



Chain of Custody Standard

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Title

Better Cotton Chain of Custody Standard v.1.0

Standard Effective Date

Approved by the Better Cotton Council on 7 February 2023

Effective as of 1 October 2023 (with a transition period until end of May 2025)

Translation Accuracy

The official language of this document is English. In case of any inconsistency between versions due to translation, please refer to the English version. While translations to other languages will be provided, Better Cotton assumes no liability for errors or misunderstandings due to translation.

Next Review

The Better Cotton Chain of Custody is reviewed at least every five years. The next review is expected in 2028.

Any Questions or Inputs?

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Versions Updated

Responsibility for the Better Cotton Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard is held by Better Cotton. Readers shall use the latest copy of this (and other related documents). Any discrepancies between copies, versions or translations shall be resolved by reference to the definitive version of the requirements maintained on the Better Cotton website at www.bettercotton.org.

Version No	Issue Date	Amendments
CoC Guidelines Version 1.2	1 March 2015	Major review of guidelines
CoC Guidelines Version 1.3	1 May 2018	Revised version to update and clarify content. Key changes include: clarified requirements for Implementing Partners; revised requirements for gins around purchase records, documented procurement processes, and control over middlemen; clarified maximum timelines for entering data into the Better Cotton Platform (BCP, formerly the Better Cotton Tracer); added mandatory transaction reference numbers associated with entries in the BCP; expanded mandatory use of the BCP for all supply chain organisations buying and selling Better Cotton products by 2020; clarified requirements around supply chain monitoring, including remote document requests, non-conformities, and penalties for non-compliance.
CoC Guidelines Version 1.4	22 July 2020	Revised version to provide clarity and completeness of CoC requirements. Key changes include: remove ODFs that are no longer in use; split the criteria into two for clearer understanding; moved requirements that were contained in the supporting guidance to criteria; further elaboration of some criteria to avoid confusion; added a list of definitions; strengthened the use of language for consistency and clarity (e.g. replaced 'Better Cotton products' with 'BCI orders'); changed structure of the document; moved requirements from within the CoC to separate annexes.
Chain of Custody Standard Version 1.0	10 May 2023 (with a transition period until end of May 2025)	<p>Renamed and restructured document. In doing so, the following changes were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of 3 new physical CoC models • Harmonised and expanded management system requirements • Consistent requirements relating to documentation, purchasing, material receipt and sales • Focus on normative requirements for suppliers in the CoC Standard. Implementation and monitoring guidance, BCP platform requirements, RB claims requirements and responsibilities of Better Cotton Programme Partners have been relocated to separate documents

1. Introduction

Better Cotton, a global not-for-profit organisation, is the largest cotton sustainability programme in the world. Our mission is to help cotton communities survive and thrive while protecting and restoring the environment, delivering progressive, measurable change for the better at field level, in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Better Cotton is a joint effort, working together with organisations from farms to suppliers, manufacturers, and brands, to transform cotton production worldwide, building on Better Cotton's status as a sustainable mainstream commodity in order to deepen impact.

The Better Cotton Standard System is a holistic approach to sustainable cotton production and raw material sourcing which covers the three pillars of sustainability: environmental, social and economic. Each element of the system, from the Better Cotton Principles and Criteria (P&Cs) to the monitoring mechanisms which show results and impact, work together to drive the adoption of sustainable practices.

The Better Cotton Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard is the key framework that connects Better Cotton supply (which is produced in accordance with the Better Cotton P&Cs) with demand. The CoC Standard sets out auditable requirements for organisations in the supply chain that are buying or selling physical Better Cotton, or cotton-containing products as Better Cotton Mass Balance orders (as defined in 1.2.1). Manufacturers, suppliers, retailers and brands can claim the use of physical Better Cotton in their products, or support of our field-level programmes through the sourcing of Mass Balance orders, when they adhere to the requirements of the Better Cotton CoC Standard and the Better Cotton Claims Framework.

Over the years, the CoC Standard will continue to evolve in line with good practice. Version 1.0 of the CoC Standard enables the tracing of physical Better Cotton to Country of Origin. In line with Better Cotton's Traceability Programme strategy, we intend for future major iterations of the CoC Standard to facilitate traceability to a more granular level. The pace of change will be informed by uptake of physical Better Cotton and determined in consultation with key stakeholders across the cotton value chain.

1.1 Applicability

The Better Cotton CoC Standard requirements are applicable globally for all supply chain organisations that are buying or selling physical Better Cotton or fulfilling Better Cotton Mass Balance orders. These include (but are not limited to) middlemen and markets for raw seed cotton, ginneries, merchants, lint traders, mills with spinning capabilities, mills or suppliers without spinning capabilities (including fabric mills, dyeing mills, yarn and/or fabric traders, vertical mills), end-product manufacturers, sourcing agents, and retailers and brands with their own manufacturing capabilities. Organisations shall include sub-contracted (outsourced) activities within their verification scope where applicable.

