

# The Federal Ministry's Plans for the Textile Industry

Marijke Schöttmer, Systain Consulting GmbH

München, 03.11.15

# AGENDA



PERFORMANCE DAYS | NOV 03-04TH 2015 | MUNICH

**1 QUICK CHECK: Systain Consulting GmbH**

**2 QUICK CHECK: The Textiles Partnership**

**3 PLAN OF ACTION: From 1.0 to 2.0**

**4 CURRENT STATUS QUO: Working Groups and Steering Committee**

**5 OUTLOOK: The Future Role of the Textiles Partnership**

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# Where are the hot spots? – Major environmental and social impacts are located in the supply chain



**> 8.000 litres  
of water**



**Social impacts**

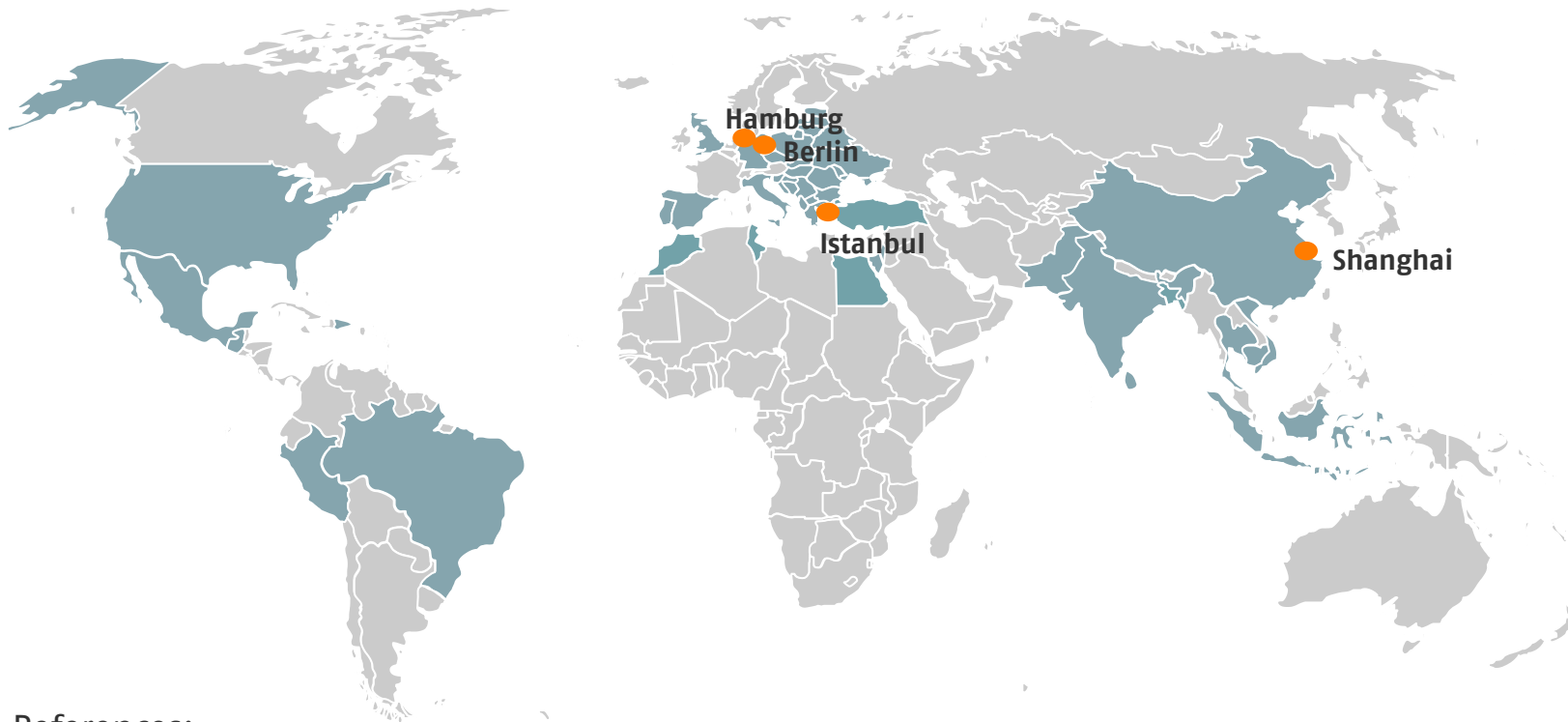


**Chlorine  
bleaching,  
indigo dying,  
stone  
washing, ..**



**> 20 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>-  
Emissions**

Systain is headquartered in Germany, operates four international offices and has an extensive global partner network



