



# INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1629 K Street NW, Suite 702, Washington DC 20006 USA

Telephone +1-202-463-6660 • Fax +1-202-463-6950 • email [secretariat@icac.org](mailto:secretariat@icac.org)



From the Secretariat

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## *Technologies for Cotton Development*

### 67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY MEETING IN OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO

The Government of Burkina Faso has authorized planting of 15,000 hectares of biotech cotton in 2008/09 for planting seed production and to evaluate impacts on cotton yields, quality, rural economies and the environment. Research conducted in experimental plots by the Institute D'Economie Rural (IER) indicates that the use of Bt cotton in Burkina Faso can lead to a gain in yields of as much as 30% while reducing pesticide use by 60%. If commercial results from the 2008/09 crop confirm the research results, the use of biotech cotton will expand rapidly in Burkina Faso beginning in 2009/10.

The theme of the 67th Plenary Meeting is *Technologies for Cotton Development*. The theme will provide opportunities to showcase the role of technologies in raising yields, reducing input costs and improving the competitiveness of the cotton industry. The format of each session is being designed to optimize time for discussion.

Topics will include:

1. Cotton and Multilateral Trade Negotiations
2. The Roles of Government and the Private Sector in Technology Transfer
3. Biotechnology in Cotton: Lessons of Implementation
4. Social, Environmental and Economic Performance (SEEP) of Cotton Production
5. Outlook for Cotton Supply and Demand
6. Technical Seminar: Improving the Sustainability of Cotton Production in Africa
7. Competitiveness of African Cotton Production
8. Progress Toward Standardization of Trade Rules
9. Preparations for the International Year of Natural Fibres
10. The Implications of Rising Energy Costs on Cotton Production and Trade
11. New Developments in Cotton Ginning
12. New Developments in Pre-Ginning and Post-Ginning Processing Technology

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The International Cotton Advisory Committee is an association of 44 governments of countries with an interest in cotton. The Secretariat of the Committee publishes information related to world cotton production, supply, demand and prices, and provides technical information on cotton production technology. Detailed statistics are found bimonthly in *COTTON: Review of the World Situation*, \$180 per year via email, \$215 per year in hard copy. A monthly outlook is available by email for \$285 per year. Access to the latest weekly estimates of world cotton supply and use by the Secretariat is available on the Internet for \$450 per year. Access Secretariat reports at [www.icac.org](http://www.icac.org).