



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Memorandum 831

To: Delegates to the Standing Committee, Coordinating Agencies, and Members of the PSAP

From: Executive Director

Subject: Host Country for the World Cotton Research Conference-5

Date: June 28, 2007

The ICAC started the world cotton research conferences in the early 1990s. The World Cotton Research Conference-1 was held in Australia in February 1994. WCRC-2 was held in Greece in September 1998 and WCRC-3 was held in South Africa in March 2003. Currently, the Secretariat is working with the U.S. Organizing Committee and the International Textile Center, host of the WCRC-4, to organize the next conference in Lubbock, Texas, from September 10-14, 2007. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and CIRAD of France, in addition to a large number of local contributors, have sponsored world cotton research conferences. Participation in the conferences has ranged from about 350 to over 600 in Greece. 486 researchers have registered for WCRC-4 as of end June 2007.

While Australia offered to initiate and host the first conference, the Technical Information Section of the ICAC had to look for host countries for WCRC-2 and WCRC-3. Brazil, Turkey and USA offered to host the WCRC-4, and the International Committee, chaired by the executive director of the ICAC, awarded the WCRC-4 to the USA.

The International Committee will meet in Lubbock and decide on a host country for WCRC-5, which will be held in 2011 or 2012.

Brazil has offered to host the WCRC-5, and the Secretariat agrees that the selection of Brazil would be beneficial. All countries in Asia and South America are notified of this opportunity through this memorandum and are advised to send their offers to the ICAC Secretariat by July 31, 2007. The International Committee includes Dr. Terry P. Townsend, ICAC, (Chairman), Dr. Eric Kueneman, Chief, Crop and Grassland Service, FAO, Italy, Dr. Michel Deat, CIRAD-CA, France, Dr. Dean Ethridge, International Textile Center, Texas, USA, Dr. Roy Cantrell, Cotton Incorporated, USA (now working for Monsanto), Mr. Ralph Schulzé, Chairman of the WCRC-1 Organizing Committee, Australia, Dr. Abdin M. Ali, Sudan Cotton Company, Sudan, Dr. Robson de Macedo Vieira, Agricultural Research Institute of Rio Grande do Norte State, Brazil, Dr. Oktay Gencer, Director, Cotton Research and Application Center, University of Çukurova, Turkey and Dr. Graham Thompson, Research and Technology Manager, ARC- Institute for Industrial Crops, South Africa.

All information on the WCRC-4 is available at <http://www.wcrc4.org>. Governments are requested to encourage researchers in their countries to attend the WCRC-4. The Secretariat of the WCRC-4 can be contacted at wcrc4secretariat@gmail.com for any specific request