The Better Cotton CoC Standard applies to products containing physical virgin cotton produced in accordance with the Better Cotton Principles and Criteria and equivalent schemes, and cotton containing products sourced as Mass Balance orders. At this time, materials that are produced as by-products of manufacturing processes, and any form of reusable waste (such as combing noils) may not be sold with a physical Better Cotton claim.

Better Cotton reserves the right to reject any application to the CoC programme. Organisations have the option to appeal any decision made because of an assessment or monitoring activity, and complaints received shall be handled as per the Better Cotton Complaints Policy.

Better Cotton recognises that in some exceptional circumstances, a requirement may not be relevant or applicable in a specific context. In addition, Better Cotton Supply Chain Actors may at times be faced with unexpected or structural circumstances which prevent full compliance. To account for these situations, Better Cotton has a derogation process. Better Cotton maintains a list of derogations applicable to the CoC Standard, which are available here: <https://bettercotton.org>.

1.2 CoC Model Definitions

The Better Cotton CoC Standard incorporates four CoC model options: Mass Balance, Controlled Blending, Segregation (Multi-Country), and Segregation (Single Country).

Suppliers, manufacturers, retailers and brands are encouraged to use the CoC models that most suit their business needs and operational context. The CoC Standard is designed to facilitate the use of multiple options at the same verified manufacturing site.

- 1.2.1 Mass Balance** is an accounting system that allows claims to be transferred from one Better Cotton product to another either through physical blending/mixing or administratively via Better Cotton Claim Units (BCCUs). It ensures that the quantity of physical cotton sold as a Mass Balance order with BCCUs cannot exceed the quantity of cotton purchased with BCCUs (accounting for relevant conversion rates) across the supply chain.

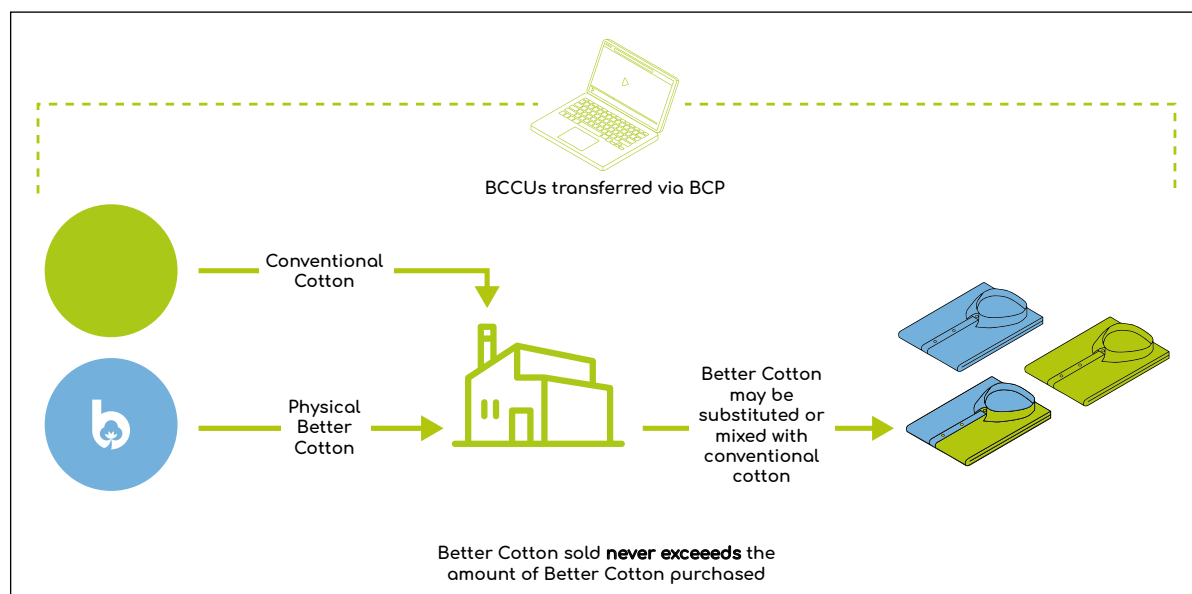


Figure 1 - Representation of the Mass Balance CoC model

- 1.2.2 Controlled Blending** allows the mixing of physical Better Cotton and conventional cotton within a production batch, resulting in a percentage claim about the proportion of physical Better Cotton used within the batch. Conventional cotton may include recycled, regenerative, organic, in-conversion, and any other cotton input that is sourced in accordance with the Better Cotton Platform (BCP) Terms and Conditions.

The model may only be used within a manufacturing or processing activity from spinning mill onwards. It cannot be used for the trading and / or distribution of Better Cotton products or where there is trade without physical possession of products. Those trading or distributing cotton processed under the Controlled Blending CoC model shall maintain segregation and physical identification of the product when in their custody.

