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ETUC Press release

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ETUC welcomes EP Resolution on labour conditions and health and safety standards in Bangladesh

The European Trade Union Confederation welcomes the resolution adopted by the European Parliament today calling for justice for victims and EU action to prevent a recurrence of the recent fires and building collapses at factories in Bangladesh and asking the Commission to promote responsible business conduct among EU companies operating abroad and to ensure strict compliance with all legal obligations in the areas of human rights, labour and the environment.

ETUC General Secretary, Bernadette Ségol said: *"I am glad that all the main political parties represented in the Parliament have joined forces to reflect the dismay of European workers and citizens at the shocking events in Bangladesh where recent factory collapses and fires killed 1100 workers and injured thousands more. We call on the government of Bangladesh to fully implement the basic labour standards set down in ILO conventions; and on the European Commission to make sure that the enforcement of those standards is a prerequisite for any aid and trade agreements with Bangladesh. We also firmly ask all multinational employers to treat their workers decently and recognise their trade unions, and on European consumers to draw the consequences with those retail outlets that do not sign up to the Bangladesh Safety Accord negotiated by the international trade union Movement."*

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) exists to speak with a single voice, on behalf of the common interests of workers, at European level. Founded in 1973, it now represents 85 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 10 industry-based federations. The ETUC is

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