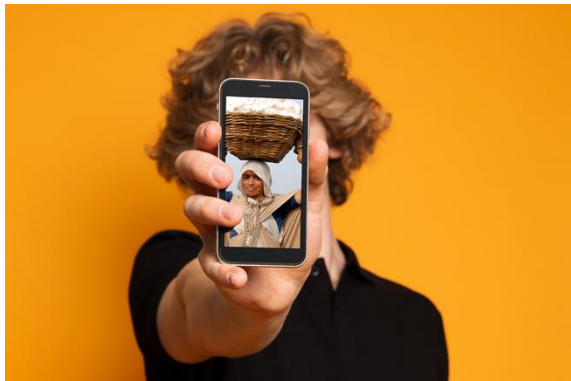


## PRESS RELEASE

### Taking responsibility – from Switzerland to India and Tanzania

***Remei AG is standing up for all stakeholders along the textile supply chain: with its takeover of bioRe India Ltd. and bioRe Tanzania Ltd., the organic farming businesses in India and Tanzania, the service provider for organic cotton textiles is elevating its 'Fibre to Fashion' approach to the next level. Setting a new benchmark in sustainable production, Remei is now integrating the fair trading of raw materials into its supply chain.***



Rotkreuz/Switzerland, 14. April 2021. Tanzania, India, Switzerland – three countries on three continents, all brought together in one company: Remei AG. Ever since it was founded, the Swiss pioneer for organic cotton textiles has been taking responsibility for the entire textile supply chain – from the seeds to the ecological production down to ready-to-sell textiles; with a fully transparent supply chain, complete CO<sub>2</sub> offsetting and fair trading. By taking over

organic farming companies bioRe India Ltd. and bioRe Tanzania Ltd., the Swiss yarn and clothing producer is now going one step further: integrating the businesses into its own company means that Remei is creating a reliable and secure source of raw materials for cotton for itself and its trading partners, therefore paving the way for a fully transparent, sustainable textile production chain and fair trading relations. Everyone is moving closer together: from the organic farmers to the retailers and brands with their collections – they are all part of the system and are benefiting from the developments.

“Guaranteed access to a secure supply of organic cotton is becoming a key success factor for more and more companies. With the takeover of bioRe India and bioRe Tanzania, we can guarantee this in the long term. Integrating the businesses means that we have moved even closer together and the production chain has become shorter. Sustainability along the value chain is now more of a tangible reality: brands and retailers are becoming increasingly interested in it and taking advantage of the benefits it brings,” says Remei Co-CEO Marion Röttges.

### Responsibility through integration

Three equal partners: integrating the two organic farming businesses has resulted in new, agile relationships between India, Tanzania and Switzerland, creating scope for new solutions. “The intercultural cooperation has become even more tight-knit and the relationship between the

organic farming businesses and the farmers is now closer and more direct: mutual needs are being recognised more quickly and integrated. This new proximity is something we are noticing daily. Processes are becoming more streamlined and new personal relations are developing, which is proving extremely fruitful for our work,” adds Simon Hohmann, who, as Remei Co-CEO, is responsible for finance and cotton and yarn retail.

“The integration brings benefits on all levels – we are working more economically, communicating more directly, enabling innovation and giving our farmers the opportunity to increase their income with goal-oriented investments. Because of these positive changes, bioRe India Ltd. can also increase its economic performance,” says Vivek Kumar Rawal, CEO of bioRe India Ltd.

“Now that bioRe Tanzania has been integrated into Remei AG, the Tanzanian farmers and our customers can see who the owner of bioRe Tanzania is and that Remei and bioRe Tanzania are reliant on one another. The change that is happening here is unique. Remei is coming into direct contact with the farmers by providing them with more direct support than before, to successfully produce organic cotton. A major advantage I am seeing is that we are improving our communication – which is the key to any company being able to achieve their goal,” explains Marco Paul, Co-CEO Production at bioRe Tanzania Ltd.

For the bioRe organic farming businesses in Tanzania and India, a total of around 5,100 smallholder farmers are working to produce certified bioRe® organic cotton. In the financial year 2019/20, this amounted to a total of 5,713 tonnes of raw cotton. With guaranteed purchases and additional premiums (2019/2020: CHF 417,876), Remei is supporting the development prospects of the farmers and encouraging their global, intercultural collaboration.

### **Agility pays off**

Central topics for Remei are agility and flexibility. In the past year especially, the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic and its restrictions have served as a clear reminder of how fragile the entire textile production system is. Financial losses caused by problems along the supply chains or retail closures have affected everyone, but the people at the beginning of the production process have been particularly hard hit. With its all-holder value and takeover of the organic farming operations, Remei AG is showing that things can be done differently.

### **Milestones in Remei AG's history**

- 1983: Remei is founded by Patrick Hohmann.
- 1991: Launch of bioRe with 200 farmers in India.
- 1994: 45 farmers join the bioRe project in Tanzania.
- Until 2020: Close cooperation with the organic farming businesses in India and Tanzania, incl. purchase guarantees and additional price premiums from Remei AG.
- Since 2021: Takeover of bioRe India Ltd. and bioRe Tanzania Ltd. and their integration into the company for a completely transparent supply chain and production based on the Fibre to Fashion model. Cooperation with over 5,000 registered farmers in India and Tanzania.

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### **About Remei**

Swiss company Remei AG trades in sustainably produced textiles made of organic cotton and with organic cotton yarns. For brands and retailers, Remei develops collections that meet the highest sustainability standards, without compromising on quality and design. It specialises in sustainable value chains – from the fibre to the finished textile – and offers international B2B trading partners access to a unique business model that fulfils economic, ecological and human rights-based requirements in textile production.  
[www.remei.ch](http://www.remei.ch)