

Report-09

Subject : Progress report of Action plan with effect from 01-10-2014 to 31-10-2014 regarding BGAPMEA INSPIRED project.

(i) Re-scheduling of three activities (6.2, 5.7.2 & 5.2.5) :

As per Project Action Plan three activities namely (i) *Installation of Bond Module Systems for issuance of Utilization Permission (UP) for raw material import (6.2)*, (ii) *Holding of Seminar and workshop on Social Compliance & Environmental issues (5.7.2)* & (iii) *To undertake study and go for R&D to prepare position paper on quality control, productivity level, use of renewable energy and energy efficiency (5.2.5)* were scheduled on Semester-4 (April/2015 to July/2015) & Semester-5 (November/2015) respectively. Should these studies be conducted earlier, the member units of BGAPMEA could be benefited more. On the other hand, TTZ, Germany (Partner-1) will carry out another study on setting up of a Testing Laboratory (5.2.2) during October/2014 to January/2015. During this period experts from TTZ will be working in Bangladesh. So, it will be convenient for all the parties to complete the work (5.2.5) within January/2015. In view of this, BGAPMEA approached the Ministry of Industries to allow to complete these three studies within the span of Semester-3 of the Action Plan vide the letter No. BGAPMEA/Bangladesh INSPIRED/2013/113/90 dt.12-10-2014. A copy of the same was also sent to TA Team of Bangladesh INSPIRED.

(ii) Signing the Service Contract between BGAPMEA, EUB and Prof. Dr. Feroz Iqbal Faruque for the two studies 6.3 & 6.4 :

A Service Contract was signed on 21-10-2014 between BGAPMEA as Beneficiary, EUB as Partner-2 and Prof. Dr. Feroz Iqbal Faruque as Consultant for the implementation of the two of project activities namely (i) *Guide members with necessary policy support to meet economic shock due to unpredictable nature of market price escalation of raw materials (6.3)* & *Encourage formation of cluster of packaging and accessories units for better integration (6.4)*. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal.

(iii) Deposited the BGAPMEA 10% equity to the Project Account :

Under the Bangladesh INSPIRED Project, the European Union and Ministry of Industries approved the total budget of EURO 1,93,376.82 for BGAPMEA project. They are supposed to give the total Grant amount of EURO 1,74,039.14 as 90% of the budget amount for the capacity building of the Association under "SME Competitiveness Grant Scheme". Remaining 10% amount will be contributed by the Association. Initially BGAPMEA received the 1st installment of Grant amount of EURO 79,809.13 from the Contracting authority. Please be noted that on 25-09-2013 we have deposited the amount of Tk. 5,000/- (taka five thousand) from the Association fund to open the project account (**Current account # 0002-0210013768, Jamuna Bank Ltd., Sonargaon Road Branch, Dhaka**). As discussed with the Technical Assistance Team of Bangladesh INSPIRED, the balance amount of 10% equity against 1st installment of the Association of Tk. 8,30,073/- (taka eight lac thirty thousand seventy three) was deposited to the Project account on 01-10-2014. This issue was intimated to the MoI and also the TA Team of Bangladesh vide the letter no. BGAPMEA/BD. INSPIRED/Report/2014/140/94 dt. 26-10-2014.

(iv) Undertaking Feasibility study to set up Training Institute (5.2.1) & Setting up of a Testing Laboratory (5.2.2):

As per TOR & Service Contracts, European University of Bangladesh (EUB), Partner-2 has been working on Feasibility study to set up Training Institute & Setting up of a Testing Laboratory and other selected studies. As per the Service Contract (agreement) with European University of Bangladesh (EUB) they are preparing the Draft Report of the two studies within the schedule time. Mr. Faraz Rasheed Mir, Project Manager, TTZ Bremerhaven, Germany (Partner-1) is expected to join the study on setting up of a Testing Laboratory during 14-20 November, 2014.