



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1629 K Street NW, Suite 702, Washington, DC 20006 USA

Telephone (202) 463-6660 • Fax (202) 463-6950 • email secretariat@icac.org

From the Secretariat

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The World of Cotton: Developments and Remedies

62nd PLENARY MEETING IN POLAND

Registration for the 62nd Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) is underway. Printed invitations and registration material are being posted this week. Participants are encouraged to register at www.ICAC.org.

The meeting will be held during 7-12 September 2003 in the historic city of Gdansk, Poland on the Baltic Sea. The meeting will be hosted by the government of Poland and organized by the Gdynia Cotton Association (GCA), in consultation with the Secretariat and the Standing Committee of the ICAC. The 62nd Plenary Meeting of the ICAC will address emerging issues facing governments, cotton associations and industry segments, including producers, traders, spinners and researchers.

The theme of the 62nd Plenary Meeting will be *The World of Cotton: Developments and Remedies*. Major topics of discussion will include 1) enhancing product performance to expand cotton demand, 2) new possibilities in cotton quality evaluation, 3) improving adherence to good trade practices by minimizing quality controversies, 4) the role of arbitral bodies in encouraging good trade practices, 5) government measures and progress in the WTO, 6) price risk management tools, 7) opportunities for improved cotton trade through e-commerce, and 8) new technologies used in cotton spinning. There will be a technical seminar on the effects of advances in processing techniques on demand for quality cotton. There will also be workshops on cotton promotion and prospects for the world cotton sector after 2005.

An extensive social program has been prepared including dinners in historic Gdansk and a folklore performance in Sopot. A trip to the historical Malbork Castle built by Teutonic Knights in the 12th century is planned for Wednesday. In addition, conference lunches, as well as tea and coffee breaks, will be provided each day.

Notices of the meeting and invitations are being sent to all governments, cotton industry associations and previous plenary meeting participants. Registration is available on-line at www.ICAC.org or by contacting the Secretariat for a registration booklet.

(Press releases are available via e-mail. To register for this free service, go to the ICAC web page at <http://www.icac.org/netforms/icac/lists/subscriptionform.html>)

The International Cotton Advisory Committee is an association of 42 governments of countries with an interest in cotton. 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*, \$160 per year via email, \$190 per year in hard copy. A monthly outlook is available by email for \$200 per year and by fax for \$250. Access to the latest weekly estimates of world cotton supply and use by the Secretariat is available on the Internet for \$500 per year. Access Secretariat reports at www.icac.org.