



# INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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From the Secretariat

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## 69<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### “Cotton Industry Growth Through Global Unity.”

The Standing Committee of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) officially approved the theme of the 69<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting at its 502<sup>nd</sup> Meeting today in Washington, DC. The theme of the 69<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting will be “**Cotton Industry Growth Through Global Unity.**”

The theme was chosen in recognition of the fact that cotton producers and consumers, the world over face constraints to growth, that producers and consumers in both developed and developing countries face challenges, and that many challenges require coordinated efforts and international cooperation.

The 69<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the ICAC will be held at the invitation of the Government of the United States of America during September 20-25 in Lubbock, Texas.

Topics of discussion will include:

- How cotton is working to sustain its place in the world market
- The outlook for cotton and competing commodities
- New developments with biotech cotton products
- 5-Years After: a look back at the results of the elimination of MFA quotas
- The impacts on cotton of the Uruguay Round and regional trade agreements; what has been learned?
- Energy policies and cotton: synergy or competition?
- Progress toward industry harmonization and standardization: instrument testing, trade rules and pyhtosanitary rules
- Technical Seminar: “How to lower the cost of cotton production”
- Resource constraints and cotton production
- The impacts of social and environmental standards on demand for cotton
- Demand enhancement: building on successful efforts

The Secretariat is working with the Organizing Committee, government officials and the private sector to develop the agenda of the meeting. Approximately 500 participants from 50 countries and 10 international organizations are expected to attend the meeting. Registration will begin in May.

(Press releases are available via e-mail. To register for this free service, send your contact information to [publications@icac.org](mailto:publications@icac.org))

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*, \$185 per year via email, \$225 per year in hard copy. A monthly outlook is available by email for \$295 per year. Access to the latest weekly estimates of world cotton supply and use by the Secretariat is available on the Internet for \$460 per year. Access Secretariat reports at [www.icac.org](http://www.icac.org).