Report of a Meeting of the Expert Panel on Social, Environmental and Economic Performance (SEEP) of Cotton Production December 20, 2012 Teleconference

Members Present: Francesca Mancini (Vice Chair), Michel Fok, Patricia O'Leary, Elke Hortmeyer.

Members Absent: Allan Williams (Chair), Bill Norman, Jens Soth, Fatih Dogan, B.K. Mishra, Wilfried Yameogo, Denilson Galbero Guedes, and Yu Ta Dolphin, were not able to participate.

Observer: Kater Hake

Alejandro Plastina served as Secretariat.

Next Meeting:

A conference call will be conducted on Friday, 1 February 2013 at 14:00 hs Rome time to discuss the second draft of the Measuring Sustainability in the Cotton Sector report. A face-to-face meeting will be conducted in March 2013 to discuss which key performance indicators to include in the core set of indicators to be recommended in the final version of the report. Possible dates will be circulated in January.

Report of the Meeting

Agenda for December 20:

- Table with comments summary of general comments with suggested actions for SEEP members' decision.
- 2. Next SEEP meetings.

1. Table with comments - summary of general comments with suggested actions:

Francesca summarized the comments on the first draft of the report "Measuring Sustainability in the Cotton Sector" sent to her up to December 20, 2012, and provided two versions of the revised first draft:

- Report V14: The annotated revised first draft in track changes mode including all the comments and suggestions (Attachment I).
- Report V15: A clear version of the revised first draft, with all edits accepted, for easy reading (Attachment II).

The summary of general comments on the report and the agreed way forward is presented as Attachment III.

It was agreed that:

- SEEP members might submit additional comments and edits on Report V15 by 7 January
- Francesca will contact individual members for clarifications, if needed, 7-8 January
- Francesca will work with consultant on report 9-11 January
- FAO inputs from water and energy specialists during week 14-18 January
- Alejandro will send a revised version of section 3 (global cotton market and trends) to Francesca by mid-January
- Francesca and Michel will work on the sub-section of child labour January 11-20.
- Francesca will submit a second draft to SEEP members by 24 January.

Regarding the dissemination of the final report, it was agreed that:

• The ICAC will have the executive summary translated into Spanish, French, Arabic, and Russian.

- A press kit will be prepared and distributed among ICAC member countries
- Francesca will work on having FAO recognizing the SEEP report as an official FAO document.
- Francesca will try to engage designers at FAO in improving the looks of the final report.

2. Next meetings:

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Pending on approval of USDA, Dr. Kater Hake will succeed Dr. Patricia O'Leary in SEEP after her retirement.

End of notes