

Position: Executive Director

Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands / Bangladesh

The Accord on Building and Fire Safety Foundation is a ground breaking agreement between global unions and brands and retailers which aims to ensure that the garments produced in Bangladesh are produced in safe factories. The Foundation is the entity through which the Accord will operate, based in the Netherlands with a program office in Dhaka. The Foundation seeks an Executive Director to manage and grow this ground breaking initiative.

Reporting to the Steering Committee, the Executive Director will manage the Foundation, actively promote the vision, strategically lead the work, direct the communication and be primarily responsible for relationships with international institutions, governments and partners, including relationships within Bangladesh.

This person must bring an understanding of worker rights, labour and supply chain issues as well as powerful management and communication skills. S/he will represent the organisation at the highest levels in international fora, and have a crucial role in advocating for the Foundation's role in fostering a safe and sustainable Bangladeshi Ready-Made Garment ("RMG") industry in which no worker needs to fear fires, building collapses, or other accidents.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible to manage and develop resources available to the Foundation, implement a communications plan and to take the lead on the Accord's relationships with governments, Bangladeshi stakeholders and international institutions. S/he will be primarily responsible to promote the visibility and results of the Accord to internal and external audiences and must be able to work closely with both company and labor signatories to the Accord, as well as NGOs and Bangladeshi stakeholders.

A major goal of the Accord is to expand its reach. The ED will be responsible for bringing new company Signatories to the Accord and establishing new funding relationships to deliver the objectives of the Accord.

In Bangladesh, the ED will work alongside the Chief Inspector to achieve the Accord's objective to ensure safe workplaces in Bangladesh through building and managing relationships with Bangladeshi stakeholders and coordination with the National Action Program.

The Executive Director will ensure that, within the Foundation, there are relevant administrative processes, adequate controls and financial systems so that the Foundation is an effective steward of the funds placed at its disposal and meets high standards of accountability and transparency.

The Executive Director is the head of the Foundation office and an ex-officio member of the

Foundation's Steering Committee and Advisory Board. S/he is responsible for the overall management of the organization, and is charged with implementing its strategy approved by the Steering Committee, to which the Executive Director reports directly.

Responsibilities of the Executive Director include the delivery of:

- Strategic leadership
- Programme Excellence
- Organizational effectiveness
- Resource and Financial management
- Communications to both internal and external audiences
- Relationship building

Background and Experience

Candidates for the role will require:

- A thorough understanding of issues for workers, trade unions, and business in the supply chain, this will include familiarity on norms for responsible business, labor perspectives and challenges for companies.
 - A track record of achievement and leadership in the field;
- The ability to engage effectively with trade unions, companies and NGOs
- International experience, in particular as an Executive Director or senior manager in a non-profit organisation or corporation;
- Experience in working with major international donors

Skills and Competencies

Candidates should have proven track record in leadership and:

- The ability to inspire and engage with a wide range of relevant audiences; personal presence; excellent influencing skills;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, this person will be an inspiring presenter and ambassador;
- Language skills: excellent level of verbal and written English, other languages an asset;
- The capacity to interact with both the labor and retail constituencies, to convey complex messages to lay audiences, as well as interacting meaningfully with expert ones;
- The ability to lead, delegate, develop, retain and manage a diverse team; good management and delegation skills; and quick and sound people judgment;
- Experience in successfully managing significant projects from inception to completion
- Financial literacy; with the ability to set clear financial direction;
- Strong visionary leadership with demonstrated ability to foster integration and teamwork
- The breadth of mind to build partnerships and resolve conflicts,
- The willingness to travel extensively, mostly between Bangladesh and The Netherlands;
- Optimism and openness to new ideas.

To apply

Please send a letter of application stating the skills and approach that you would bring to the post with your CV/resume (no photos) in strict confidence by email only to bangladeshaccord@gmail.com.

The deadline for application is XXXX

It is expected that final interviews for short listed candidates will take place in XXXX in the week of XXXX

Reporting to: Steering Committee of the Accord

Salary: Competitive salary and benefits based on experience