

68<sup>th</sup> plenary Meeting – Cape town South Africa  
7-11 September 2009



The 68<sup>th</sup> plenary Meeting was held during 7-11 September 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa.

The Organization Committee in South Africa selected the theme of the 65<sup>th</sup> plenary Meeting as "The role of cotton in economic development and ensuring food security during a period of global economic crisis ". The theme is designed to provide opportunities for discussion of problems confronting policy makers and business on the role of cotton in the current economic situation and how cotton contributes towards food security.

The Republic of South Africa, also known by other official names, is a country located at the southern tip of the continent of Africa. The South African coast stretches 2.798 kilometers (1.739 miles) and borders both the Atlantic and Indian oceans. To the north of South Africa lie Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, to the east are Mozambique and Swaziland, while the Kingdom of Lesotho is an independent enclave surrounded by South African territory.

Cotton in South Africa is currently mostly produced under irrigation, mainly in the Limpopo and Northern Cape provinces. The major dry land production areas are in the Limpopo province and in northern Kwazulu-Natal where more than 3.000 small-scale cotton farmers reside.