

**To:** Saskia Wilks, EU/Western Europe Research Assistant, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

**Cc:** Bobbie Sta Maria, Director for Labour Rights & Asia, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

**Topic:** Answer to your last invitation to respond

Saint-Etienne (France), March 29<sup>th</sup> 2018,

Dear Mrs Saskia Wilks and Mrs Bobbie Sta Maria,

You have drawn our attention on an article released on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in which the name of three factories – “East West Group”; “Abonti Color Tex factories”; “Garib&Garib Company Limited” - are quoted. According to your email, the Casino group would be listed as a buyer on their websites.

After review, we do inform you that the “East West Group” and “Abonti Color Tex factories” aren’t suppliers of the Casino group. As regards factory “Garib&Garib Company Limited”, the Casino group maintains business relationships with the company named “Garib&Garib Company Limited Unit 2”, and not “Garib&Garib Company Limited Unit 1”.

Nevertheless, even if the Casino group isn’t working with “Garib&Garib Company Limited Unit 1”, we immediately asked our local Social Compliance Coordinator based in Dhaka to visit the “Garib&Garib Company Limited” in order to check the situation. He visited the both companies on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019, two days only after the reception of your request, reviewed some attendance records, talked to the factory management and workers, and concluded that the “Garib&Garib Company Limited Unit 2” was not involved in the facts mentioned in the article.

The Casino group is a member supporting the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh and the Initiative for Compliance and Sustainability, and even if it has no business relationships with the three factories publicly named in your request, please rest assured of its commitment to promoting responsible trade throughout its supply chain.

Yours sincerely,

Casino group Corporate Social Responsibility Department