



78th Plenary Meeting – Brisbane (Australia) MINUTES Closing Session

16:00 hrs, Thursday 5 December 2019

Chair: Ms. Maha Zakaria, Commercial Counsellor, Economic and Commercial Office, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Chair opened the session with the first item, 'The Reading of the Final Statement'.

In the interest of time, BRAZIL proposed that the Final Statement be taken as 'read' rather than reading it aloud, the UNITED STATES seconded. EGYPT pointed out, along with Mr. Kai Hughes, that a numerical typographical mistake would be corrected in the final version.

The representative from SPAIN officially invited the delegates, on behalf the European Union and the government of Spain, to attend the 79th Plenary Meeting. The meeting will be held in Seville, SPAIN, in the last week of November 2020, and would address the challenges and opportunities facing the cotton industry including climate change, price volatility and the ability to generate joint and global strategies.

Closing comments were made by the delegate from UZBEKISTAN, on behalf of the host country for the 76th Plenary Meeting. He recognised the successful organisation of the Brisbane 78th Plenary Meeting, highlighted the important steps that UZBEKISTAN had recently taken to improve cotton production and invited all Members to collaborate with them in the future.

Closing comments were also made by the Chair of the Organising Committee of AUSTRALIA, Dr. Alison McMorrow, Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Policy Division, Department of Agriculture. Dr. McMorrow once again recognised the traditional owners of the land in AUSTRALIA. She thanked all those who had traveled and participated and acknowledged the hard work of the organisers and recognised the interest and support of the collaborating partners and sponsors.

To conclude, the Chair recognised a successful and informative Plenary Session and thanked the Organising Committee and Government of AUSTRALIA for their hospitality. She also thanked all the delegates for attending and invited them all to join at the next Plenary Meeting in Seville.

Mr. Kai Hughes congratulated Ms. Zakaria for her election to Chair from Chair *ad interim*.

The meeting was closed at 16:30 hrs.