



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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From the Secretariat

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Strategies for National Competitiveness

66th PLENARY MEETING IN IZMIR TURKEY

The agenda for the 66th Plenary Meeting of the ICAC in Izmir, Turkey during 22-26 October 2007 is nearly complete. The 66th Plenary Meeting will be highly informative. 41 speakers and the chairpersons for the six Open Sessions, two Plenary Sessions and five breakout sessions have confirmed their participation. Registration for the meeting of participants from outside the host country is running ahead of recent years, indicating that total participation will reach between 500 and 600 persons. Izmir is a beautiful city, and the Organizing Committee is completing preparations for the social program and meeting logistics.

The theme of the 66th Plenary Meeting is Strategies for National Competitiveness. Representatives of the International Trade Centre in Geneva, the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, Sofitex, Dunavant Enterprises, and the private sector and government of Turkey will speak to issues regarding strategies for national competitiveness in textiles and garments and cotton production. Persons from the private sectors of Turkey, India and the U.S. will speak about the outlook for cotton supply and use and the characteristics of their industries contributing to increased competitiveness. The Secretariat will present its forecasts of cotton supply, use and trade and a revised model used in forecasting average cotton prices. There will be a robust discussion of the trade and development aspects of cotton in the Doha Round led by a member of the WTO Secretariat and a trade policy advisor from the government of Turkey.

The Social, Environmental and Economic Performance (SEEP) of Cotton Production, the Outlook for Cotton Supply and Use, a Technical Seminar: The Vision for Technology in 2025, Biotech Cotton Situation and Solutions, Instrument Testing, International Cotton Trade Rules, Demand Enhancement, Price Risk Management in Cotton and the Effects of Global Warming on Cotton Production are other topics scheduled for discussion.

Registration for the 66th Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) since 1939 is underway. Notices of the meeting and invitations have been sent to all governments, cotton industry associations and previous plenary meeting participants. A registration fee of US\$450 is charged to observers from the private sector and non-member countries to cover publications and other meeting costs; the fee is reduced to US\$425 for those who register in advance on-line. 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, send your contact information to publications@icac.org)

The International Cotton Advisory Committee is an association of 44 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*, \$170 per year via email, \$200 per year in hard copy. A monthly outlook is available by email for \$265 per year. Access to the latest weekly estimates of world cotton supply and use by the Secretariat is available on the Internet for \$420 per year. Access Secretariat reports at www.icac.org.