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**STATEMENT OF THE PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF *BETTER FACTORIES CAMBODIA* ON THE RELEASE OF THE SEVENTEENTH ILO SYNTHESIS REPORT ON WORKING CONDITIONS IN CAMBODIA'S GARMENT SECTOR**

1. On 17<sup>th</sup>, November 2006 the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) of the ILO *Better Factories Cambodia* project met in Phnom Penh to review and endorse the Seventeenth ILO Synthesis Report on working conditions in Cambodia's Garment Industry. The PAC comprises representatives from the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia and the Cambodian trade union movement.
2. The members of the PAC welcome the release of this report which presents information on working conditions in a new format and is for the first time generated using the automated Information Management System (IMS) of the project.
3. We note with pleasure the progress made in improving the working conditions even if there still are some improvements to be made in the area of fundamental rights and principles at work. We are encouraged by the fact that over 80 percent of the factories monitored are in compliance with the national labour law and international standards in all major categories of working conditions (contracts, wages, hours, leave, welfare, labour relations and OSH).
4. We continue to express our support to the ILO project and call upon all stakeholders to continue to help make progress in improving working conditions in Cambodia's garment sector.

Phnom Penh, 17 November 2006