

## PRGMEA Press Release

(Karachi, March 7, 2012): Central Chairman, Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association (PRGMEA), Mr. Shehzad Salim has expressed his dismay over the news reports that the EU Trade Concessions Package for Pakistan is likely to be implemented from January 1, 2012. In such a case, the Tariff Related Quotas (TRQ's) may have already been exhausted and Pakistan may not get any benefit for the exports of 2012 as regular duty structure would be applicable for current year's exports. He strongly stressed Pakistan's authorities to resist such a move because it will have no benefit for the industry.

He was also of the opinion that under the European Commission (EC) regulation # 717/2008 dated July 17, 2008, the EU has laid out specific rules and regulations for allocation and management of quotas. He stated that the EC regulations allow choice of several methods for quotas however under all the stipulated methods, Government of Pakistan or the Pakistani exporters have no role whatsoever as the rules centre around importers as the initiators of TRQ's.

Our hands maybe tied but atleast our government can lobby and get the package implemented from April onwards, only then can we benefit from this package during the current year.