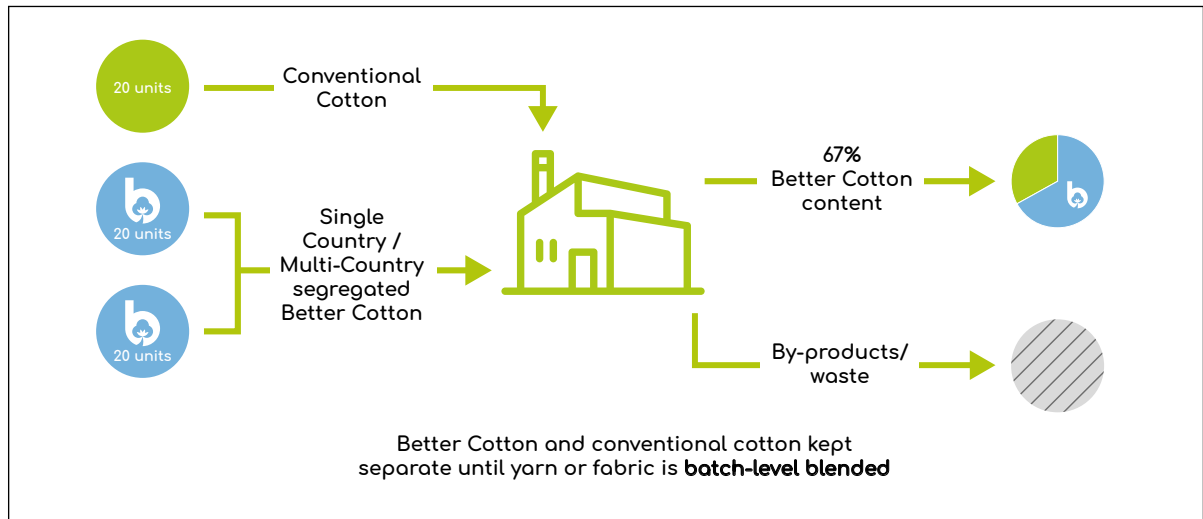


Figure 2 - Representation of the Controlled Blending CoC model

1.2.3 Segregation (Multi-Country) requires separation of physical Better Cotton and conventional cotton from farm level onwards, and does not allow mixing or substitution between physical Better Cotton and conventional cotton throughout the supply chain. The model is applied when the physical Better Cotton originates from multiple (more than one) countries.

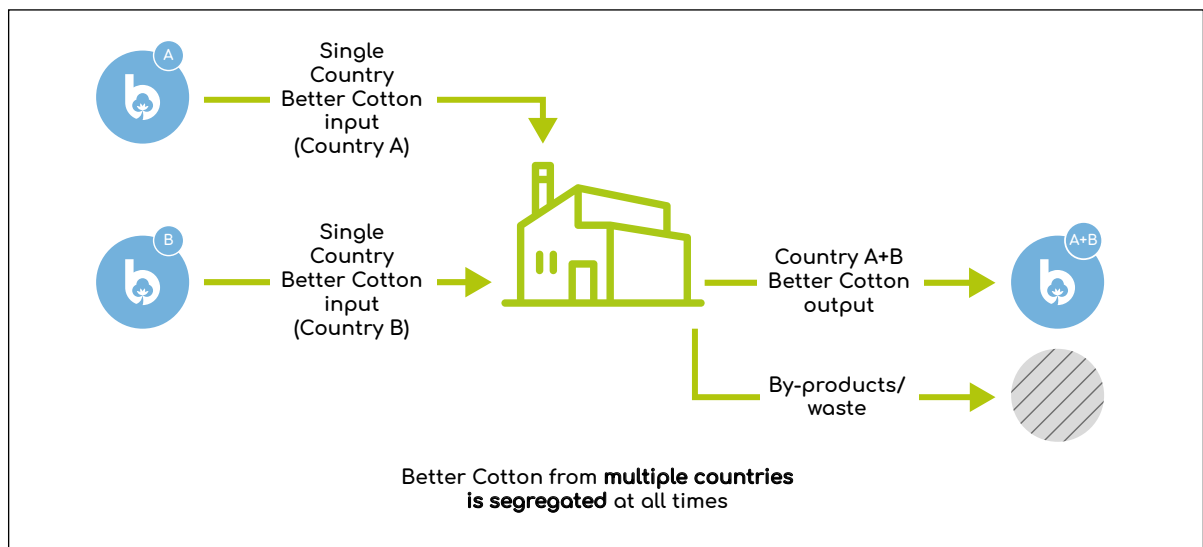


Figure 3 - Representation of the Segregation (Multi-Country) CoC model

1.2.4 Segregation (Single Country) requires separation of physical Better Cotton and conventional cotton from farm level onwards, and does not allow mixing or substitution between physical Better Cotton of different origins and conventional cotton of any origin, throughout the supply chain. All organisations applying this model shall ensure that physical Better Cotton material from a single country is kept physically separate from all other cotton sources, including material from different Better Cotton production countries.

