



74th Plenary Meeting of the INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

12:00hrs, Friday, December 11, 2015
Dr. Kavita Gupta, of India, in the Chair

Reading of the Final Statement of the 74th Plenary Meeting,

1. The CHAIR called the Closing Plenary Session to order and began the meeting by asking the Executive Director to read the Final Statement of the 74th Plenary Meeting, which is an integral part of these Proceedings. The delegate of BRAZIL took the floor to propose that, in the interests of time, the Statement should be considered as read. Seeing no objection, the CHAIR took the Final statement as read.

Invitation from Pakistan, host of the 75th Plenary Meeting

2. The delegate of PAKISTAN thanked Members for their selection of his country as host of the 75th Plenary Meeting. On behalf of the government of Pakistan, he invited all ICAC Members to participate in this special event, which will be held in the beautiful capital of Islamabad, from October 31 to November 4, 2016.

Closing Comments by Other Delegates

3. The delegate of INDIA thanked all participants in the event. He noted that a significant step forward had been taken by the amendment of the Rules and Regulations to enable the membership of the European Union. Nevertheless, the Standing Committee still faced the hard task of negotiating transitional arrangements and other issues involved in the accession of the EU to the ICAC.

4. The delegate of TURKEY thanked the hosts for their warm welcome and excellent organization. She said that the Plenary had been a fruitful opportunity to discuss topic that are relevant to all countries with an interest in cotton. She sent her best wishes to Pakistan as host of the next Plenary and expressed the desire of her country to strengthen even more the collaboration with other ICAC Members.

5. The delegate of TAIWAN expressed his appreciation to the Secretariat for putting together a successful program. He congratulated India for the excellent arrangements made for the Plenary. Finally, he stated that Taiwan is considering hosting a Plenary Meeting in the future.

Closing Comments by the Executive Director

6. The Executive Director thanked all Members for their active participation, which greatly contributed to the success of the event. Since his arrival at the ICAC, all those that were part of the "cotton family" had gone out of their way to make him feel welcome. He was particularly grateful to the government and private sector of India, who had supported him from the outset and had now organized this enormously successful meeting. He extended his personal thanks to Dr. Kavita Gupta, Textile

Commissioner and head of the Organizing Committee. Although she had only been appointed to her new post two months ago, she had worked tirelessly in the interim to assure the success of the Plenary.

Closing Comments by the Chair

7. The CHAIR began her closing remarks by stating that guests are considered as divinities in the Indian culture. She was glad to have had the wonderful experience of interacting with all participants in all their diversity. She considered that the sessions had been rewarding and covered a wide range of issues relevant to the cotton sector in today's changing world. She was grateful to ICAC staff members for their assistance in the organization of the Plenary.

8. The CHAIR noted that the organization of the event had been an interesting experience in Public-Private Partnership. She thanked the Cotton Corporation of India, the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry and the Cotton Association of India for their support of the event. She expressed her particular gratitude to the Minister of Textiles, H.E. Santosh Kumar Gangwar, and the Secretary of Textiles, Sanjay Kumar Panda, as well as to all those in the Ministry of Textiles and the Textile Commissioner's Office who had helped make the event such a success. She hoped that participants would return to India and invest in the country's vibrant textile value chain.

9. The CHAIR declared the 74th Plenary Meeting adjourned at 12:45 hrs.