



64th Plenary Meeting of the INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES STEERING COMMITTEE

4:00 PM, Thursday September 29, 2005
Mr. Bakhtiyor Ibragimov in the Chair

The CHAIR introduced Dr. Rafiq Chaudhry, Head Technical Information Section of the Secretariat to present a report from the Committee on Cotton Production Research. Dr. Chaudhry reported that the Committee held a technical seminar on the topic of "Rapid Instrument Testing: Opportunities for Breeders and Other Segments of the Industry and the Need for Uniform Definitions." He reported that four papers were presented. He also reported on preparations for the World Cotton Research Conference – 4 in Lubbock, Texas USA in September 2007. The CHAIR thanked Dr. Chaudhry for the report and asked if there were any objections to approval. Seeing no objections, the CHAIR found that the Report of the Committee on Cotton Production Research was approved. The Report was distributed to all delegates.

The CHAIR called attention to the Draft Statement of the Plenary Meeting that had been prepared by the Drafting Committee. He noted that the Draft Statement had been distributed to all delegations. He asked if there were any comments or objections, and seeing none he found that the Statement of the 64th Plenary Meeting was approved.

The CHAIR recognized the Secretary General and asked him to present the information in Working Paper I on the election of Standing Committee Officers for 2005-06. The Secretary General reported that a Nominating Committee had met in Washington, DC in May 2005. The Nominating Committee recommended that the First Vice Chair, Mr. Siphwe Mkhize of South Africa should be nominated as Chair, that the Second Vice Chair, Ms. Elena Cores of Spain should be nominated as First Vice Chair, and that Mr. Bilgehan Sasmaz of Turkey should be nominated for Second Vice Chair. He reported that the Standing Committee had agreed to these nominations at its 478th Meeting in May 2005, and accordingly the nominations were forwarded to the Advisory Committee for approval. The CHAIR observed that all delegates approved of the nominations as suggested by the Standing Committee. Accordingly, the CHAIR confirmed that Mr. Mkhize was elected to serve as Chair of the Standing Committee, Ms. Cores was elected to serve as First Vice Chair and Mr. Sasmaz was elected to serve as Second Vice Chair.

The CHAIR recognized the Secretary General and asked him to present the information in Working Paper III on Uncollected Assessments of Member Governments of the ICAC. The Secretary General reported that as of September 26 at the start of the 64th Plenary Meeting, two countries were more than two years in arrears in the payment of assessments to the ICAC. He noted that one of the countries had recently made a payment to the Committee and that assurances had been received that additional payments would be forthcoming so that the country would be current in its support of the Committee. However, the Secretary General reported that Benin was more than two years in arrears and that assurances of payment had not been received. Accordingly, he was required to report that the membership of Benin had been suspended in compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Committee. The Secretary General also reported that six countries had not completed the payment of assessments from the 2004-05 fiscal year. However, all were making efforts to do so. He noted that the Delegate of Uzbekistan had reported at the meeting that payment

of the amount remaining from 2004-05 had already been arranged so that Uzbekistan would soon be current in the payment of assessments to the Committee. The Secretary General thanked all countries for their support.

The CHAIR asked if there was any other business to come before the Steering Committee. Seeing none, he adjourned the Steering Committee meeting at 5:00 PM.