



# **International Cotton Advisory Committee**

**Provisional Minutes**

**83rd ICAC Plenary Meeting**

**March 23-24, 2026  
Bremen Parliament Building  
Bremen, Germany**





## **83<sup>rd</sup> ICAC Plenary Meeting**

### **MINUTES**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session: Closing Ceremony**

4:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Tuesday, March 24, 2026

#### **Opening of the Closing Session**

The Chair opened the closing proceedings of the 83rd Plenary Meeting at 4:00 pm, welcoming Delegates and noting that the meeting in Bremen had been highly productive. The Chair highlighted the strong spirit of cooperation demonstrated across the global cotton and textiles value chain.

#### **Summary of Discussions**

The Chair noted that the Plenary addressed a range of complex and strategic issues, including:

- International textile trade logistics
- Sustainability and environmentally responsible production practices
- The need for coordinated global action to support the cotton sector

It was emphasized that the insights and outcomes of the meeting would inform ICAC's strategic direction in the coming years.

#### **Technical and Thematic Progress**

The Secretariat reported on key developments from the technical discussions, including:

- Advancements in biotechnology and its role in improving climate resilience
- The importance of innovation to support smallholder farmers
- Increased consensus on supply chain transparency and the transition toward actionable frameworks

## **Recognition of Host Country**

The Chair expressed appreciation to the Government of Germany and the City of Bremen for hosting the meeting and for their hospitality, which contributed to the success of the Plenary.

## **Outreach and Sector Promotion**

Delegates highlighted the importance of:

- Strengthening digital outreach efforts
- Engaging younger generations in the cotton sector
- Promoting cotton as a natural, biodegradable fiber supporting global livelihoods

Initiatives such as World Cotton Day were noted as important tools in this effort.

## **Adoption of Resolutions**

The Chair introduced the administrative portion of the session, noting that:

- Draft resolutions, including those related to investment in research and development, had been reviewed by the relevant committees
- The Steering Committee confirmed readiness for formal adoption

Following review, the resolutions were adopted.

## **Signing of Documents**

The meeting was briefly suspended to allow for the distribution and signing of official documents.

The Chair noted that these agreements represent a significant milestone in efforts to:

- Stabilize global cotton markets

- Promote equitable and sustainable development across the sector

## **Final Acknowledgements**

Upon resumption, the Chair delivered closing acknowledgements.

### **Host Government**

A representative of the host country expressed appreciation for the opportunity to host the Plenary and emphasized:

- The importance of continued collaboration
- The expectation that outcomes, including the “Bremen Declaration,” will translate into tangible results

### **Private Sector Advisory Council (PSAC)**

The Chair acknowledged the contributions of the PSAC, particularly in:

- Improving trade logistics
- Addressing the digital divide in the textile sector

### **Social Sustainability**

Delegates reiterated the importance of:

- Fair wages
- Safe working conditions

These were recognized as essential for long-term sector viability.

### **Appreciation of the Secretariat**

The Chair expressed gratitude to:

- ICAC Secretariat

- European Cotton Alliance, Hellenic Cotton Association, Spanish National Cotton Center, and Wakefield Inspection Services for their support via sponsorships
- Technical staff
- Interpreters
- Administrative personnel

Their contributions were recognized as essential to the successful organization of the Plenary. Finally, he reserved a special thanks to the members of the Bremen Cotton Exchange, without whose help and generosity the 83<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting would not have been possible.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Chair formally declared the 83rd Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:30 pm.