

Provisional Agenda of the Steering Committee Meeting of the *Partenariat pour le Coton*

28-29 April 2025 – Premises of Afreximbank, Cairo, Egypt

DAY ONE – Monday 28 April

09:00-09:30: Opening Session

Chaired by WTO Deputy Director-General, Jean-Marie Paugam

- Opening Remarks and Welcome to New Members by the Chair
- Official opening statement – Mrs. Kanayo Awani, Executive Vice President, Intra African Trade and Export Development

09:30-10:30: Panel Discussion – Unlocking Investment for Cotton Industrialization and Local Transformation in the C-4+ Region

Moderator: *To be determined*

Panellists:

- H.E. Mr. Hassan El-Khatib, Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, Egypt
- H.E. Ms. Alimatou Shadiya ASSOUMAN, Minister of Trade and Industry, Benin
- Mr. Gunther Berger, Managing Director, UNIDO
- Mr. Eric Trachtenberg, ICAC Executive Director
- Céline Zigaul, FIFA
- Group photo

10:30-11:00: Coffee break

11:00-13:00: Session 2

Chaired by UNIDO

- Presentations of national reports and regional report by C-4+ representatives/country focal points, presenting national priorities, and needs for technical and investment support

13:00-15:00: Lunch break and networking

15:00-15:30: Session 3

Chaired by ILO

- Presentation of study on sustainable practices in cotton farming in C-4+, by Better Cotton (BC)

15:30-16:30: Session 4

Chaired by ILO

- Reflections on presentations by C-4+ and BC, by technical and financial partners and South-South partners
- Discussion

16:30-16:45: Coffee break

16:45-18:00: Session 5

Chaired by Afreximbank

- Presentation of support measures and financing options for cotton-textile-garment value chain development by Financial Institutions, aligned with the National Consultations' reports

DAY TWO – Tuesday 29 April

07:30: Departure for field visit (Participants to converge in front of the main entrance of Afreximbank)

10:00-11:30: Field Visit

- Factory visit in Cairo, organized according to the interests of the partners of the *Partenariat pour le Coton*

11:30-13:00: Travel back to meeting venue

13:00-14:00: Lunch break and networking

14:00-15:30: Session 6 – Roundtable discussion: Supporting C-4+ priorities – The Way Forward

Chaired by WTO Deputy Director-General, Jean-Marie Paugam

- Recap of Day One
- Discussion on matchmaking and proposed way forward

15:30-15:50: Coffee break

15:50-17:50: Session 7 – Discussion on the work plan of the *Partenariat pour le coton* for 2025

Chaired by Ambassador Stephen Fevrier

- Terms of reference for the *Partenariat* – membership, geographical coverage, functions: Presentation of proposed ToR, followed by discussion
- C-4+ *Partenariat* Support Fund (C-4+ PSF) – Discussion on a dedicated fund to support the participation of C-4+ countries in activities under the *Partenariat* capacity-building workshops and travel to key meetings
- Work plan and events announcement, followed by discussion
 - 1) Data visualization exhibition
 - 2) Webinar on recycling hubs
 - 3) Technical workshop in C-4+
 - 4) Event at UNIDO General Conference
- World Cotton Day 2025 – ITC: Exchange and discussion

17:50-18:00: Closing session

- Vote of thanks – Ambassador Stephen Fevrier
- Closing remarks (5 mins) – Afreximbank
- Closing remarks (5 mins) – C-4+ Coordinator