References:



Systain is the expert for global and complex challenges in the fields of social responsibility and environmental matters



Sustainability Strategy



Sustainable Supply Chains



Social & Eco Footprinting



Social Compliance



Assurance & Verification



Capacity Building

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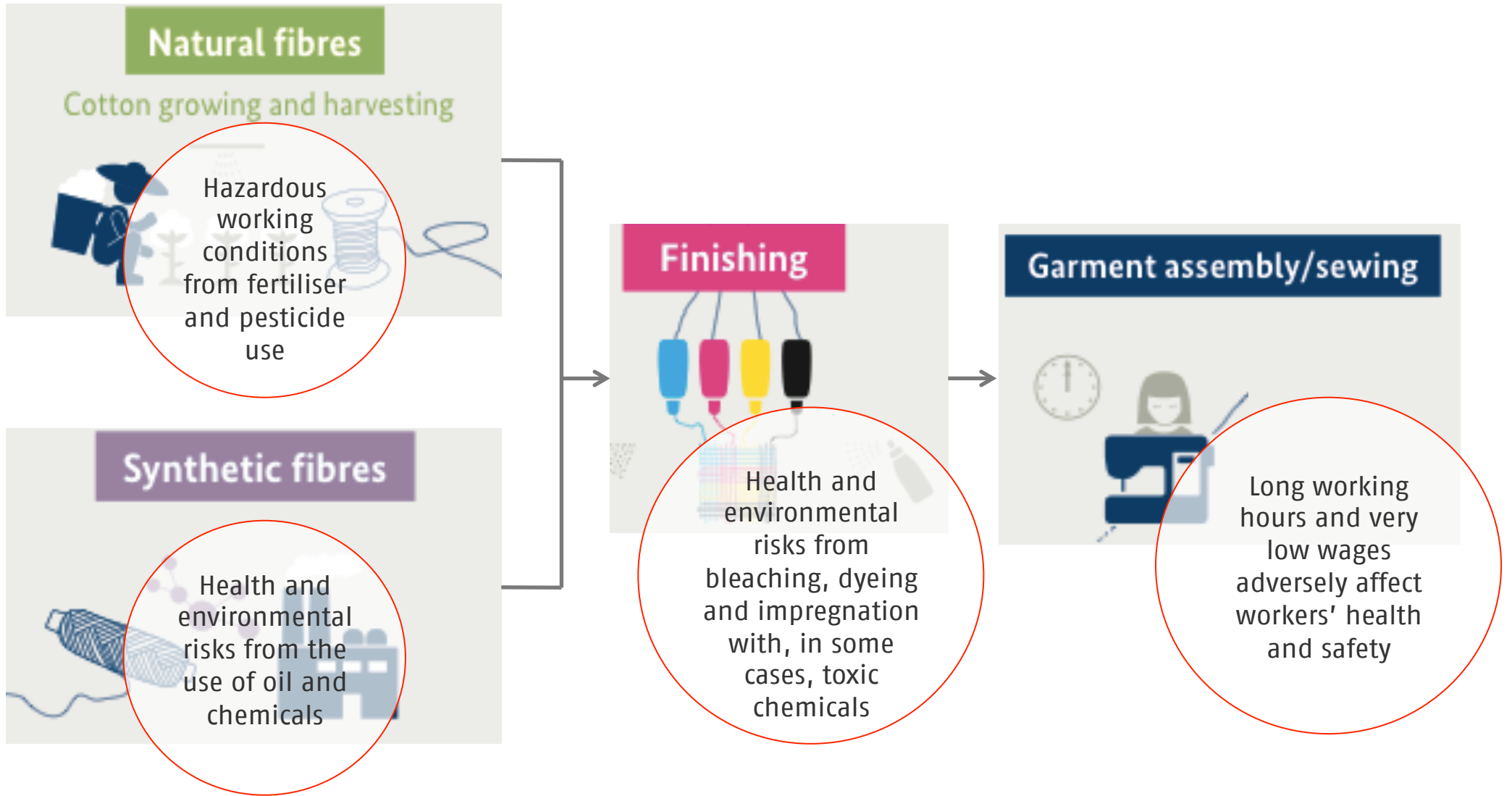
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# There are many challenges in the textiles industry – some examples





