**Concept Note: Technical Workshop on Advancing Priority Projects of the C4+ in the Cotton-Textile-Garment Value Chain**

**1. Background and Rationale:**

Following the Steering Committee Meeting of the Partenariat pour le Coton held in Cairo, the need for a focused technical workshop was identified. The workshop will serve as a platform to translate the priority projects identified by the C4+ countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Côte d'Ivoire) into bankable initiatives with clear financing and implementation pathways.

The technical workshop will bring together focal points from the C4+ countries, financial institutions, development partners, technical agencies, and relevant private sector actors. It will provide a space to refine project concepts, align on expectations, understand requirements from financiers, and enhance synergies among stakeholders.

**2. Objectives:**

* Refine and validate priority cotton-textile-garment projects of the C4+.
* Present requirements and opportunities from financial institutions and development partners.
* Facilitate matchmaking and early-stage pipeline development.
* Provide technical guidance on project design, budgeting, and structuring.

**3. Date and Venue:** Proposed Dates: 10-11 November 2025

Proposed Venue: Bamako, Mali

**4. Participants:**

* C4+ country delegations and national focal points
* Afreximbank, IFC, ITFC, AfDB, and other financiers
* WTO, UNIDO, ITC, ILO, Better Cotton, IAEA
* Private sector representatives (e.g. textile investors, equipment suppliers)

**5. Draft Program (2 days):**

**Day 1: Understanding and Aligning Priorities**

* 09:00-09:30: Opening Session and Welcome Remarks
* 09:30-10:30: Presentation of C4+ Updated Priority Projects (by country)
* 10:30-11:00: Coffee Break
* 11:00-13:00: Breakout Sessions: Technical Review of Projects (per country)
* 13:00-14:00: Lunch
* 14:00-15:30: Panel: Financial Institutions on Requirements and Instruments
* 15:30-16:00: Coffee Break
* 16:00-17:30: Matchmaking Discussions – Roundtable I

**Day 2: Structuring and Moving Forward**

* 09:00-10:30: Case Studies on Structuring Bankable Cotton Projects
* 10:30-11:00: Coffee Break
* 11:00-13:00: Matchmaking Discussions – Roundtable II
* 13:00-14:00: Lunch
* 14:00-15:30: Technical Clinic: How to Build Sound Project Proposals
* 15:30-16:00: Coffee Break
* 16:00-17:00: Way Forward and Action Plan
* 17:00-17:30: Closing Session

**6. Estimated Budget (in USD):**

* Venue & Logistics:
* Interpretation (FR/EN):
* Travel support for C4+ focal points:
* Catering (2 days):
* Documentation & Communication:
* Miscellaneous/Admin:

 **Total Estimated Cost:**

**7. Expected Outcomes:**

* Revised, investment-ready project profiles for each C4+ country.
* Enhanced understanding among partners of project financing criteria.
* Strengthened partnership and alignment among C4+, financiers, and technical agencies.
* Concrete roadmap for follow-up engagements and resource mobilization.