

**Question for written answer E-006326/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: EU mark for good practice in the textile sector in the light of labour abuses in factories in developing countries

The Bangladeshi clothing industry has 5 000 factories and employs 3.5 million people, with an annual turnover of USD 20 billion. The minimum salaries are among the lowest in the world, at BDT 3 000 (EUR 29) per month, with working days of at least 14 hours.

After the Rana Plaza disaster in April 2014, in which over 1 000 people died, the Bangladeshi Government announced that it would accept free trade unions. However, government corruption, the desperation caused by unemployment and the indifference of the sector cast doubt on the effectiveness of measures that can be taken at a local level. For their part, non-governmental organisations and textile companies in the EU announced safety plans which provide for independent inspections of factories and workshops.

Is the Commission considering proposing the creation of a seal of guarantee for products manufactured in accordance with social practices that are acceptable in the EU? Has the Commission made provision to promote corporate responsibility before the courts in the companies' country of origin?