# The 'Partnership for Sustainable Textiles' aims to improve sustainability in the textile supply chains



## FACT SHEET

- **Initiated** by Dr. Gerd Müller, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development **in October 2014**
- The multi-stakeholder initiative aims to achieve sustainable **improvements in the garment industry**
- Currently **164 members**
- Key topics are
  - 1 ENVIRONMENTAL** (e.g. chemical safety, protection of soil and biodiversity)
  - 2 SOCIAL** (e.g. living wages, social security, prohibition of forced- and child labour)
  - 3 ECONOMIC** (e.g. corruption, purchasing practices)





Since its beginning the Textile Partnership is of high public and political interest

*„It is essential to remove toxic chemicals from our clothes.“*



Welt am Sonntag | 04.10.15

### Eine Nummer grüner

Vor Energieeffizienz steht in der Textilindustrie oft ein dringlicheres Problem: Das Gift muss aus der Kleidung. Initiativen und Ideen gibt es

Von Roland Mischke

**Zusammenarbeit zwischen Textilbündnis und Wirtschaft auf gutem Weg**  
Berlin, 27. März 2015



Vertreterinnen...  
erfolgreich  
(„Textil...“)

### Mode mit Gewissen

Hanna Spanhel, 05.10.2015 17:48 Uhr

Seit die Zustände in den Nähereien von Bangladesch oder Indien weltweit für Aufsehen sorgten, wächst der Markt für öko-faire Mode. Nicht immer aber halten Siegel oder Kampagnen, was sie versprechen.

Steuerungskreis  
nachhaltige Textilien

Textilwirtschaft  
**Beitrittswelle zum Textilbündnis – führende Unternehmen erklären Mitgliedschaft**  
Müller: „Deutschland Vorreiter für faire Standards“



*„The cooperation of the Textiles Partnership with trade and industry is well on the way.“*

*„Waves of joining the Textile Partnership – leading companies commit to membership“*

drei großen Verbänden aus der Textilbranche...  
Unternehmen am Morgen ihren Beitritt zum...  
sind viele bekannte Marken und Namen wie...  
to, Tchibo, ALDI, REWE oder LIDL. Die Zahl der...  
Mitglieder steigt damit auf aktuell über 100; damit wird zugleich der Anspruch...  
einer möglichst breiten Marktabdeckung erfüllt.



*The sector of eco-fair fashion is growing.“*

Textilarbeiterinnen in Bangladesch, Indien oder China sind oft die Leidtragenden der billigen Modeproduktion. Foto: dpa



# Initiatives on European level: The DK/NL/UK Plans of Action vary widely in scope and in the approach taken

## DANMARK

Focus on the supply chain: carbon, water, waste, chemicals, labour & ethics, awareness

DK Plan of Action

Start: 2009

Initiators:  
Danish Fashion Institute

## NETHERLANDS

Focus on the supply chain: social, ecological, economical dimension

NL Plan of Action

Start: 2013

Initiators:  
MODINT, VGT, INRETAIL

## UK

Focus on End of Life, consumer: carbon/water/waste to landfill/ product lifecycle

UK Plan of Action

Start: 2007

Initiators:  
DEFRA; WRAP (since 2011)

