

JGATE held its Board Meeting

اجتماع مجلس ادارة الجمعية

On 20th of November, JGATE Board members held a regular meeting during which they discussed sectoral issues, progress and accomplishments.

في تاريخ 20 نوفمبر، عقد أعضاء مجلس إدارة الجمعية اجتماعا عاديا ناقشوا خلالها القضايا القطاعية والتقدم والإنجازات.

The attendees stressed on importance of the newly presented garment training component that will be administered by the private sector. Moreover, they discussed the next steps that will be taken if the government would stick to the law of the percentage of Jordanian labor. Additionally, the board has discussed the audit report conclusion on Better Work Jordan activities and agreed to give a solid response on some of the claims mentioned in the report.

➤ JGATE board members attend PAC Meeting Dinner

On 21st of November; JGATE Board members have attended a PAC event where they discussed the obstacles that the sector faces along with several stakeholders. Among other issues is the percentage of Jordanians and the problems that could arise when the new percentage is put into action in terms of forced labor and compliance.

➤ JGATE attends Export to the EU Workshop organized by USAID

On 29 Nov, JGATE ,represented by Mr. Husam Saleh, Mrs Dina Khayyat and Mr Farhan Ifram, attended a workshop dedicated to the objective

of exporting to the EU where the organizers presented the Export Guide to the EU prepared by CBI Netherlands. In the Workshop, the experts highlighted on the potential of garment sector in order to penetrate the EU market and that the sector should build a proper value proposition when penetrating the quality oriented EU markets. The experts within the garment sector stressed on the importance of adapting to the requirements of EU buyers and how to communicate with such buyers.

➤ **JGATE meetings with concerned Ministers to address the Jordanian Labor Percentage**

Year	No. of Local Labor	No. of Guest Labors	Total No of Labor	Percentage of Jordanian Labor to the Total Labor
2018	21,295	57,577	78,872	27.00%
2019	25,160	61,599	86,759	29.00%
2020	29,585	65,850	95,435	31.00%
2021	34,643	70,336	104,979	33.00%

on several occasions, JGATE Board Members have met with MoITS, MoL and MoInv ministers in order to address the law of percentage of Jordanian Labor that , if imposed, will affect the sector negatively. JGATE submitted a proposal implies the percentage increase of Jordanian labor by 2% annually starting from 25% in 2017 to reach 35% in 2022 creating more than 18,000 for Jordanians with no maximum limit for guest labor numbers.

In result of that, H.E Mr. Yarub Qudah and H.E. Mr. Muhanad Shihadeh had signed one letter addressing our

request to the prime minister office and will discuss our request with the prime minister during the very next ministerial meeting.

➤ **JGATE meetings with concerned Ministers to address the Jordanian Labor Percentage**

JGATE has recently communicated with MoL with regards to clearance certificates and the percentage of Jordanian labor grace period. Regarding the Clearance Certificate, MoL ministry officials will either waive or temporarily suspend such requirement for the sector, final decision will be taken upon the MOL minister's arrival as he's abroad. For the grace period needed for approved guest labor in 2017, the ministry has approved our request to grant a grace period under which the 2017 approvals of manpower recruitment will be valid within 2017 percentage (25%).

➤ **JGATE Meets with EBRD to collaborate on sector demands**

In several meetings with Khaled Saheb of EBRD, Husam Saleh of JGATE discussed the potential support that EBRD could provide to the sector through technical assistance in accessing non-traditional markets as well as financial support through grants and linking factories with local and international advisors. In that sense, JGATE will submit a proposal to EBRD under which the EBRD will fund JGATE activities such as creating business plan and website development.

➤ **JGATE Participates in Employer Authority and Social Dialogue**

On 28th of December, JGATE attended the 2nd Workshop for Local Authorities and Social dialogue organized by Business Med and Jordan Chamber of Industry moderated by the Former Secretary

General of the Jordan Ministry of Labour in presence of about 40 HR managers of eminent companies in Jordan. The workshop addressed the role of employers in enforcing the laws and regulations related to laborers and how employers can benefit from such enforcements.