Global textile summit attracted textile industry leaders to hear expert presentations, discuss current and future issues.

By Jürg Rupp, Executive Editor
6 公斤增长到了 18 公斤，Townsend 表示，虽然并不容易，但他坚信对棉花的需求还会增长。他继续指出，可持续的生产符合生产者的最高利益。在对环境关注不断增强的时代，非常重要的一点就是强调棉花只使用很少的化学制剂。

产能过剩

高芳表示，在中国加工的所有棉花当中，30-40%仍然需要进口，最重要的是，棉花的价格下跌了 20%，棉农实际上赚不了钱。今后，中国将通过补贴来支持棉花产业提高竞争力，最基本的是，让它继续生存。另一方面，播种面积将进一步减少。其它问题还包括纺织行业巨大的产能过剩。总的来说，中国正面临能源、原材料和劳动力价格的不断上涨，这必须面对和小心的规划。

人造纤维也面临新的挑战

不仅是棉花，纤维素纤维和人造纤维也受到越来越多的关注。它们在 ITMF 会议上扮演了重要角色：奥地利纤维集团董事长成会称 Friederich Weninger 提出了一个有趣的论点。他说，消费者受到消费兴趣、政策制定者和大的零售商所驱动，开始就生产加工过程提出问题：你的产业对环境有什么影响？或者，这些产品的生态足迹是怎么样的？当然，作为一家粘胶生产商，他抛出具有煽动性的问题：是否纤维素纤维比人造纤维/天然纤维更具有可持续性？然而，正如上面所提到的，重点是将这一信息传递给消费者，并证

2006 年诺贝尔经济学奖得主哥伦比亚大学的 Edmund Phelps 博士与中国纺织工业协会 (CNTAC) 会长杜钰洲热烈的交谈。• 2006 Nobel Economics Prize winner Dr. Edmund Phelps of Columbia University engaged in a lively discussion with CNTAC President Du Yuzhou.

For the first time in its history, the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) Annual Conference convened in China. The global summit of the textile industry took place in the vibrant city of Shanghai in October 2009. Once more, the ITMF congress proved its importance, bringing together the top leaders of the global textile industry.

The ITMF congress is the highest-ranking international meeting point for networking. Leaders of the global textile machinery and textile industry meet not only to attend an excellent conference, but, even more importantly, to exchange and strengthen contacts among themselves.

Under the general theme, “Structural Adjustments in the World Textile Industry,” experts from around the world mentioned that meeting the demand, improving quality, and sustainability are the main issues for the near future. The theme is based on the current situation of the world textile industry, which is challenged by various difficulties like structural technological adjustments in this traditional industry, the short supply of resources and the increasing consciousness concerning the environment. This report can only reflect a fraction of the information given in the presentations.

Cotton in Focus

As is the tradition, cotton was one of the main subjects to be discussed. ITMF was founded in 1904, at a meeting held in Zurich, Switzerland, on the initiative of the British cotton spinning industry. That’s why it still has a very close relationship with the whole cotton industry. However, ITMF’s activities today cover the entire textile industry including non-wovens and technical textiles. Terry Townsend, executive director of the Washington-based International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), and Gao Fang, secretary general, China Cotton Association, discussed current cotton trends. Since the mid-1980s, cotton consumption has increased from 6 to 18 kilograms per capita. It is not easy, Townsend said, but he is convinced the need for cot-
ton will grow. Sustainable production, he continued, is of utmost interest for producers. In times of heightened environmental consciousness, it is also very important to relay the fact that cotton uses fewer chemicals.

Overcapacity
Gao Fang mentioned that 30 to 40 percent of all cotton processed in China is still imported. On top of that, the price of cotton has dropped by 20 percent, and the farmers virtually don’t make any money. In the near future, China will support its cotton industry with subventions to be competitive, and, basically, to survive. On the other hand, the acreage will be further reduced. Another problem is the huge overcapacity of the textile industry. In general, China is facing increased prices for energy, raw material and labor, which must be faced and elaborated carefully.

Man-Made Fibers Also Face New Challenges
Not only cotton, but also cellulosic and man-made fibers are more and more in the focus of attention, and play an important part in the ITMF event: Friedrich Weninger, member of the Management Board of Austria-based Lenzing Group, made an interesting point. He said that consumers — triggered by consumer interest, policy makers and big retailers — are starting to ask questions about the production processes: What is the impact of your industry on the environment, or what is the ecological footprint of the products? And, of course, as a viscose producer, he raised the provocative question: Are cellulosic fibers more sustainable than man-made and/or natural fibers? However, as already mentioned above, the point is to relay the message to the consumer and to prove the ability to work in a more sustainable way.

No Protectionism, Please
Du Yuzhou, president of the China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC), welcomed the global textile community and said CNTAC was honored to host the 2009 conference.

请停止保护主义
中国纺织工业协会（CNTAC）会长杜钰洲欢迎全球的纺织业者出席本次年会。他表示，CNTAC 很荣幸能够主办 2009 年会。他称赞上海的活力和力量对经济的提升，并表示他坚信目前的经济衰退已经结束了。他说，尽管有全球性的危机以及承诺要一起努力，但各国再次设立起各种壁垒来保护他们自身的经济，对此他感到遗憾。

德国前总理施罗德是主旨发言人之一，他也尖锐地批评了一些国家的保护主义。此外，他也在在可控制的财务系统下的开放市场的拥护者。他说，“银行和保险公司在全球范围内运营，但其行为就像当地企业一样，这是不应该的。”市场的开放将改善第三世界国家的状况，并促进相互之间更好的理解，施罗德表示，只有人民有了以外的选择，与恐怖主义的斗争才会赢。世界贸易组织是一回事，联合国和欧盟也将帮助第三世界解决它们的问题。一些国家，比如印度，应该取消它们过高的关税。

充满问题的未来
另外一位主旨发言人是来自纽约哥伦比亚大学的 McVickar 经济性教授。哥伦比亚大学资本主义和社会中心主任、2006 年诺贝尔经济学奖得主 Edmund Phelps 博士。Phelps 在他与杜钰洲的对话中谈到，在过去 10 年里美国已经失去了它的活力，他很肯定这