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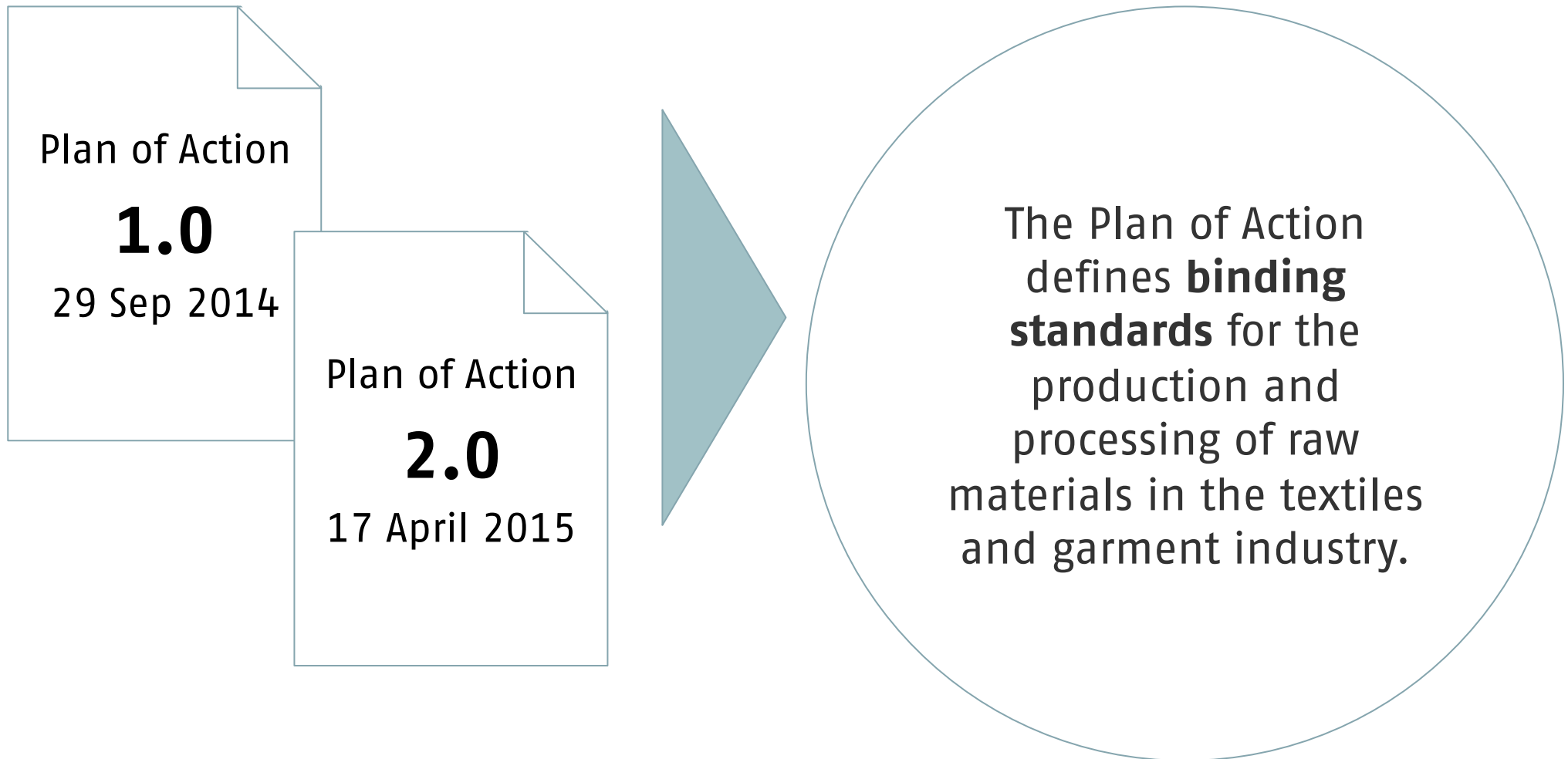
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# The Plan of Action





In April 2015 the steering committee and the textile industry agreed on a joint action plan 2.0 as foundation for a broad-based support

Sustainable textiles

## Basis now in place for broad-based participation by the private sector in Textiles Partnership



22.04.2015 | Berlin – The steering committee of the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles, the German Development Ministry and the textile industry have put in

BMZ press service

# Getting from 1.0 to 2.0 was a long and intense process



## PLAN OF ACTION 1.0

Plan of Action for the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles

### CONTENTS

#### A. PREAMBLE

#### B. Objectives and approach

#### C. Implementation strategy

#### D. Cooperation structures

#### E. Conditions of participation

### ANNEX

#### F. ANNEX I: Priority areas of action

#### G. ANNEX II: Partnership Standards, implementation requirement deadlines for raw material production (cotton-growing and ginning)

#### H. ANNEX III: Partnership Standards, implementation requirement deadlines for the stages in processing textiles (spinning, weaving, knitting, dyeing and finishing, manufacturing)

