Proceedings

of the meeting held
in Shanghai/China
on October 23, 2009

Participants
Macdonald, Andrew G. TAVEX Corporation Brazil
Chen, Steven S.C. Tah Tong Textile Co., Ltd. Taiwan, China
Bieri, Werner Buhler Quality Yarns Corp. USA
Kim, Jung-Soo Ilshin Spinning Korea
Simeoni, Walter Frame Textile Group South Africa

Guests
Williams, Allan Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) Australia
Xi Jin CN Cotton China
Gong Wenlong CN Cotton China
Enrique Crouse Prilla 2000 South Africa
Townsend, Terry ICAC

ITMF Secretariat
Schindler, Christian

Apologies
Bashir, Ziad Gul Ahmed Textile Mills Ltd. Pakistan
Patodia, B.K. GTN Textiles Ltd. India
Nassar, Ayman Setcore Spinning S.A.E. Egypt
Sukarmadji, Annas Pt Apac Inti Corpora Indonesia
Ashaboglu, Ertekin Turkish Textile Research Center Turkey
Bonadei, Romano Filartex S.P.A. Italy
Vijayshankar, M.N. Recron (Reliance Group) Malaysia

In the Chair
Macdonald, Andrew
Opening Remarks by the Chairman
The Chairman welcomed the members of the Committee as well as the guests to the meeting.

Spinners’ Committee Visit to India
The Chairman informed the meeting about the Spinners Committee’s visit to India which took place from Oct. 17-23, 2008 shortly after the end of the ITMF Annual Conference 2008 in Mauritius (Oct. 11-14, 2008) by showing and commenting a series of photos taken during the visit. He thanked everybody who participated in this very exciting and educational visit and particularly Mr. B.K. Patodia (GTN Textiles) and his entire team, who prepared and organized the visit so perfectly.

The Chairman emphasized that the objectives of the visit

- To evaluate the situation of cotton growing and ginning in India as compared to 6 years ago when the ITMF Spinners Committee visited India in 2002.
- To evaluate the evolution and sustainability of BT cotton in India
- To evaluate the handling and quality improvements.
- To evaluate the potential for increased production over the next years
- To evaluate the comments of the textile industry and their vision on cotton in India.

were fully accomplished. The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to the full report which is available on the ITMF website. The question of organic cotton in India genetically modified has been dealt with in detail and raises concerns for the Committee regarding the authenticity of organic cotton as retailed to the consumer. It was recommended that this topic should be raised at the Bremen meeting of the ICCTM in 2010.

International Committee of Cotton Testing Methods (ICCTM)
The Chair introduced the coordinator of the Steering Committee of the ICCTM, Mr. Terry Townsend, and expressed his gratitude for Terry’s support and dedication to the work of the Committee. He emphasized that today the requirements in the textile industry are certainly that cotton testing instruments should have a commercial utility rather than being just purely useful for scientific purposes.

Mr. Townsend reported that in May of this year the Steering Committee of the ICCTM, made up of five members from different areas of the cotton industry, together with the Vice Chairman of the ICCTM, met in Washington and drew up a working document with suggested mandates for the Committee. These are:

1) To encourage research into the basic science needed to develop commercially useful tests.
2) To encourage the development of enhanced testing methods.
3) Recognition of instruments and testing methods that are able to perform within allowable tolerances, and that achieve a result that correlates with a reference method
4) Identification of reference methods.
5) Harmonization of cotton testing results by means of
   • proposition and support for the international standardization of test methods
   • development of guidelines for testing
   • technical evaluations using world-wide round tests.

6) Discussion of problems related to testing of cotton fiber properties and their relations
to cotton processing

The Steering Committee recommended that the ICCTM no longer “approves” or
“recommends” any instruments or methods, as these words imply a commercial and
scientific endorsement that the ICCTM is not in a position to provide. Instead, the ICCTM
should “recognize” those instruments and methods that function satisfactorily. The
procedures for such “recognition” were also drawn up together with an agenda for topics to
be discussed at the next ICCTM meeting in Bremen in 2010.

Mr. Townsend trusted that the ITMF Committee of Management and the ITMF Board will
approve the new way forward for this prestigious ITMF Committee.

Subsequently, the proposals have been transmitted to the ICCTM Committee and Task
Forces by the ITMF Secretariat with favorable reactions.

Mr. Simeoni requested that a flow-chart of the new structure should be drawn up, and
especially how the ICCTM could combine with the CSITC of the ICAC to obtain the maximum
synergy and avoid an overlap of work. This will be prepared shortly and submitted to the
ITMF Board and the Spinners Committee by the Coordinator and the Chairman of CSITC.

Other Natural Fibres
The Committee discussed whether other natural fibres currently being used in the industry
might be included in the scope of the Spinners’ Committee. It was felt that the Committee
should continue concentrating on cotton only.

Synthetic Fibres
The question of a Committee for Synthetic Fibres has been muted by the ITMF Board;
however no progress has been made. The Spinners Committee endorsed the need for
setting up a Committee for Synthetic Fibers and urged the Secretariat to do so.

Cotton Contamination Survey
The Director General provided a written report on the state of the Cotton Contamination
Survey 2009 which is in full progress, especially on the acceptance of the online-version.

The main problem of the Cotton Contamination Survey 2009 is to receive enough replies
from spinning mills. This is a development which has been going for quite some time with
less and less replies being received by the Secretariat from spinning mills in the developed
countries. Especially these cotton spinning mills have used a lot of different cotton growths
and therefore one mill usually provided a lot of information on different growths. While replies
are decreasing from these countries, it is difficult to encourage and convince cotton spinning
mills in today’s main cotton spinning countries like China, India, Pakistan, Turkey, etc. to
participate in this survey.
Since this year participants can chose between 3 different ways of completing and returning the questionnaire (online, email, fax/mail). The questionnaire is available on the following website: www.itmf.org/poll. All 3 alternatives are accepted and used by the cotton spinning mills participating. The Secretariat hopes that the online version will become more popular and will contribute convincing more cotton spinning mills to submit completed questionnaires.

As for the 2009 Survey the Secretariat has not yet enough replies in hand in order to publish any meaningful results for the Cotton Contamination Survey 2009. Therefore, it will continue encouraging cotton spinning mills around the world via ITMF members and directly. Hopefully, more replies will be received by the end of January 2010 in order to present the results at the 30th International Cotton Conference 2010 in Bremen/Germany (March 24-27, 2010).

**Committee Membership**

The Chairman had received with much regret the resignation of Mr. Walter Simeoni (South Africa) from the Committee. He took this opportunity to express the Committee’s unanimous gratitude for the brilliant contribution he had made to the work of the Committee over so many years. The Committee was enthusiastic in appointing him as an Honorary Life Member of the Committee, together with such distinguished Honorary Members as Sebastian Otto, Robert Galmes and Herwig Strolz.

The Committee was very pleased to elect Mr. Enrique Crouse from South Africa to take Walter’s seat on the Committee.

**Next Country Visit**

The Committee agreed to visit East Africa in 2010, to appreciate in loco the developments in that region and especially the question of Organic Cotton. Mr. Simeoni and Mr. Crouse have offered assisting with the organization of the visit.

**Next Annual Meeting**

It is proposed that the next annual meeting of the Committee will be held in connection with the next ITMF Annual Conference in Sao Paulo/Brazil (October 17-19, 2010).

**Any Other business**

The Chair thanked all those present for their participation and in particular Mr. Allan Williams who had no opportunity to speak at the meeting but would be invited to speak at the Joint Cotton Committee meeting to be held immediately after the Spinners Committee Meeting.

January 2009