



## Agenda

# EU-Africa Cotton Forum

Centre Conférence International, Paris, 5-6 July 2004

### Context

The Commission presented in February a proposal for an EU Action Plan on agricultural commodity chains, dependence and poverty, and the specific proposal for an EU Africa Partnership in support of cotton sector development, set out in the Communications. The conclusions to both Communications were adopted by the EU General Affairs and External Relation Council, 26-27 April 2004. As part of the operationalisation of the proposed EU-Africa cotton partnership, the European Commission, with support from the Government of France and CTA, organises an EU-Africa Cotton Forum on 5-6 July in Paris.

### Objectives

The forum aims at endorsing the EU-Africa Cotton Partnership, considering the importance of the cotton sector for the African countries within the trade & development perspective.

The specific objectives are:

1. establish a constructive dialogue on the Partnership.
2. improve the understanding of respective cotton trade positions to encourage a favourable outcome on agricultural negotiations in the context of the DDA;
3. set the stage for implementing the Partnership for cotton development, including:
  - an agreement on the structure and process of national cotton strategies
  - an agreement on main themes to be covered in these cotton strategies
  - indications from donors on possibility to support cotton in country/region
  - strengthening institutional linkages between countries, institutions and donors.

### Approach/methodology

There is an active involvement of both the African countries and the local donor community in the preparation of the Forum. The Forum itself will provide the opportunity to review the progress achieved by some African countries and agree upon a Road Map to implement the Partnership.

### Steering Committee

A small Steering Committee composing of the European Commission, CTA, ACP-Working Group on cotton, France, Netherlands (EU-Presidency as off July) is responsible for the preparation, organisation and reporting of the Forum.

### Overview of Agenda

- During the opening session the high level speakers from the EU and Africa will set the scene.
- Session 1 on international trade highlights the respective trade positions and progress in the DDA.
- Session 2 deals with national cotton strategies as important development tools.
- Sessions 3-6 highlight thematic aspects for the development of national and regional strategies.
- Sessions 7 will discuss the support to cotton.
- Session 8 deals with the Road Map to implement of the Partnership.

08.00 REGISTRATION (+welcome coffee)

10.00 OPENING SESSION

Chair: Pascal LAMY, EC-Trade Commissioner

- 10.05 Welcome address: Claude BLANCHEMAISON, Director General for International Cooperation and Development (France)
- 10.15 EU-Africa cotton partnership: Mrs. Agnes VAN ARDENNE, Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation (EU-Presidency)
- 10.30 Africa response to partnership: Fatiou AKPLOGAN, Benin Minister for Trade (spokesperson of ACP-cotton Ministerial Committee)
- 10.40 ACP-EU Carl GREENIDGE, CTA
- 10.50 Setting the scene for the Forum: Pascal LAMY, EC-Trade Commissioner

11:00 SESSION 1: INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Chair: Carl GREENIDGE, CTA

- 11.05: Terry TOWNSEND, ICAC: Overview of government support measures worldwide
- 11.20 Fatiou AKPLOGAN, Benin: African position on cotton negotiations in DDA
- 11.40 Karl FALKENBERG, EC/DG TRADE: EC views on cotton as part of DDA
- 12.00 Exchange of views

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14:00 SESSION 2: NATIONAL COTTON STRATEGIES

Chair: Mrs. Berengere QUINCY (France / Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- 14.05 Bernard PETIT: National commodity/cotton strategies as a development mechanism
- 14.20 Burkina Faso, Benin and Tanzania<sup>1</sup> present National Strategic Cotton Frameworks, including donor responses, following national coordination
- 15.05 Alexander SARRIS, FAO: Methodology for preparing national cotton strategies<sup>2</sup>
- 15.20 Exchange of views on proposed actions

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 SESSION 3: COTTON RELATED POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Chair: Mr. Fatiou AKPLOGAN (ACP-cotton Ministerial Committee)

- 16.35 Tiéna COULIBALY, Mali/MRSC: Phasing the reforms and accompanying measures
- 16.50 Ndiogou FALL, ROPPA: Farmer views on the impact of cotton sector reforms
- 17.05 Ibrahim MALLOUM, African Cotton (ginners) Association: African stakeholder views
- 17.15 John McINTIRE, World Bank: Current views on cotton sector reforms
- 17.30 Exchange of views

18.00 *Ajourn and Cocktail*

*Mr. Xavier DARCOS, Minister for International Cooperation and Development (France)*

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<sup>1</sup> Subject to their confirmation

<sup>2</sup> the 4 pages frameworks are an intermediate product of the National Cotton Strategy

09.00 *SESSION 4: TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION, ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY RECOGNITION*

Chair: Ibrahim TAMPONE, Commissioner UEMOA

09.05 Henk BREMAN, IFDC: Sustainable cotton: improved management of soil fertility and pests

09.15 Jacques PAGES, CIRAD: Pro and Cons of Genetically Engineered Cotton

09.25 Mustapha DIOP, SODEFITEX: African Participation in Universal Cotton Classification

09.35 Exchange of views

10.15 – 10.45 *Coffee break*

10.45 *SESSION 5: RISK MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE*

Chair: Jan MAAS, Netherlands Development Cooperation (EU Presidency)

10.50 Joe KABISSA, Tanzania Cotton Board: the demand for price risk management in cotton

11.00 Chris GILBERT, World Bank: Commodity risk strategy

11.10 Jean Marc GRAVELLINI, France/AFD, mitigating risks through self insurance

11.20 Nigel SCOTT, Rabobank: Perspectives of risk instruments and structured finance

11.30 Exchange of views

12.00 *SESSION 6: CHAIN INTEGRATION ACTIVITIES*

Chair: Babacar FAYE, Director BOAD

12.05 Hamed SOW (CDE): Perspectives for manufacturing, the case of UEMOA countries

12.15 Bernard WALTER, AMTECS International Mauritius:  
Conditions for promoting investments in textiles in Africa

12.25 Saro G. RATTER: Organic and fair trade cotton in Africa

12.35 Exchange of views

13.00 – 14.00 *Lunch*

14:00 *SESSION 7: SUPPORT TO COTTON*

Chair: Bernard PETIT (EC/DG Development)

- African Development Bank perspectives (to be confirmed)
- Babacar FAYE, Directeur BOAD,: Financing perspectives for the cotton sector
- Philip MIKOS, EC/DG Development: Indications of support to cotton at different levels
- André DELLEVOET (EU-presidency), Indications of EU-Member States support at different levels
- World Bank: Support at in-country and international levels
- Ioannis KALTSAS / Heike RUETTIGERS, European Investment Bank. Perspectives for support to cotton
- Exchange of views

16.00 – 16.30 *Coffee break*

*16.30 SESSION 8: THE EU-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP ON COTTON:  
ROAD MAP TO IMPLEMENTATION*

Chair: Fatiou AKPLOGAN (ACP-Group)

- EC/DG Development: Road Map for Implementation of the EU-Africa Cotton Partnership

*17.30 CONCLUDING REMARKS AND CLOSURE*