

## **State and Local Government Sweatfree Consortium Interim Steering Committee**

June 17, 2008 4 PM – 5:30PM EDST

**Present:** Bama Athreya, Rini Chakraborty, Bjorn Claeson, Eric Dirnbach, Vicki Kaplan, Betty Lamoreau, Chip Gavin, Farshid Yazdi, Curtis Topper, Scott Cross

**Minutes:** Scott Cross

### **Updates**

#### NASPO Cooperative Contract:

Chip Gavin, Betty Lamoreau and Curt Topper discussed the potential of working within the NASPO cooperative arena with Lee Ann Pope and Paul Stembler of NASPO. The discussion involved the potential fee structure and all parties agreed that the issue will have to be discussed further. NASPO did express a clear interest in initiating a sweatfree contract. A NASPO conference will be held in New Hampshire July 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>. In addition to the northeast members there is a possibility that Oregon and Ohio may be invited to the conference. It may be possible for Bjorn to receive an invitation to that time can be devoted for a working meeting to finalize a statement of work for an independent monitoring contract. Additionally, a proposed apparel contract was discussed. PA or Maine may take the lead in developing this contract. Finally, a technical definition of a statement of work was discussed. An initial draft could be based on what PA constructed. PA's draft is based on the WRC document.

Bjorn Claeson: On July 1 SFC will release report on working conditions in uniform factories based on case studies of 10 factories worldwide producing for major uniform brands. The hope is that entities will contact brands to encourage them to work to resolve any issues.

#### Report on Rocky Shoes:

Farshid reported that the WRC reported on an issue in a factory in China that involved violations of human and workers rights. Rocky Shoes was mentioned and did not respond to City of LA officials and therefore is being removed as a subcontractor.

#### Lucas County, Ohio

Vicky reported that a sweatfree policy was adopted by the county and participation in the consortium was included in the county's policy. The state of Ohio is also interested in the consortium.

#### Other States & Cities:

Bjorn will send a list of other states and cities that are interested in joining the consortium to the members of the committee.

Forum for Procurement Officials:

Bjorn mentioned that an open forum is conducted monthly and the next forum conference call will be conducted on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. Joseph Bozich from Knights Apparel will be speaking at this time. Bjorn will forward additional information concerning this forum.

**Next Meeting**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, July 15, 2008