

Statement on behalf of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy

It is unacceptable for any worker engaged on projects overseen by the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC) to suffer hardships emanating from breaches of our Worker Welfare Standards or the laws of the State of Qatar.

In July 2019, the SC became aware of several critical issues, including delayed salary payments, which resulted from the financial instability of Qatar Meta Coats (QMC), a sub-contractor engaged on the Al Bayt Stadium project.

These issues came to our attention as a direct result of the SC's Workers' Welfare Department's (WWD) regular ethical recruitment audits and workers' interviews – a key component of our robust Workers' Welfare Standards.

The SC acted immediately, holding regular joint meetings with Aspire management (the project owner), GSIC-JV (the main contractor) and QMC in an attempt to resolve the issues, and ensure salaries were paid to the affected workers. Our efforts resulted in an initial payment of three months overdue salaries to workers. We continued to exert every effort within our power to redress the issue.

QMC were demobilised from the Al Bayt Stadium project site and placed on the SC's watch list, banning them from working on SC projects until further notice.

The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs are taking the appropriate steps to handle the case and we understand that QMC workers have begun to receive their outstanding salaries.

The SC explored all options to find a solution and engaged in significant, coordinated efforts to enforce our WW Standards and rectify the issues. We will continue working with the relevant stakeholders and partners until all salaries have been paid.

A spirit of openness and transparency has shaped our relationships with global trade unions and NGOs. That will continue along with our aim to provide dignity, safety and a duty of care to everyone involved in our projects.

We are fully committed to the ethical treatment of all those working on our stadiums and infrastructure. Since construction began in 2014, we have made significant progress and achievements in the area of workers' welfare. There will always be challenges to address and we are committed to overcoming them. We remain dedicated to continuing that journey and delivering a true social legacy beyond 2022.

ENDS