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ETI Update



ethical
trading
initiative

Produced by the ETI Secretariat to keep members informed of our activities. To provide feedback or to make a contribution, contact Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk

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Bulletin board

ETI Project manager (maternity cover) vacancy
Deadline for receipt of applications: 9am Monday 11 July. See p.5

Launch of Smallholder Guidelines

UK launch:

Thursday 22 September, 2pm

Kenya launch:

Wednesday 14 September, 10am

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 23 November 2005

ETI meeting space available

Contact carol@eti.org.uk

Meeting dates

Homeworkers Group

Wednesday 20 July

11 am – 2 pm,

ETI offices

Smallholders Project

Wednesday 3 August

11 am – 1.30 pm

ETI offices

Sri Lanka Garments Project

UK Group:

Friday 8 July

11 am – 2 pm,

ETI offices

Training QA Panel

Thursday 4 August

11.30 am – 3.30 pm

Purchasing practices

Tuesday 19 July

12 - 3 pm

ETI offices

Projects and Working Groups

Child Labour Project

Following the closure of the Tamil Nadu project last year, a meeting to consult members on how ETI should approach this issue in the future will be held at the ETI offices from 11am-1pm on Thursday 30 June.

This meeting is open to any members interested in participating in this discussion. For planning purposes please let Juliet know if you *will* be attending this meeting.

Contact Juliet Edington: juliet@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/chlab

China Project Group

Exploring tripartite collaboration for change

Chinese journalists talk to ETI China Group. Journalists from Guandong province interviewed Project Manager Fiona Mabbott and China Group Chair Lesley Roberts on corporate social responsibility and ethical trade at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 9 June. A note of the discussion will be circulated to the Group, as will any relevant press coverage. The visit was organised by the British Council in Guangzhou.

Hong Kong and China visit postponed. The Hong-Kong and China visit planned for July has had to be postponed as Project Manager Fiona Mabbott will be absent from the office from early July until mid-August. Group members are now working on a new date for the trip and preparing to advertise the position of Local Project Co-ordinator.

Contact Fiona Mabbott: fiona@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/china

Homeworkers Project

Applying the Base Code to an invisible workforce: examining fabric embellishment in India

Guideline development continues in the UK and Delhi, with the UK Group developing more detailed guidance on areas such as piece-rate

setting, organising homeworkers, and communicating rights and responsibilities to homeworkers.

Preparations for tripartite visit to India (18 – 20 Oct 2005) continue. Corporate members of the Group are encouraged to enlist the participation of buyers and technologists in the visit, to increase their exposure to homeworking and help them understand how buying practices and decision-making can impact on working conditions all the way down the supply chain. Activities planned for the trip currently include: meeting members of the local consultative group; visiting rural and urban homeworkers; attending consultations on materials developed so far; and investigating institutional responses to increasing communication between homeworkers, contractors and exporters.

The **next meeting** will be on Wednesday 20 July, 11 am – 2 pm.

Contact Liz Kirk: liz@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/hmwkr

Smallholders Project

Progressing the Base Code through the supply chain: developing guidelines for working with smallholders

Smallholder Guidelines now to be launched in three countries: The Guidelines will be launched by ETI in Kenya on Wednesday 14 September and the UK on Thursday 22 September as well as by Group member companies in Spain in mid-September.

Join up! Member companies with smallholders in their supply chains are invited to join group member companies in road-testing the Guidelines, and to feed in to the learning framework (under development) which aims to capture progress, challenges and difference made through implementing the Guidelines. Interested members are encouraged to attend the UK launch, where presentations on Guideline development and approach will be followed by a Q&A session. Please contact Project Manager Liz Kirk if you would like to come. Places are limited, so early booking is advised.

The **next meeting** will be on Wednesday 3 August from 11.00 am – 1.30 pm at the ETI offices.

Contact Liz Kirk: liz@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/smlhldr

Sri Lanka Garments Project

Testing different audit approaches in the ready-made garments industry

Analysis of audit results underway. Both the UK and Colombo Groups are in the process of analysing the results and drawing out lessons from the audits in the first three factories. Audits in the fourth factory will be carried out in late August. Tripartite representatives from the UK Group will visit Sri Lanka on 30 September and 1 October. The purpose of the visit will be to compare the analysis of the two Groups, agree recommendations for improvements to the multi-stakeholder audit and plan the next round of trials.