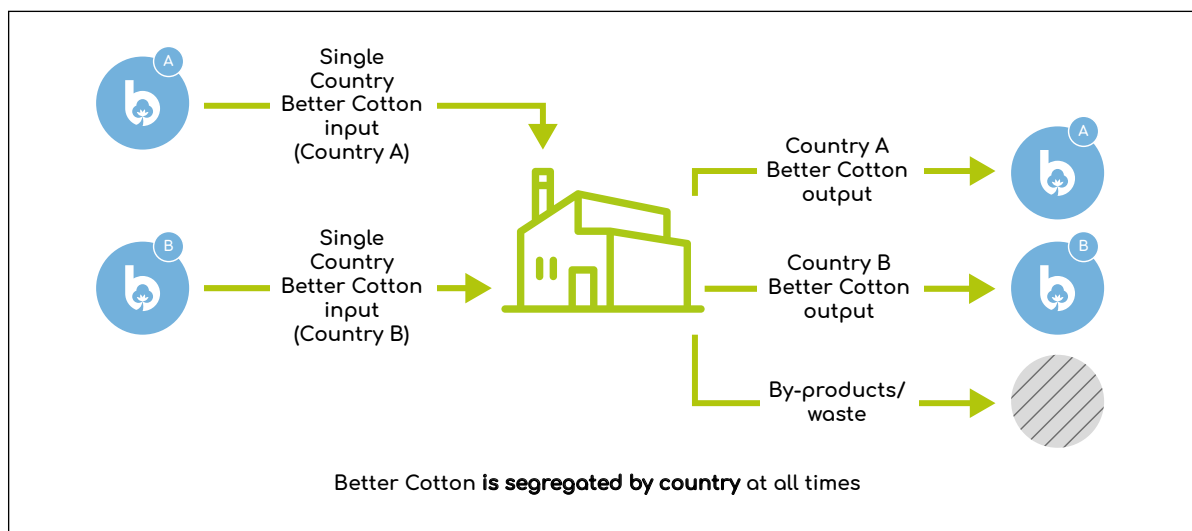


Figure 4 - Representation of the Segregation (Single Country) CoC model

1.3 CoC Model Supply Chain Application

Segregation (Single Country) is applicable at the farm and ginner level of the supply chain. Segregation (Single Country) and Mass Balance are applicable at the raw cotton trader level of the supply chain. For the rest of the supply chain all CoC supply chain models, or a combination of CoC supply chain models are possible, including the existing Mass Balance model. Better Cotton Retailer and Brand members may source all CoC models.

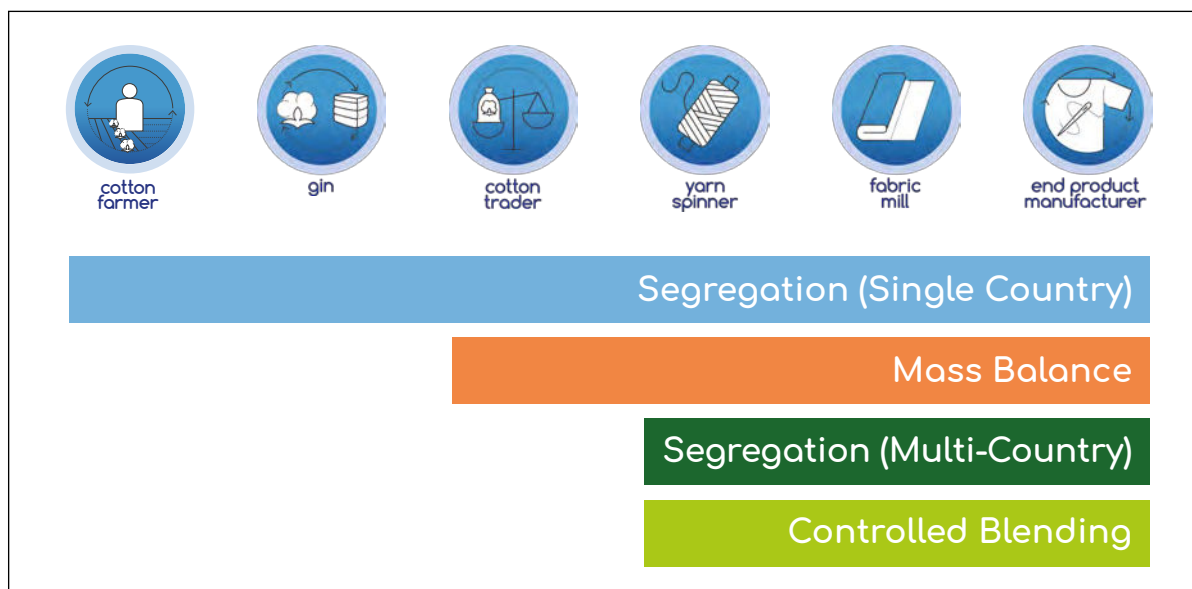


Figure 5 - Application of the different CoC models by supplier type

Please refer to the Better Cotton Claims Framework for details on the claims that can be made when sourcing or selling products associated with Better Cotton Claims.

