



PRESS RELEASE

U.S. EMBASSY ANNOUNCES SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SOLIDARITY CENTER, BANGLADESH SHRIMP AND FISH FOUNDATION (BSFF) AND THE BANGLADESH FRESH FROZEN EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION.

DHAKA, MARCH 24 – U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan Mozena, the Solidarity Center, Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF) and the Bangladesh Fresh Frozen Employers Association (BFFEA) today announced the signing of a landmark Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) "to promote and implement the Bangladesh Labor Act 2006 and the International Labor Organization (ILO) Core Labor Standards in the Shrimp Processing Industry."

The overall goal of the MOA is to promote "ILO Core Labor Standards" and "the Bangladesh Labor Act, 2006" in Bangladesh Shrimp Processing Plants. The MOA will be signed between BFFEA, BSFF and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS), also known as the Solidarity Center. The MOA will establish parameters for the identification and prioritization of matters that need to be redressed along with a mechanism to resolve them.

Through United States Government funding, the Solidarity Center has been working to ensure the implementation of the Bangladesh Labor Act 2006 and ILO Core Labor Standards for the workers of Shrimp and Fish Processing Plants since 2005.

The U.S. Government, through USAID, has provided over \$6 billion in development assistance to Bangladesh since 1971. In 2012 alone, USAID provided more than \$200 million to improve the lives of people in Bangladesh. USAID supports programs in Bangladesh that: promote democratic institutions and practices, expand food security and economic opportunity, improve health and education services, and increase resiliency to climate change through adaptation and low carbon development.

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