



Geneva, 3 April 2014

Honorable Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister of Bangladesh
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Sent by email to info@pmo.gov.bd; mission.bangladesh@ties.itu.int

Calling on the Government of Bangladesh to Reopen Investigation of Murder of Aminul Islam

Dear Honorable Sheikh Hasina,

We write this letter to you on behalf of the [ITUC](#), [UNI Global Union](#) and [IndustriALL Global Union](#), on the second anniversary of the murder of Aminul Islam, a leader of the Bangladesh Center for Workers Solidarity (BCWS).

We condemned the torture and murder of Aminul Islam on 4 April 2012 in the strongest terms and have repeatedly called on your government to undertake a thorough investigation into his murder. Strong evidence indicates that Aminul Islam was targeted for his indefatigable work as a labour organizer and human rights advocate and that the perpetrators of this crime include members of the government security apparatus.


We are extremely disappointed that, two years later, so little progress has been made and no one has yet been held accountable. We therefore call on the government of Bangladesh to reopen the investigation to ensure that all of the perpetrators are identified, charged and brought to justice.

At a time when Bangladesh is seeking to regain its duty-free status with the US government for non-RMG exports, while maintaining the duty-free status with the EU, the Bangladesh government would do well to address these concerns and demonstrate its commitment to basic human rights and a socially-responsible garment industry by ensuring that Mr. Islam's murder is fully investigated and his killers prosecuted.

The ITUC, IndustriALL Global Union and UNI Global Union remain fully committed to contributing to the development of a safe and sustainable textile and garment industry, which plays a major role in the Bangladeshi economy. This requires full respect for international core labour standards, including the right to freedom of association and to bargain collectively, continued revisions of minimum wages to reach living wages, and the success of the Accord on Fire and Building Safety, whose implementation is well underway. Much work remains to be done by the government to realize these rights in law and in practice.

Your government must show that it takes freedom of association seriously and will not let violations of fundamental trade union and human rights go unpunished. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

A stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a vertical line on the left, a horizontal line across the middle, and a diagonal line on the right.

Jyrki Raina
General Secretary
IndustriALL Global Union

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, looped initial 'S' followed by a cursive 'B' and a horizontal line.

Sharan Burrow
General Secretary
International Trade Union
Confederation - ITUC

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style with a prominent 'P' and 'J'.

Philip Jennings
General Secretary
UNI Global Union