

BJ&B MEETING (MAY 8): TENTATIVE AGENDA

BACKGROUND OF THE CLOSURE

What were the factors that may have contributed to the closure, including:

- macro-economic factors;
- business factors;
- investment decisions from 2003 onwards;
- Purchasing practices and sourcing decisions of BJ&B customers.

THE CLOSURE PROCESS

How was the closure carried out, and what could have been done differently:

- BJ&B/Yupong's legal obligations as an employer (including obligations to the workforce, to the union and to the authorities, eg customs, Labour Ministry, etc);
- Industrial relations practices in unionized workplaces.

PROSPECTS FOR RE-OPENING THE BJ&B FACILITY

- Can the problems identified above be overcome, and if so how?
- What immediate efforts would be needed to allow the re-opening of BJ&B?
- What future for the BJ&B workforce

STABILIZING THE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

What needs to change in order to make the Dominican industry more competitive in world markets, including:

- infrastructure;
- training;
- business needs;
- Industrial relations.

What role should the key stakeholders (government, manufacturers, brands, unions and MSIs) play in addressing those needs?

HANDLING CLOSURES

- What background information is needed for collective bargaining relating to closures
- how should proposed closures be communicated