

SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SOLUTIONS

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MOROCCO - MINIMUM WAGE IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Following longstanding negotiations between trade unions, the government and industry sector leaders, Morocco's hourly rates have been increased with the Prime Minister's approval. In particular, in the Textile Industry, the applicable SMIG (legal minimum wage) was increased from 9,90 to 10,14MAD per hour from July, 1st, 2009. This is the second increase in two years with the objective of a 10% rise to be granted in four steps. Due to the economic crisis, dates for the next deadlines for these planned increases have not been published yet.

Trade Unionists and workers are dissatisfied with the proposals put forward by the government and employers, stating that an increase in the guaranteed minimum wage of around 2% or 2.5% per year over several years will in no way put an end to the problems of the rising cost of living.

In parallel, the applicable wage provided to employees in the agricultural sector is now 55,12MAD per day. This increase was all the more awaited in that sector as farms and food production represents more than 16% of the gross domestic product and this is expected to rise in the coming years.



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It is important to note that the minimum wage requirements apply to all workers, including apprentices. There is a frequent misconception that apprentices can be paid at lower rates as this used to be the case until June, 8, 2009. From this date, the only exception refer to government run schemes such as CFA (Centre de Formation par Apprentissage) contracts, allowing the employer to pay apprentices 500 MAD per month as a minimum.

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