



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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The Chairman of the Standing Committee of the International Cotton Advisory Committee, Mr. Alfonso Liévano of Colombia, and Mr. Kevin Cleaver, Director of The World Bank, present their compliments and wish to extend an invitation to you to attend the Conference on “Cotton and Global Trade Negotiations” to be held in Washington, D.C., United States of America, July 8-9, 2002.

The Conference will bring together government officials at the ministerial level, WTO negotiators, the international development community, scholars, and all segments of the private industry to examine the importance of cotton in the world economy and assess the opportunities that exist for cotton under the agenda of the WTO.

The Conference will cover five topics: Why Cotton Matters: The Importance of Multilateral Negotiations; The Role of Cotton in Economic Development; The Role of Government Measures in the Cotton Economy; The Impacts of Low Prices on the Cotton Economy; and, Potential Remedies: The Need for Successful WTO Negotiations. Participants are invited to engage with decision-makers to grasp the importance for the cotton industry and to clarify the interests of the cotton industry in multilateral negotiations.

“Cotton and Global Trade Negotiations” will be an essential event shaping the perception of cotton as an agricultural commodity and a raw material for the textile industry. The conference will provide a leading opportunity for industry, governments and international agencies to discuss, first hand, the problems of cotton and the ways and means to increase the visibility of the industry in multilateral negotiations. It would assist discussions if organizations could include specialized officials in their delegations.

It would be appreciated if the Executive Director of the International Cotton Advisory Committee could be informed of the names of participants by June 28, 2002.

*Washington, DC
April 22, 2002*