



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Aide Memoire

To: Delegates to the Standing Committee, Coordinating Agencies and Members of the Private Sector Advisory Panel

From: Executive Director

Subject: Nomination of Standing Committee Officers for 2008-09

Date: August 13, 2008

A Nominating Committee met in June and proposed a slate of officers for the Standing Committee for 2008-09. The current First Vice Chair of the Standing Committee, Mr. Jacob Pasgo, Minister Counselor, Embassy of Burkina Faso, was nominated to serve as Chair. The current Second Vice Chair, Mr. Ashraf El-Rabiey, Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of Bureau, Embassy of Egypt, was nominated to serve as First Vice Chair. Mr. Azmat Ali Ranjha, Minister (Trade), Embassy of Pakistan, was nominated to the post of Second Vice Chair. The nominations of Mr. Pasgo, Mr. El-Rabiey and Mr. Ranjha were approved at the meeting of the Standing Committee on June 25, 2008.

However, Mr. Jacob Pasgo was subsequently informed that he will be recalled to Ouagadougou in October. Therefore, it was necessary to conduct a second meeting of the Nominating Committee to identify Standing Committee officers for 2008-09.

A Nominating Committee met on July 30, 2008 in the Embassy of Argentina. Delegates from Argentina, China (Taiwan), Egypt, Spain and the USA and the executive director attended. The Nominating Committee agreed that Mr. El-Rabiey should be nominated to serve as Chair and that Mr. Ranjha should be nominated to serve as First Vice Chair.

The Rules and Regulations say that the election of officers should take into account:

1. Rotation on as broad a geographical basis as possible,
2. Adequate representation to importing and exporting countries, and
3. Ability, interest and participation in the work of the Committee.

After consideration of these factors, the Nominating Committee agreed that Ms. Ayse Gül Barkçin, Chief Commercial Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of Turkey should be nominated to the post of Second Vice Chair. A representative of Turkey has not served as Chair of the Standing Committee in recent years. Turkey is one of the largest importing countries in the world. Ms. Barkçin has attended Standing Committee meetings regularly during her tenure in Washington, DC.

The next meeting of the Standing Committee is not scheduled until October. Consistent with customary practice in periods between regularly scheduled meetings of the Standing Committee, the nominations of Mr. El-Rabiey as Chair, Mr. Ranjha as First Vice Chair and Ms. Barkçin as Second Vice Chair are being distributed to the Standing Committee via this aide memoire using e-mail and fax. Assuming there are no objections to the nominations received by the Secretariat by the end of August 2008, the nominations will be considered approved by the Standing Committee and will be forwarded to the Advisory Committee in Ouagadougou for final approval.