



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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From the Secretariat

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69TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE Lubbock, Texas, USA September 20-25, 2010

Rising Cotton Production Costs

The rising cost of production is a major concern to all producers around the world. A survey by the ICAC Secretariat shows that the average cost of producing one kilogram of lint was US\$1.22 in 2009/10, 18 cents higher than three years earlier.

The major contributors to the costs of production vary by production system, level of technology and the rising cost of labor and inputs. Lowering the cost of production is a complex challenge, and there is no easy solution appropriate for all regions. Many country-specific options for lowering production costs were presented by experts from Brazil, Pakistan, Turkey, USA and Zambia at the 69th Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) in Lubbock, Texas, USA on September 24.

Labor costs are increasing, even in developing countries, and some countries are encouraging mechanization and the use of herbicides. Biotech cotton can help to lower the cost of production in some cases, but it is not appropriate in all production systems. The ICAC will organize a round table for facilitating communications on cotton biotechnology among member countries.

(Press releases are available via e-mail. To register for this free service, send your contact information to 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.