

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## ITMF Welcomes the China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC) as a New Member

On April 17, 2008 the China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC) joined the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) as a new member association. Today, on the occasion of the ITMA Asia + CITME 2008 exhibition in Shanghai, China, the Council and the Federation formally celebrate this decision. The ITMF is honoured to welcome the Council as its new member. This presents an important step forward both for the Federation as well as for the Council.

In today's international trade environment it becomes more and more important to have access not only to information but also to an international network that enables us to better understand the changes and challenges of today and tomorrow. It has become essential to think ahead and to adapt quickly in order to strengthen one's business and to make use of existing opportunities, despite uncertainties and volatile markets. For that purpose the ITMF offers an ideal forum to all textile and related industries to meet and discuss the challenges and opportunities that are lying ahead of the world's textile industry.

The ITMF brings together representatives of the textile industry from developed and developing countries alike and as such it serves as a unique platform to exchange views and to learn from each other. The CNTAC who represents the largest textile producing country in the world will contribute to the discussions on the future of the global textile value chain. But China is not only the largest producer, exporter and importer of textiles and apparel but has also an enormous domestic market which offers huge opportunities. In return the Council will benefit from a truly global network and thereby enhance as well as further enrich its own knowledge base. Only a strong world wide textile value chain will on a combined bases push the current limits beyond what we believe today of what is possible. The global textile value chain must together strive to capture a larger portion of the world's disposable income.

Shanghai, July 28, 2008