

Working Paper II

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Recommendation from the Standing Committee to the 67th Plenary Meeting of the

INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

November 2008

According to the Rules and Regulations, Article VIII, Section 4.c. "Each auditor's report shall be submitted to the Standing Committee at its next meeting following receipt of the report by the Secretariat. Once approved by the Standing Committee, the report shall be distributed to all member governments."

In accordance with this provision, reports received from the auditors each year are first distributed to the Subcommittee on Budget for careful review, and are then distributed to Standing Committee delegates for approval. Following approval, the audit reports are sent to Coordinating Agencies.

This provision probably dates to the formation of the Secretariat in the 1940s when the communication of documents might have required more than one week in each direction. It can be inferred that it was considered prudent at the time to concentrate the budget functions of the ICAC within the Standing Committee in Washington.

It would seem that with e-mail, this provision of the Rules and Regulations is now obsolete, and distribution of audit reports to Coordinating Agencies in advance of meetings of the Subcommittee on Budget and the Standing Committee is advisable.

Accordingly, the Secretariat recommended at the 491st Meeting of the Standing Committee, in February 2008, that the Rules and Regulations of the Committee be amended as follows:

Article VIII, Section 4.c. Each auditor's report shall be submitted to the Standing Committee and Coordinating Agencies for approval at the next meeting of the Standing Committee following receipt of the report by the Secretariat.

The Standing Committee accepted the suggestion and is forwarding the proposed amendment to the Advisory Committee with a recommendation for approval at the 67th Plenary Meeting.