

81ST PLENARY MEETING

# MUMBAI, INDIA

2-5 December 2023

**Cotton Value Chain:  
“Local Innovations for Global Prosperity”**



**Dr Sandhya Kranthi**

Sandhya Kranthi is an agricultural scientist with a doctoral degree and has specialized in cotton research for the last 32 years. She served as an R&D manager for leading agricultural technology development and outreach programmes for small holder cotton farmers in rainfed regions of India and Africa. As Project Consultant for the ICAC for 3 years, she helped secure funding (2.5 million Euros) for multiple GIZ and ITC/EU projects in Africa while also providing technical support. She served as the Head of the Crop Protection Division at the Central Institute for Cotton Research in Nagpur, India, for eight years, managing projects and providing technical leadership to public sector research and extension for cotton crop protection programmes in India. She trained master trainers in cotton production, protection, and regenerative agriculture across five African countries and Bangladesh, using both conventional and digital tools, including the Virtual Reality films and the ICAC’s Soil and Plant Health App she helped develop at the ICAC. From an unusual molecular entomologist with wet lab skills, she has extensive expertise in cotton production technologies and, with her acquired extension skills, her passion now lies in making cotton production sustainable and synchronous through regenerative agriculture practices.