Next meeting UK Group:
8 July, 11am -2pm, ETI offices

Contact Juliet Edington: juliet@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/srigarm

Temporary Labour (Gangmaster) Working Group

Towards a licence to operate: designing a code of practice and inspection process for providers of temporary labour in UK agriculture

Progress on labour provider registration. Labour providers continue to register on the Temporary Labour Working Group (TLWG) site, with 624 labour providers registered as of 23 June. This amounts to around 60 percent of the total number of labour providers estimated by the Gangmasters Licensing Authority (GLA). Of the 624, 63 labour providers have been audited and a further 125 have booked audits. Fifteen consultancy sessions have been carried out and a further 16 are booked.

Delisting of labour providers. Labour providers who registered on the site before 1 April will be delisted if they have not booked consultancy advice or an audit by 1 July. We currently expect

around 200 labour providers to be delisted for this reason.

Co-operation with the GLA. The TLWG continues to work closely with the GLA. Current discussions include what aspects of the TLWG Code could be incorporated into the planned GLA Code and the need for further clarification of the GLA's position towards TLWG audits.

The TLWG's rapid response team is currently focused on the worker interview policy, the complaints procedure, the relationship between REC and TLWG audits, a process for delisting labour providers, revisions to the Code and a policy on sub-contracting.

Contact Fiona Mabbott: fiona@eti.org.uk
www.lpcode.co.uk

Purchasing Practices Project

Exploring how common purchasing practices affect suppliers' ability to meet international labour standards

Each participating company is currently working with a nominated NGO and/or trade union to develop a plan for its own company case study. Plans for the case studies will be discussed at the meeting in July along with the MOU, a Confidentiality Agreement for the Group and a public statement on the project for the ETI website.

Next meeting
ETI Offices: 19 July 12 noon – 3.00 pm, ETI offices

Contact Juliet Edington: juliet@eti.org.uk

Membership support and development

Feedback on 2004 Annual Reports

Please make sure you book a time with us to go through your feedback letter and targets for next year.

Contact Santiago Porto santiago@eti.org.uk

ETI Annual Report 2005

Suppliers poster

As you know, this year's annual report will double-up as a poster about ethical trade for suppliers. Thank you to all those who have already sent in ideas for the poster. For those who have not yet done so, let me know what you think! What do you want to communicate with your suppliers that would work well in a poster format? How important is it to include the principles of the Base Code? Would it help to have a list of members? What key messages do you want to convey?

Contact Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk

New annual reporting tool

The new annual reporting tool and guidelines were emailed to all corporate members on 9 June. The tool is also available on CD-Rom from ETI Secretariat.

This final version follows the same structure as the ones previously shared with you. If you have been already compiling data in an earlier version, please do send us your spreadsheet and we will transfer it to the newest version for you.

Contact Santiago Porto: santiago@eti.org.uk

Annual reporting transition year

While the ETI Board hopes companies will be able to provide data for the performance input and improvement action tables for the whole of 2005, *it will accept data for less than the full year provided it covers at least a six month period in 2005*. Data should cover all sites risk-assessed or inspected and all relevant improvement actions during the period and should not be limited to a selected sample of sites. This is a concession for the 2005 report only. The 2006 report should contain data for the whole of that year. For any further questions, please contact santiago@eti.org.uk.

New corporate members

DCC (corporate clothing supplier) and Rohan (clothing retailer) applications were approved by the board in May. We welcome them to ETI.

Contact Santiago Porto: santiago@eti.org.uk

Other ETI activities

ETI Training Development

Module One approved. The first module of the planned ETI/Co-op College training programme was approved for launch on 10 June.

Planned piloting of Modules Two – Five. These modules are now ready to be piloted. A flyer announcing dates of the pilots and inviting ETI members to participate in them is being circulated with this Update. Please take the opportunity to be involved in these pilots – they are your opportunity to help ensure that the training is effective. Places are limited, so do book early.

Next meeting:

4 August, 11.30am – 3.30pm

Contact Fiona Mabbott: fiona@eti.org.uk

ETI and beyond

ETI in the media

Two recent articles on ethical trade in *Supply Management Magazine* (26 May and 23 June) featured ETI's views, and we were also quoted in the Bangladesh newspaper *The New Nation* on 27 June as a result of our involvement in a joint MFA Forum-UNDP conference on the future of the Ready Made Garments industry in Bangladesh.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation recently used a recording of the first plenary session of our conference 'Putting Workers Centre Stage' in a programme dealing with the effects of MFA phase-out on the Lesotho garment industry.

Contact Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk if you would like to receive copies of the articles mentioned.