1.4 Scope of CoC Implementation

- 1.4.1** At each stage of the supply chain the organisation shall implement the applicable CoC supply chain model(s) at site level. The CoC requirements and data will be maintained at each site owned by the organisation, for all applicable CoC models, including Mass Balance.
- 1.4.2** Agents and/or Brokers operating within the supply chain who do not take physical possession of Better Cotton are not required to be verified against relevant requirements under the CoC Standard provided all of the following conditions are met:
- a. Their upstream supplier is verified to the CoC Standard.
 - b. Information is provided to the Agent's and/or Broker's customer and Better Cotton as to the identity of the upstream supplier and the applicable CoC supply chain model.
 - c. Materials are shipped directly from the Agent's and/or Broker's upstream supplier to the Agent's and/or Broker's customer and recorded on the BCP.
 - d. The Agent and/or Broker is not using outsourced contractors for any manufacturing or processing activity.
 - e. In the case of Segregation (Single Country), transaction information regarding the Country of Origin is also provided to the Agent's and/or Broker's customer.
- 1.4.3** Agents and/or Brokers may choose to become verified to the Better Cotton CoC Standard even if they meet all the conditions in 1.4.2.
- 1.4.4** Retailers / Brands are not required to be verified unless they are directly responsible for the management of their own manufacturing activities.
- 1.4.5** An organisation can determine the scope of their verification to exclude processes and products which do not meet the requirements of this CoC Standard. Excluded processes and products shall not be associated with Better Cotton claims.

Better Cotton Platform

The Better Cotton Platform (BCP) is a centralised digital tracking system owned by Better Cotton, and used by manufacturers, suppliers, retailers and brands to document and make claims about their Better Cotton sourcing activities and sourced volumes. In line with Better Cotton's Traceability Programme strategy, the BCP will be upgraded in 2023 to accommodate the new physical CoC models.

For physical Better Cotton, the conversion factor of a given process is automatically calculated based on input and output volumes, and is presented as a read only value. The BCP will check whether the conversion factor is within an expected range, as defined by Better Cotton. For Mass Balance orders, the BCP utilises standardised conversion factors, based on product type and process.

Use of the BCP is mandatory for all Better Cotton transactions, whether physical or Mass Balance. All organisations using the Better Cotton Platform shall be required to sign the Better Cotton Platform (BCP) Terms and Conditions.

Better Cotton Membership

All organisations verified to the Better Cotton CoC Standard may apply to become Better Cotton members. Better Cotton membership is obligatory for:

- Retailers and brands that want to purchase end-products with a Better Cotton claim
- Suppliers sourcing bales of ginned lint (cotton traders and manufacturers with spinning capabilities).

Verified organisations that are not members are considered non-member BCP Suppliers.

More information on Better Cotton membership can be found here: <https://bettercotton.org/membership/>.

References

The following documents form a suite of tools to support organisations in implementing the Better Cotton CoC. These include:

- Better Cotton Chain of Custody Standard V1.0
- Better Cotton Ginner Agreement (for ginner only)
- Better Cotton Platform User Manuals
- Better Cotton Monitoring and Assessment Procedure V1.0
- Better Cotton Claims Framework
- Better Cotton Member Code of Practice (applicable to Better Cotton Members only)
- Better Cotton BCP Terms and Conditions
- Better Cotton CoC Terminology and Definitions

Additional guidance and FAQs are available on the Better Cotton website.

Verbal forms for the expression of provisions (Adapted from ISO/IEC Directives Part 2: *“Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards”*):

- “shall” indicates requirements strictly to be followed to conform to the requirements.
- “should” indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others, or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required.
- “may” indicates a course of action permissible within the limits of the document.
- “can” is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical or causal.

2. Management System Requirements

2.1 General Requirements

- 2.1.1** The organisation's top management shall define and document its commitment to implement and maintain the applicable chain of custody requirements of this CoC Standard, by agreeing to the Better Cotton BCP Terms and Conditions.
- 2.1.2** The organisation shall implement and maintain a documented management system that ensures its continuous conformity to all applicable requirements of this CoC Standard. The management system shall be applicable to the scale and complexity of the organisation's processes, including outsourced activities where appropriate.
- 2.1.3** The organisation shall maintain the infrastructure and technical resources needed for the effective implementation and maintenance of the applicable requirements of this Standard.

