

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sylhet, Bangladesh – 12 February 2025

## EBFCI Hosts 'Business Beyond Borders' in Sylhet, Strengthening Economic Ties Between Europe and Bangladesh

The Europe-Bangladesh Federation of Commerce and Industry (EBFCI), in collaboration with Rose View Hotel, successfully hosted *Business Beyond Borders: A Dialogue on Sustainable Development Between Europe and Bangladesh* on 12 February 2025 in Sylhet. The event brought together distinguished business leaders, policymakers, and industry experts to foster economic collaboration, innovation, and sustainable development between the two regions.

The evening was graced by the presence of H.E. Mr. Michael Miller, Ambassador and Head of the European Delegation to Bangladesh, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he reaffirmed the European Union's commitment to strengthening trade and investment relations with Bangladesh. Mr. Miller also emphasized the importance of European investors in Bangladesh, calling them "Champions" who play a key role in expanding and promoting investment within the country. He highlighted that, for the European Union, Bangladesh represents more than just an emerging market—it is a significant opportunity. Mr. Miller also pointed out the urgent need to explore ways in which Bangladesh can diversify its economy and create a more investment-friendly environment.

Additionally, he recognized the valuable contributions of the Europe-Bangladesh Federation of Commerce and Industry (EBFCI) and its ongoing efforts. Mr. Miller confirmed that both the EU Chamber of Commerce and EBFCI will collaborate closely to support and foster the growth of Bangladeshi businesses, ultimately contributing to the nation's economic development.

Welcoming the guests, Mr. Mohammad Ali, Executive Director and Country Head of EBFCI, emphasized the importance of fostering partnerships that drive innovation and economic progress. In his address, he stated: "At EBFCI, we strive to represent and support businesses across Europe, advocating for policies that foster a thriving economic environment while also focusing on sustainability, innovation, and inclusivity. The partnership between industry leaders, policymakers, and institutions such as the EU is vital for creating an environment where businesses can not only survive but truly thrive. The European Union's unwavering commitment to fostering a strong, dynamic economy and ensuring that business interests are heard and understood is something we all benefit from. Today's gathering marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to forge robust business alliances."

The event featured insightful discussions on trade, sustainability, and investment, along with a presentation on EBFCI's delegation visit to Bangladesh. Participants praised the initiative as a vital platform for engagement, expressing a strong interest in future collaborations, particularly in the Sylhet region.

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