New ILO guide on Cambodian labour law

The ILO has published a guide to Cambodian Labour Law for the garment industry as part of its Garment Sector Working Conditions Improvement Project. Bringing together all sources of Cambodian labour law into a comprehensive, easy-to use booklet, it provides a quick reference source for business owners, managers and human resources personnel to find out what their obligations are under Cambodian labour law.

For more information or for a complete copy of the publication, contact: Ms Ros Harvey, ILO Chief Technical Advisor, Tel: +855 23 212 847, 220 362 ext 106-9; Fax: +855 23 212 903; email: gsp@ilosp.org.kh

Recruitment

New role: Project Manager, capacity building

We are pleased to announce that Pins Brown will return from maternity leave at the end of September and take up a one year part-time post within the project team, managing ETI's new work on capacity building.

Recruitment of Head of Projects (Maternity Cover)

We are delighted to announce that following the recent recruitment process for this position, Liz Kirk has been recruited as Acting Head of Projects. Liz will take up the post on 1 September when Juliet goes on maternity leave. Congratulations to Liz and we wish her every success in this new role.

This change in Liz's role has led to the following vacancy. Please circulate this widely within your networks.

Vacancy: Project Manager (maternity cover)

We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join our growing Secretariat to provide maternity cover within the project team.

As a Project Manager you be a key member of the team charged with moving ETI's new strategy forward in exciting new directions which include corporate purchasing practice and capacity building. You will manage projects designed to identify good practice in the implementation of corporate codes of conduct and build capacity to deliver them. You will develop, co-ordinate and administer projects involving organisations with diverse agendas in the UK and overseas, to ensure lessons are documented and shared. Strong project management experience with diverse stakeholder groups, excellent communication and administration skills, and an understanding of current debates about corporate codes of labour practice, are all required.

You will be given a salary of £34,228 plus benefits and 25 days holiday per year, pro-rata. Closing date 9am Monday 11 July. Interviews will be held on Monday 18 July.

This post is for an initial 8 months, starting August 2005, with the possibility of future extension or a permanent contract.

Access Recruitment Information Pack and Application form at www.ethicaltrade.org or contact Carol Sheldon, ETI, 2nd Floor, Cromwell House, 14 Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6HZ carol@eti.org.uk 020 7404 1463

'If there is no dull and determined effort, there will be no brilliant achievement'.

- Hsun Tzu, Chinese Philosopher
312 BC – c.221 BC

Verité China Suppliers Conference

The 7th Annual Verité China Suppliers Conference will be held on 15 and 16 August in Shenzhen, PRC. Sessions will be bilingual, with simultaneous English and Chinese translation. The focus will be practical approaches to improvements in social compliance, discussed through case studies from factory and brand experience. Case studies will focus on working hours, benefits, grievance mechanisms, and worker education.

Contact Ida Monzon at ida@verite.org or +413.253.9227 to or visit www.verite.org to find out more.

Social Accountability Conference

Beyond compliance: innovative strategies for responsible sourcing, 19 September 2005, New York City

This one-day conference offers participants the opportunity to engage in learning and debate on CSR and provides in-depth exposure to discussions on ethical sourcing at a time of expanded supply chains in an increasingly global economy.

How do international companies implement programs and maintain an ethical supply chain? Where do China and Central America fit into this picture? Is there a future for voluntary codes of conduct?

Network with CSR practitioners facing these issues and making the tough calls on a day-to-day basis. Listen to our distinguished panel of speakers and attendees representing companies, NGOs and trade unions, as well as best-practice theorists and consultants.

Find out more and register online at www.sa-intl.org/conference

Corporate Responsibility in Food and Agribusiness Conference

Achieving the Benefits of Ethical Business Practices, 29-30 September 2005, Café Royal, London

Agra Informa's 2nd Annual Conference on Corporate Responsibility in Food and Agribusiness will hear from expert speakers from a broad range of leading companies. They will deliver in-depth case studies demonstrating the policies they are implementing to control the social and environmental impact of their business, and the benefits this can bring.

For a full conference programme contact Agra Conferences:

Phone: +44 (0) 1892 533813

Fax: + 44 (0) 1892 544895

E-mail: marketing@agra-net.com

www.agra-net.com/cr05

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EDITOR: Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk

**Ethical Trading Initiative
Cromwell House
14 Fulwood Place
London WC1V 6HZ
United Kingdom**

t +44 (0) 20 7404 1463

f +44 (0) 20 7831 7852

Disclaimer: The inclusion of information about other organisations and/or their events and activities does not necessarily imply endorsement by ETI.