2.2 Responsibilities and Authorities

- 2.2.1** The organisation shall appoint a management representative who has overall responsibility and authority for the organisation's compliance with all applicable requirements of this Standard.
- 2.2.2** The organisation shall identify and define the key personnel who are responsible for the implementation and management of each critical control point within the organisation's activities.
- 2.2.3** The organisation shall communicate any changes in the management representative, or any other significant changes to Better Cotton by email within 15 calendar days of the change occurring.

2.3 Training

- 2.3.1** The organisation shall implement a training plan, subject to annual review and supported by training records, which shall ensure that all relevant personnel are trained and competent in the applicable requirements of this Standard.
- 2.3.2** All staff responsible for entering data on the BCP shall complete BCP training provided by Better Cotton or approved third party providers.

2.4 Record Keeping

- 2.4.1** The organisation shall maintain accurate, complete, up-to-date, and accessible records covering all aspects of this Standard. The records shall be applicable to the scope of the organisation's verification. Records shall include but are not limited to:
 - a. Purchase orders
 - b. Supplier delivery notes, certificates of origin and invoices
 - c. Raw material stock records
 - d. Production records

- e. Finished goods stock records
- f. Sales and distribution records
- g. Stock reconciliation records

2.4.2 The organisation shall maintain all applicable records for a minimum of two (2) years.

2.5 Complaints

2.5.1 The organisation shall establish and maintain a procedure for the handling and resolution of complaints relating to the organisation's implementation of the Better Cotton CoC Standard.

2.6 Control of Non-Conforming Products

2.6.1 The organisation shall ensure that a mechanism is in place for handling non-conforming products to ensure they are not sold onward with a Better Cotton claim until their status can be verified. This includes any transfers of BCCUs, and any cotton/ cotton-containing products bought or sold as physical Better Cotton, which cannot be verified as legitimate.

2.7 Outsourcing

The organisation may use sub-contractors for the processing of Better Cotton products. Sub-contractors may or may not be Better Cotton verified.

2.7.1 Where allowed, ginners and mills with spinning capabilities shall notify Better Cotton and provide details of any outsourced primary activities (related to ginning and spinning) before commencing the activity for the first time.

2.7.2 Throughout all stages of outsourcing the organisation shall maintain legal ownership of the goods.

2.7.3 The organisation shall provide sufficient information and training to the sub-contractor to ensure that no uncontrolled mixing of Better Cotton and conventional cotton takes place.

2.7.4 The organisation shall maintain an up-to-date list of all sub-contractors, which includes

- a. Name, address, and contact details of each sub-contractor
- b. Outsourced activity being performed
- c. Frequency of the outsourced activity being performed

2.7.5 The organisation shall establish a signed agreement with each sub-contractor, defining the scope of the outsourced activity, and specifying that the contractor shall:

- a. Commit to following all applicable verification requirements covered by scope of the agreement
- b. Maintain accurate records of all inputs and outputs of Better Cotton product covered by the scope of the agreement
- c. Not further outsource the activity covered by the scope of the agreement
- d. Agree to allow full access to their operations, to enable both 2nd and 3rd party audits of the activity within the CoC Standard to take place, if appropriate

2.7.6 The organisation shall maintain sole responsibility for entering all purchase and sales transactions on the Better Cotton Platform.

2.7.7 Sub-contractors shall not be allowed access to the BCP.

2.8 Self-Assessment

2.8.1 The organisation shall conduct an annual self-assessment using a tool provided by Better Cotton, covering all activities within the scope of verification, including outsourced activities if applicable. The self-assessment shall be shared with Better Cotton on completion.

2.8.2 The results of the self-assessment will be subject to the organisation's management review.

2.9 Management Review

2.9.1 The organisation shall conduct management reviews annually. At a minimum, the review shall consider the following aspects:

- a. Follow up actions from previous management review meetings
- b. Result of the self-assessment, internal investigations, and external assessments covering the applicable requirements of this standard
- c. Complaints / stakeholder feedback relating to the implementation of the CoC Standard, and the outcomes of any stakeholder complaints
- d. Status of preventative and corrective actions relating to the implementation of the CoC Standard
- e. Changes that could affect the management system
- f. Recommendations for how the management system and related processes can be improved
- g. Review of resource requirements needed for effective management and control of management system and related processes

3. Purchasing, Material Receipt, Storage and Production

3.1 Purchasing

3.1.1 The organisation shall maintain up-to-date information about all suppliers that supply products included in the scope of verification, including:

- a. The name and contact details of each supplier
- b. Product(s) supplied
- c. Applicable CoC supply chain model/s

3.1.2 For ginner's purchasing Better Cotton from a market or middleman, the ginner shall in addition:

- a. Maintain an up-to-date list of the names and contact information for all markets or middlemen from which Better Cotton is purchased.
- b. Ensure that all middlemen have systems in place to keep Better Cotton segregated from conventional cotton during purchase, handling, storage, transport between farm to gin and can trace Better Cotton back to licensed farmers through objective documentation.
- c. Obtain records from each middleman of their relevant purchases from licensed Better Cotton Farmers, including the farmer's name and/or code, date of purchase, and volume.

