



# INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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## Memorandum No. 764

**To:** Delegates to the Standing Committee, Coordinating Agencies and Members of the Private Sector Advisory Panel

**From:** Executive Director

**Subject:** International Conference in Tashkent

**Date:** August 23, 2004

An international cotton conference will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on May 5-6, 2005 organized by the Government of Uzbekistan and the ICAC in cooperation with Cotlook Limited, publishers of Cotton Outlook. The conference will capitalize on the experiences of the two previous successful events held in Tashkent and attended by hundreds of participants: "Uzbekistan 2000" held in May 2000 and "COTTON: Engine for Economic Growth, UZBEKISTAN 2002" held in November 2002. It is envisioned that international conferences will be held in Tashkent, regularly during May on a biennial basis in odd-numbered years.

The conference theme will be *Cotton and Textiles – Important Factors of Economic Growth in Central Asia*.

Major topics will include:

- Current status and outlook for world cotton market.
- Cotton industry developments in Uzbekistan and Central Asia.
- Requirements of the modern spinning industry.
- Improving competitiveness of cotton fiber and technology achievements.
- Development of cotton quality evaluation.
- Improving cotton standards, certification, quality and weight control, testing.
- New technologies to produce competitive cotton fiber.

- Investments as an instrument of modernization and growth of cotton and textile industries.
- Government efforts to facilitate privatization of cotton and textile industries.
- Outlook for world textile trade.
- Impact of terminating the WTO Agreement on Textile and Clothing.
- Investment climate and participation of international investors in the development of Uzbek textile industry.
- Financing cotton and textile exports; Export financing.

- Improving competitiveness of cotton fibers.
- The latest advances in logistics, transportation and insurance.
- Improvement of transportation methods, regional cotton terminals.
- Role and significance of insurance for cotton trade.
- Price risk management.
- Sanctity of contracts, joint efforts of industry associations.