

April 19, 2012

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed  
Prime Minister's Office  
Old Sangsad Bhaban  
Tejagaon, Dhaka-1215  
Bangladesh

Dear Prime Minister,

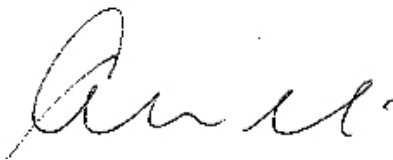
On behalf of the Fair Labor Association (FLA), I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the death of Aminul Islam. Worker rights' advocates like Mr. Islam play a critical role in improving working conditions in factories by shining the light on inhuman practices and labor rights violations occurring around the world. Mr. Islam's work with the Bangladesh Center for Labor Solidarity (BCWS) should have been respected and lauded, yet it appears that his efforts to protect others may have led to his own untimely death under extremely troubling circumstances.

FLA is a multi-stakeholder collaboration of over 200 colleges and universities, civil society organizations and companies working together to improve workers' lives worldwide. Bangladesh plays an important part in this effort; in 2011, 205 suppliers employing more than 384,000 workers manufactured products for FLA Participating Companies in Bangladesh. The rights of these workers and the thousands of other men and women working in Bangladeshi factories must be protected.

FLA calls upon the Government of Bangladesh to launch a comprehensive and impartial investigation into Aminul Islam's death and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice. In addition, we call upon your leadership to protect labor advocates and organizations in Bangladesh, including BWCS, in order for them to pursue their work free from surveillance, harassment, intimidation, violence, and physical threats.

Finally, we urge the Government of Bangladesh to heed the call from the international community for urgent reform of labor practices in the apparel sector, specifically implementing the government's own commitment to improve working conditions through collaborative efforts of stakeholders, including trade unions and civil society organizations.

Sincerely,



President and CEO  
Fair Labor Association