



O'ZTO'QIMACHILIKSANOAT
UZBEKISTAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY GOVERNING ASSOCIATION

30.04.2021

Dear ladies and gentlemen!

Uzbekistan textile and garment association Uztextileprom expresses its esteem to you and has an honor to invite to take a part at the **Textile Forum “New Uzbekistan - New Textile: Beneficiary of GSP + in the EU” on May 7, 2021** (Hilton hotel, at 2 pm local time).

The European Commission granted Uzbekistan accession to the Generalised System of Preference (GSP)+ beneficiaries, on April 9. The number of eligible duty-free imports from Uzbekistan will double from the 3,000 it currently enjoys as GSP beneficiary to roughly 6,200. Industries such as textiles and leather will particularly benefit.

GSP+ status will create opportunities for textile export growth and attract further investments in the industry. It will also facilitate the participation of Uzbekistan into global supply and value chains and diversify exports beyond a narrow base.

In a sense, achieving GSP+ status is a recognition to the consistent reforms made in the country, the improvement of the overall business and investment climate, reform of state-owned enterprises and the banking sector. Certainly, another factor that has decidedly facilitated the access to GSP+ is the eradication of systemic forced and child labour in the Uzbek cotton fields, as concluded by the 2020 International Labour Organisation (ILO) Third Party Monitoring.

It needs to be indicated that with the GSP+ status it is expected that textile export from Uzbekistan to EU increases \$300 million USD in 2021-2022, and raises up till \$ 1.2 by 2025.

In order to inform an international partner, investors, industry entrepreneurs and mass media representatives Uztextileprom association in cooperation with GIZ, Uzbekistan Embassy in Belgium organizes the **Textile Forum on GSP+ privileges and opportunities to Uzbek and European textile and trade companies**. Within the framework of this forum representatives of international organizations, the diplomatic corps, ministries and departments, investors and textile companies are expected to participate (the draft program is attached).

We will appreciate your participation at the Forum and to share with us your ideas on mutual cooperation. You may join Forum on ZOOM, by the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7651860822?pwd=NGV5bThRRW5CaHNOUIZOTjBRTTcvQT09>.

Sincerely,
Ilkhom Khaydarov
Chairman