

81ST PLENARY MEETING

# MUMBAI, INDIA

🌐 2-5 December 2023

**Cotton Value Chain:  
“Local Innovations for Global Prosperity”**



**Ms. Belinda Edmonds**

Ms Edmonds is Managing Director of the African Cotton Foundation and has, over the past 30 years, worked in almost all sectors of the African textile and apparel industries. She firmly believes that trade is a critical tool to uplift and protect Africa’s people, cultures, and environment, and has worked extensively across Africa to provide hands-on facilitation of apparel exports. Whilst promoting African production in general and sustainable value chains in particular, she has collaborated with high-profile brands and retailers in the USA and EU, international NGOs, lobbyist groups, and regional governments on initiatives designed to enhance trade, improve work-place conditions, upgrade quality systems, and increase productivity in African factories. In 2018, Belinda joined the African Cotton Foundation as its Managing Director. Believing that cotton should be an important catalyst for African small-holder farmer development, she shares the vision of a thriving, modern, and sustainable African cotton sector where farming is profitable, communities are empowered, human rights are respected, and the environment is protected.