



# JAY JAY TEXTILES PLC

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June 23, 2022  
William Shpiece  
Chair of the Trade Policy Staff Committee  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20508  
USA

**SUB: 2023 AGOA Eligibility Review for Ethiopia**

Dear Sir,

On behalf of our hard-working Ethiopian workers please accept our prayers for the renewal of AGOA facility.

We, JAY JAY TEXTILES PLC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, are part of the 50-year-old JAY JAY group with factories in India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Ethiopia. Started with our first factory in Ethiopia in 2014, we specialize in the manufacture of infant and babywear clothing specifically for export to USA. In our seven large factories at the Addis Ababa's BOLE LEMI INDUSTRIAL PARK we undertake contract manufacturing on behalf of our Sri Lankan group company, Addis Ventures Private Limited, who are also our major shareholders.

Our main US customers are GERBER CHILDRENSWEAR, GARAN, CARTERS, THE CHILDRENS PLACE, etc. While our company exported over USD 80 Million from Ethiopia, our group combined exports from all four countries exceeded USD 350 Million during the last financial year.

Being one of the largest garment employers here, we export nearly 25% of the garments exported from Ethiopia. We directly employ about 8800 persons, nearly 90% of them women.

The Ethiopian garment factory workers are totally dependent on these factories for their livelihood. With the withdrawal of Ethiopia's AGOA facility, many factories are on the verge of closure. Unable to compete some have already closed and left the country. The women workers from far off villages are the most affected.

Though struggling, we plan to stay on with the hope of AGOA renewal. We are confident that the Ethiopian government will try to meet the pre-conditions for AGOA reinstatement. Being an agriculture-based country, Ethiopia's industrialization is solely dependent on the support from AGOA.

We hope our prayers will be answered, before it is too late.

For JAY JAY TEXTILES PLC,

K.P. Raju,  
Chief Operating Officer  
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