Rubel Memorial Center, along with survivors of the Rana Plaza Factory collapse, filed a complaint against TÜV Rheinland AG and TÜV Rheinland India Pvt. Ltd. The complaint seeks financial compensation and also legal liability reform for allegedly failing to report various labour and human rights abuses, as well as mislabelling a construction quality audit of the Phantom Apparels building as good. That building collapsed less than a year after the audit and killed 1,138 people, including at least 39 children, and injured 2,500 people. The initial assessment of the complaint by the German NCP is pending.