



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Memorandum No. 853

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

From: Executive Director

Subject: Research Associate Program for 2008/09

Date: September 2, 2008

The Research Associate Program of the ICAC provides an opportunity for persons in member countries to receive additional training in cotton research, marketing, statistics and economics. The program is conducted in the USA each year, except during the years in which World Cotton Research Conferences are conducted.

The 2008/09 Research Associate Program will be conducted for ten days starting on April 6 and ending on April 16, 2009.

The program will be conducted on the topic of: Sustainable Cotton Production. Presentations will be made on topics related to the costs of production and the use of Best Management Practices in cotton production. Participants will be briefed by members of the Secretariat and by experts from the US Department of Agriculture, US cotton industry and research institutions. Participants will learn about recent developments in the US cotton industry. The program also includes a visit to a cotton area for four days.

Participation in the program is open to persons from ICAC member countries, including persons from government agencies, universities and the private sector. Candidates from non-member countries are invited to participate on a tuition basis. The tuition for the program is US\$4,000 per participant. Candidates from ICAC member countries will be responsible for their cost of international travel to and from Washington, DC. The ICAC will bear the cost of travel in the USA, including transportation and lodging. Participants will be provided with a per diem amount of US\$50/day for food and miscellaneous expenses.

Candidates must apply through Coordinating Agencies or delegates to the Standing Committee by October 31, 2008. It is intended that Research Associates will be selected by the Standing Committee in November 2008 to allow at least 5 months to apply for visas and make travel arrangements. More details on the program will be provided to selected candidates. In the selection process, preference will be given to candidates from member governments who have not participated recently in a research associate program. Research associates are expected to make a presentation on recent developments in their countries as part of the program.