3.2 Material Receipt

3.2.1 For all purchases of physical Better Cotton or Mass Balance orders the organisation shall receive from the supplier a document, or a range of documents that provide the following information:

- a. Customer identification
- b. The organisation's name as the supplier of the material
- c. Product description or specification including technical parameters
- d. Quantity of product(s)
- e. Date of delivery / sale
- f. Sales invoices and contracts
- g. Transport/ shipping documents
- h. The applicable CoC supply chain model (Mass Balance, Controlled Blending, Segregation (Multi-Country), Segregation (Single Country))

3.2.2 The organisation shall maintain up-to-date records related to the purchase of physical Better Cotton and Mass Balance orders on the BCP platform.

3.2.3 Organisations operating as ginnerers shall maintain the following specific documents and records related to the purchase, handling, and sale of Better Cotton (where applicable):

- a. Supplier list
- b. Purchase slips, purchase records, or farmer pay slips
- c. Gate entry pass/slip
- d. Weighbridge slip (including seller information, date, time, and weight)
- e. Procurement or arrival register
- f. Heap registers
- g. Bale register/ pressing register
- h. Processing records/ confirmation of ginner outturn ratio
- i. Copy of outsourcing arrangement and subcontractor declarations (where applicable)
- j. Country of Origin (where applicable)

3.2.4 Organisations that are operating as ginnerers shall provide receipts to farmers where Better Cotton is purchased directly from licensed Better Cotton Farmers. Receipts shall include buyer/ seller name, AAV code (where applicable) and/or farmer's code, village, date, and quantity.

3.3 Product Storage and Production

3.3.1 Organisations who operate either Segregation (Single and Multi-Country) and / or Controlled Blending supply chain models shall ensure that the identification of material supplied and sold as physical Better Cotton is maintained during storage and all stages of production and handling. The organisation shall implement one or more of the following segregation methods:

- a. Physical separation of materials
- b. Temporal separation of materials
- c. Physical identification of materials (e.g., labelling)

4. Sales and Goods Out

- 4.1.1** For every sale and delivery of physical Better Cotton or Mass Balance orders, the organisation shall provide the customer with a document, or a range of documents, (for example sales invoices, delivery / shipment documents, outward weigh slip), that includes the following information:
- a. Customer identification
 - b. The organisation's name as the supplier of the material
 - c. Product description or specification including technical parameters
 - d. Quantity of product(s)
 - e. Date of delivery / sale
 - f. Sales invoices and contracts
 - g. Transport/ shipping documents
 - h. The applicable CoC supply chain model (Mass Balance, Controlled Blending, Segregation (Multi-Country), Segregation (Single Country))
- 4.1.2** Organisations shall only make claims about Better Cotton products in line with the Better Cotton Claims Framework.

5. Volume Reconciliation

- 5.1.1** The organisation shall maintain records that quantify volumes of input and output material at site level at all times.
- 5.1.2** It is the organisation's responsibility to ensure that their site(s) are accurately listed in the BCP.
- 5.1.3** The organisation shall prepare aggregate annual volume summary reports of all physical Better Cotton and Mass Balance order inputs and outputs, demonstrating that quantities of output material are compatible with the corresponding volumes of inputs at site level. The summary shall take into account inventory levels, conversion (waste) factors, waste usage where applicable, and the conversion of physical Better Cotton to Mass Balance orders.
- 5.1.4** The organisation shall record actual production input and output volumes of all physical Better Cotton product on the BCP.
- 5.1.5** The organisation shall investigate deviations from expected conversion factor ranges, when requested to do so by Better Cotton.
- 5.1.6** The organisation shall utilise standardised conversion factors, provided by Better Cotton, for Mass Balance orders, in accordance with the current version of the BCP User Manuals.

6. Chain of Custody Supply Chain Models

This section of the Standard offers organisations the option of using different supply chain models to meet customer demand for Better Cotton. It sets out the requirements of four CoC supply chain model options:

- Mass Balance
- Controlled Blending
- Segregation (Multi-Country)
- Segregation (Single Country)

6.1 Converting Product to Different CoC Models

In the case of manufacturing where physical Better Cotton input sourced through different CoC models is mixed, the BCP will automatically assign the appropriate CoC model to the output as follows:

Segregation (Single Country) → Segregation (Multi-Country) – when segregated physical Better Cotton from multiple origins is mixed

Segregation (either Single or Multi-Country) → Controlled Blending – when segregated physical Better Cotton of any origin is mixed with conventional cotton, or with physical Better Cotton produced under the Controlled Blending model

Note: Organisations may convert physical Better Cotton product to Mass Balance BCCUs via the BCP. The conversion of physical Better Cotton product to BCCUs is irreversible and final.

