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KEY DIRECTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN NEW UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: This article provides detailed information about the current economic potential of the textile industry in Uzbekistan, internal and external policies implemented in this sector and their effectiveness, as well as the conditions created for entrepreneurs in this field.

Keywords: Textile industry, wide assortment, textile exports, production of finished goods, international fashion, design agencies, fabric categories.

Modern technologies and equipment introduced into the textile industry of New Uzbekistan are creating opportunities not only for high productivity but also for the production of a wide assortment of finished goods.

According to the State Statistics Committee's 2023 report, the volume of textile exports has increased significantly compared to the previous year. Yarn exports, in particular, grew by 108%, with exports reaching 409.5 thousand tons in 2022 and increasing by an additional 30.6 thousand tons in 2023. There was a significant growth of 185% in fabric categories, with fabric exports reaching 238 million square meters. Exports of finished goods increased by more than 122%.

With the establishment of organizations like "Better Work" and "Better Cotton," Uzbek textile products have entered the supply chain of over 27 global brands. The expansion of GSP+ privileges has made it possible to increase exports, particularly to countries like Germany, Italy, and Poland.



Within the framework of Uzbekistan's 2022–2026 Development Strategy, measures and projects have been outlined for modernizing existing enterprises and establishing new enterprises producing high-value-added products. These include:

- Creating clusters;
- Doubling the production volume of the textile industry;
- Promoting exports to European markets;

• Implementing programs to enhance production efficiency and labor productivity;

• Taking measures for workforce training.

To ensure sustainable industrialization, efforts are being made to comprehensively develop energy, transportation, and other industrial infrastructures, enhance local engineering research and development, and expand scientific research. Significant attention is given to modernizing the industry, processing local raw materials, increasing the efficiency of production processes, and promoting the use of eco-friendly technologies and production processes.

A holistic system for developing high-tech manufacturing, attracting active investments, mastering a wide range of marketable products, expanding industrial cooperation, and supporting the growth of the country's export potential was established through a Presidential Decree on January 24, 2022, titled "On Measures to Create an Effective System for Developing Manufacturing and Expanding Industrial Cooperation in the Republic."

In line with the objectives outlined in this decree, steps are being taken to further refine the standardization and certification system in the textile industry. These include aligning standardization and certification systems with international requirements and standards, and modernizing and accrediting testing laboratories.

As a result, textile and knitwear products have been exported to over 60 countries by more than 1,200 enterprises, generating \$1.6 billion in exports—a growth rate of 121%. Yarn exports alone amounted to \$254 million, with new

markets such as France, Austria, Kuwait, Hungary, the Philippines, Luxembourg, and Greece being penetrated, along with exports to European Union countries.

The shift from exporting raw cotton to producing finished goods has facilitated the development of a new strategy aimed at the future growth of the textile industry. Recognizing the textile sector as a strategic direction of economic policy has opened up new pathways for its development.

Considering the changing pace of demand for product diversity in the global textile market, the following tasks have been identified to create promising types of finished fabrics using modern weaving equipment in Uzbekistan's textile industry:

• Signing long-term contracts with international fashion and design agencies and major brand manufacturers for producing textile products;

• Increasing the production of finished goods 4–5 times over the next five years, reducing costs to compete in external markets, expanding product assortments, and significantly improving quality;

• Establishing technology parks for textile enterprises focused on exporting finished goods in Namangan, Samarkand, and Tashkent regions;

• Gradually upgrading production technologies in textile enterprises;

• Transitioning to eco-friendly clothing production systems;

• Increasing the production of specialty fabrics that are wrinkleresistant, dirt-repellent, dimensionally stable, and have low material volume;

• Enhancing the quality of training for skilled technical personnel for the textile industry;

• Gradually introducing "smart clothing" production technologies linked to health indicators;

• Producing new materials using unconventional raw materials and secondary resources;

• Segmenting prospective new product markets, expanding sales markets, and diversifying them (in Asia, Africa, and the Americas);

• Introducing nanotechnology applications in the textile industry.

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In conclusion, it can be stated that implementing the tasks mentioned above requires the development of highly efficient technologies based on theoretical and experimental research of textile technological processes to produce high-quality, competitive fabrics using advanced technological equipment.

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