#### I. ANNEX IV: Further information about cooperation structures

#### J. ANNEX V: Mandate for working group 3

#### K. ANNEX VI: Mandate for working group 4

#### L. ANNEX VII: Glossary

#### M. ANNEX 1: Detox - Combined M-RSL - September 2014



systain

## IDENTIFIED ENTRY BARRIERS

### 1) COMMITMENT

Risks resulting from the binding nature of the Plan of Action

### 2) CLARIFICATION

A lack of clarity with regard to certain demands and concepts

### 3) PARTNERSHIP SPIRIT

A lack of „partnership spirit“ with regard to responsibilities

### 4) UNFAIR COMPETITION

Unfair competition due to unequal market conditions

### 5) ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS

Technically inaccurate environmental demands



# Certain workshops took place before the negotiations with the former interim steering committee started

## January – March 2015

Preliminary analysis of the Plan of Action 1.0 identifying the **major entry points**, explaining the pinpointed entry points + first outline of possible solutions

*Several workshops with core working group*



## April 2015

Negotiations between the former interim steering committee, business federations and certain companies started. Negotiations ended end of April 2015 with an Plan of Action 2.0





# In April 2015 the „new“ Plan of Action 2.0 was published



## PLAN OF ACTION 2.0

The Plan of Action 2.0 contains many changes with the overcoming of all five entry barriers:

CONTENTS	
A. PREAMBLE	3
B. Objectives	5
C. Implementation strategy	6
D. Cooperation structures	8
E. Conditions of participation	9
ANNEX	13

### 1) COMMITMENT

It is now pointed out that the objectives only serve as a framework for orientation → comply or explain (page 6)

### 2) CLARIFICATION

The annex will contain the Partnership standards and the implementation requirements → These requirements have to be revised in the working group and worded more precisely, (page 12ff)

### 3) PARTNERSHIP SPIRIT

The Plan of Action now shows in its preamble that it is a Multi-Stakeholder approach with different responsibilities (page 3)

### 4) UNFAIR COMPETITION

It is now recognized that the objectives cannot be met by all partners at the same level and within the same timescale (page 4)

### 5) ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental demands will be revised in the working groups (page 12ff)

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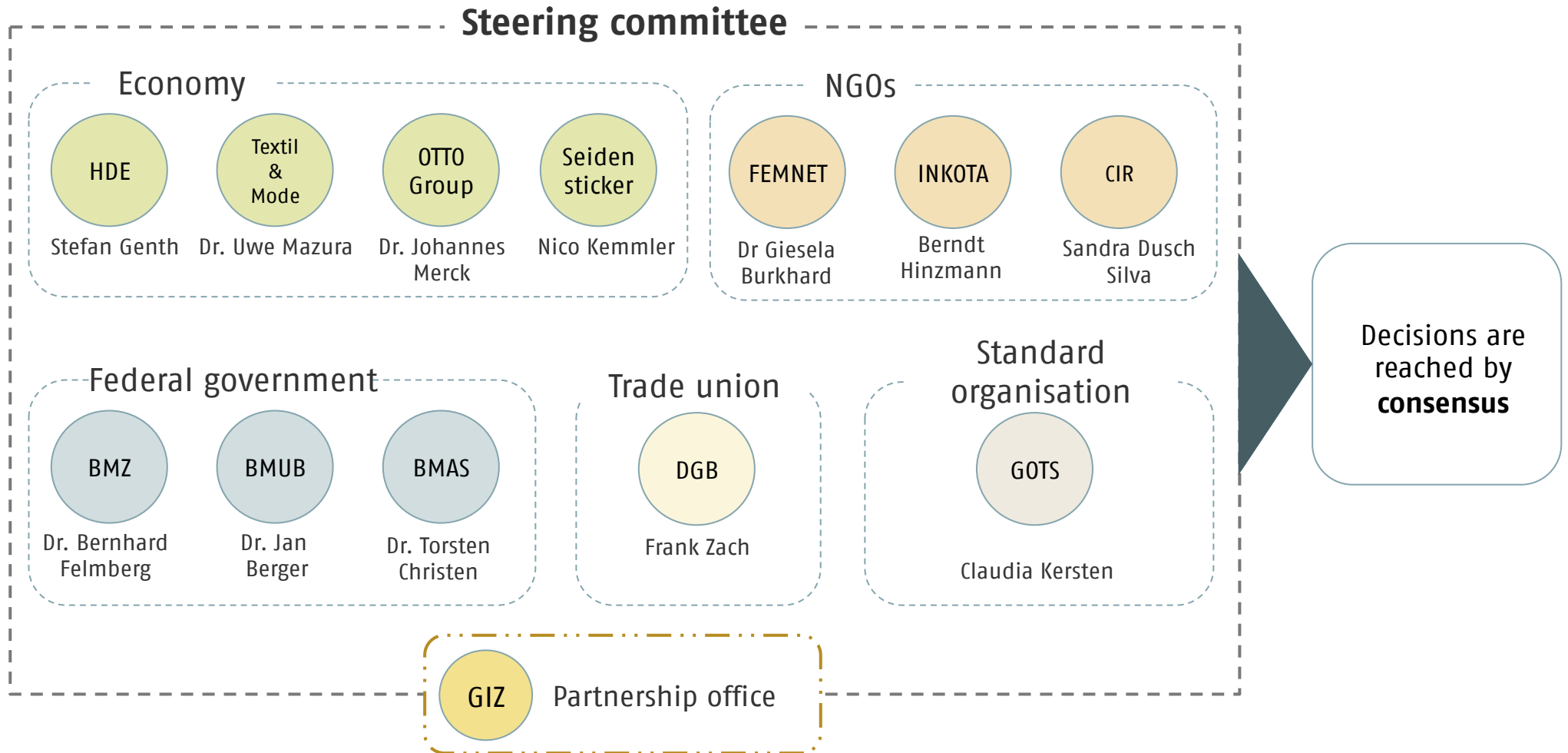
## Governance: Steering Committee