6.2 Mass Balance

- 6.2.1** The organisation shall have procedures in place that control the identification of Mass Balance orders and conventional cotton inputs at material receipt.
- 6.2.2** The organisation shall maintain a Mass Balance account for inputs and outputs based on the following minimum requirements:
- a. Date of supply
 - b. Quantity of Better Cotton Input product
 - c. Quantity of Better Cotton Mass Balance Output product
 - d. Date of sale / delivery
 - e. Information sufficient to link transactions within the Mass Balance account to the corresponding purchase and sales documentation
- 6.2.3** When also sourcing physical Better Cotton, the organisation shall ensure that the Mass Balance is up-to-date and maintained in real time.

- 6.2.4** Organisations operating as raw cotton traders shall not substitute Better Cotton bales and their associated BCCUs with any cotton bales from different countries.

6.3 Controlled Blending

- 6.3.1** The organisation shall have procedures in place that control the identification of physical Better Cotton and conventional cotton inputs at material receipt and raw material storage.
- 6.3.2** The organisation shall have a methodology for calculating the percentage of physical Better Cotton relative to the total volume of cotton within the production batch, which uses the following formula:

$$\text{Better Cotton \%} = \frac{Q_c}{Q_t} \times 100$$

Legend

Better Cotton % = the proportion of Better Cotton, relative to the total volume of cotton within the production batch

Q_c = Quantity of Better Cotton input | Q_t = Total quantity of cotton input (Better Cotton + conventional cotton)

- 6.3.3** Identification and accounting of material shall be maintained at production batch level.
- 6.3.4** The organisation shall maintain records of all production batches of Controlled Blended material, including the following:
- a. Date of production
 - b. Identification of production batch
 - c. Physical Better Cotton input product
 - d. Conventional cotton and non-cotton fibre input products (where applicable)
 - e. Output product, including Country(ies) of Origin of physical Better Cotton
 - f. Quantities and characteristics of inputs and outputs
 - g. Applicable conversion factors
- 6.3.5** The organisation shall ensure that all sales and shipping documentation for the supply of physical Better Cotton produced under the Controlled Blending CoC model includes accurate percentage statement(s) as to the content and origin of physical Better Cotton input.

This may include a percentage claim stating the proportion of physical Better Cotton inputs and different origins. Example: 70% physical Better Cotton (Mozambique, Pakistan), 30% conventional cotton.

Where non-cotton fibre is used as input during the manufacturing / processing activity, the percentage claim may also include this content. Example: 65% physical Better Cotton (India, Brazil), 20% conventional cotton, 15% polyester.

6.4 Segregation (Multi-Country)

- 6.4.1** The organisation shall have procedures in place that control the identification of Segregated inputs at all stages of purchasing, raw material storage, production / processing, shipment, and sales.
- 6.4.2** Identification and accounting of material shall be maintained at production batch level.

6.4.3 The organisation shall maintain records of all production batches of Segregated material, including the following:

- a. Date of production
- b. Identification of production batch
- c. Physical Better Cotton input product, including Countries of Origin
- d. Non-cotton fibre input products (where applicable)
- e. Output product, including Countries of Origin of physical Better Cotton
- f. Quantities and characteristics of inputs and outputs
- g. Applicable conversion factors

6.4.4 The organisation shall ensure that all sales and shipping documentation for the supply of Segregated Better Cotton material includes a statement(s) as to the content and origin of physical Better Cotton input.

Where non-cotton fibre is used as input during the manufacturing / processing activity, a percentage claim may also include this content. Example: 85% physical Better Cotton (India, Brazil), 15% polyester.

6.5 Segregation (Single Country)

6.5.1 The organisation shall have procedures in place that control the identification of Segregated (Single Country) inputs at all stages of purchasing, raw material storage, production / processing, shipment and sales.

6.5.2 Identification of material shall be maintained at batch level, with an exception for ginnerers where segregated seed cotton is stored in heaps.

6.5.3 The organisation shall maintain records of all production batches of Segregated (Single Country) material, including the following:

- a. Date of production
- b. Identification of production batch / heap
- c. Physical Better Cotton Segregation (Single Country) Input product
- d. Non-cotton fibre input products (where applicable)
- e. Output product, including Country of Origin of physical Better Cotton
- f. Quantities and characteristics of inputs and outputs
- g. Applicable conversion factors

6.5.4 Documented information as to the Country of Origin of such material shall be maintained by the organisation and, if requested, shall be made available to customers, to maintain the Segregation (Single Country) status of the material along the supply chain.

6.5.5 The organisation shall ensure that all sales and shipping documentation for the supply of Segregated Better Cotton material includes a statement(s) as to the content and origin of physical Better Cotton input.

Where non-cotton fibre is used as input during the manufacturing / processing activity, a percentage claim may also include this content. Example: 85% physical Better Cotton (India), 15% viscose.



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