A Steering Committee that represents the various stakeholders via member groups is responsible for strategic steering and development of the Partnership.





# The new steering committee has 12 members and reaches decisions in consensus





## Content: Working groups

Time-limited expert groups that work on thematic or regional issues and report back to the Steering Committee and the Partnership Secretariat.

### WORKING GROUPS

1) Chemical management

2) Living wage & Social standards

3) Review process

4) Implementation & Internationalization

5) Natural fibres, in particular cotton

6) Communication

#### Members:

- Members of the Textiles Partnership with special expertise or external experts
- The Steering Committee nominates the members of each working group, considering a balanced mix of all stakeholder groups

#### Way of working:

- The working group develops decision papers for the Steering Committee
- The mandate ends 31.08 or 01.10.2016

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## Now the Textile Partnership seems to have arrived in the industry



**One year after the start of the German Textiles Partnership....**

.... the main entry barriers have been eliminated

.... the Group of Seven (G7) is seeing a good example in the Textiles Partnership to set social and ecological standards worldwide



# The main goals of the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles over the next 12-18 months

*„**First**, we want tangibly improve both the situation of the textile workers and the environmental situation in the producer countries. **Secondly**, we want to ensure that, in the future, consumers can make an informed decision about buying sustainably made clothing. **It is up to the Textiles Partnership to make practical proposals on how to achieve this.**“*

*„What we want to achieve is that textiles are produced in **decent conditions**. The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles is looking at the **textiles industry all around the world**. We can only change the market if we all pull together – meaning **governments, businesses and their associations, trade unions, NGOs and every individual consumer**“*

*„There are numerous recognised **sustainability standards**, such as the ILO's core labour standards, the FWF or GOTS. We in the Textiles Partnership want to reward such committment.“*

Two minutes with...

Dr Gerd Müller,

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany



Source: Ecotextile, Nr. 69, Page 26/27



A sustainable production of textiles will become more important in future – with or without the Partnership of Sustainable Textiles



## OUTLOOK

- The 'Partnership for Sustainable Textiles' will probably not achieve a massive progress within 2015 due to the recent start of the working groups
- But **the 'Partnership of Sustainable Textiles' puts „Sustainability“ on top of the agenda.** Due to ....
  - rising stakeholder pressure
  - rising regulatory requirements... the importance to ensure an improved sustainability in its textile supply chains has strongly increased

Sustainability in the textile sector has gained political importance!



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