Annex 1

Participants for the 13th Session of the Council of IJSG

Members:

Sl.	Name and Address
Council Chairperson	
01.	**Ms. Rita Menon** Secretary Ministry of Textiles Government of India
Bangladesh Delegates	
01	**Mr. Md. Ashraful Moqbul** Secretary Ministry of Textiles and Jute Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
02	**Mr. T.D. Mitra** Chairman Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) Adamjee Court, 115-120 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
03	**Ms. Shameema Sultana** Joint Secretary (Policy) Ministry of Textile & Jute Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
4	**Mr. Md. Kaikobad** Joint Secretary (Research) Ministry of Agriculture Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
5	**Mr. Azimuddin Ahmed Choudhury** Joint Secretary Director (Admin and Fin) Department of Jute
6	**Mr. Khandaker Mokhlesur Rahman** Executive Director Jute Diversification Promotion Centre (JDPC) 145 Monipuripara, Tejgaon Dhaka-1215
7	**Mr. Salauddin Noman Choudhury** Director - Economic Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs

8	**Mr. Faizur Rahman Choudhury** Executive Director Jute Spinners Ltd. House no. 67/A, Road no. 9A (New) Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka -1209
9	**Mr. Kamran T. Rahman** Managing Director Pubali Jute Mills Ltd. Chand Mansion (6th Floor) 66 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka – 1000
10	**Mr. Moqbul Ahmed** Industrial Economist Ministry of Textile & Jute Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
11	**Mr. Md. Monsurul Alam** Deputy Chief Ministry of Textile & Jute Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
12	**Ms. Tania Khan** Senior Assistant Chief Ministry of Textile & Jute Government of Bangladesh Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
Indian Delegates	
01.	**Arti Kanwar** Deputy Jute Commissioner Ministry of Textiles Government of India
EU Delegates	
01.	**Mr. Enzo Barattini** Directorate General Development & Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States

Associate Members

Sl.	Name and Address
01.	**Mr. Rezaul Karim** Chairman- PSCB
01	**Mr. Al-Haj Md. Lokman Hossain** Managing Director Altu Khan Jute Mills Ltd Cell: 01711-544701
02	**Mr. Ramendra Nath Basak** Deputy Managing Director Altu Khan Jute Mills Ltd Cell: 01711-520770
03	**Mr. M. A. Sabur Miah** General Manager(Marketing) Cell: 01730-359638
04.	**Dr. Prabir Ray** Director - IJIRA India.
05.	**Sadruddin Mitha** Filtisac Representative
06.	**Dr. Quamrul Ahsan** Managing Director Sarah Composite Mills Ltd. 416 Road No.30 New DOHS, Mohakhali Dhaka-1206, Bangladesh
07.	**Md. Aminul Quayyum** Executive –Marketing & Research Sarah Composite Mills Ltd. 416 Road No.30 New DOHS, Mohakhali Dhaka-1206, Bangladesh
08.	**Mr. Md. Abu Sayed** Director (RQC), BJMC, Dhaka Phone: 9551213 (O) 9899756 (R)
09.	**Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan** Manager (RQC), BJMC, Dhaka Phone: 9551213 (O) Cell: 01711969730

Observers

Sl.	Country	Name and Address
01.	**Afghanistan**	**Mr. Abudul Fattah Seddiq** 1st Secretary Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan House # CWN (C) 2A, Road # 24, Gulshan Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.
02	**Brazil**	**Debrair Izaiaz Dv Silva** Brazil Embassy "Symphony Building" 4th Floor, Plot # SE (F) 9, Road – 142/ Gulshan Avenue Gulshan -1, Dhaka Bangladesh
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04	**Denmark**	**Samina Sarukh** Senior Program officer Embassy of Denmark House 1, Road 51 Gulshan 2, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
05	**Indonesia**	**Drs. Zet Mirzal Zainuddin** The Ambassador Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia House No. – 14, Road No. – 53 Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh
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07.	**Italy**	**Edmondo Falconi** Embassy of Italy Plot 2/3, Road 74/79 Gulshan - 2, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
08.	**Korea (DPRK)**	**Rikwang Yng** Deputy Chief of the Mission Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) Ro # 18, Ho# 40, Block-A Banani, Dhaka - 1212

09.	**Morocco**	**Mr. Said Kasmi** Second Secretary Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Bangladesh 44 United Nation Road, Baridhara, Dhaka
10.	**Philippines**	**Mery Grace V. Villamayor** Third Secretary Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines House # 17, Road # 7 Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh
11.	**Russia**	**Mr. Anatoly Davydenko** Minister Counsellor of the Russian Embassy Embassy of the Russian Federation House No - NE (J) 9, Road No.-79 Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh
12.	**Sri Lanka**	**A.G. Abeysekara** **Minister-Counselor** High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka House No. 4 A, Road No.113 Gulshan Model Town Dhaka - 1212, Bangladesh
13.	**Palestine**	**Mr. Shaher Mohammad** The Ambassador Embassy of the State of Palestine House-15/A, Road-35, Gulshan 2, Dhaka Dutabash Road, Baridhara Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
14.	**Palestine**	**Mr. Faeq Hamza** Counselor Embassy of the State of Palestine House-15/A, Road-35, Gulshan 2, Dhaka Dutabash Road, Baridhara Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
15	**Vietnam**	**Mr. Pham Ban Binh** Counselor Embassy of Vietnam House – 7, Road –104 Gulshan – 2, Dhaka
16.	**FAO**	**Dr. Sheikh M. Ahaduzzaman** Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) House 37, Road 8, Dhanmondi R/A Dhaka 1205, Bangladesh
17.	**FAO**	**E L Zein MEI Muzamil** **Senior Emergency Coordinator**

18.	**MoTJ**	**Rafia Haideri** Research Officer
19.	**UNIDO**	**Maqbul Ahmed** National Project Coordinator Better Work in Textiles and Garments (BWTG)
20.	**Consultant**	**Mirza Nazmul Huda** Consultant

Annex 2

LIST OF UPDATED DOCUMENTS

C/(XIII)/1	Provisional Agenda and Notes
C/(XIII)/2	Distribution of Votes
C/(XIII)/3	Confirmation of the report of the Twelfth Session of the Council
C/(XIII)/4	Report of the Secretary General on Membership
C/(XIII)/5	Status of Associate Membership of the IJSG
C/(XIII)/6	Consideration of Decisions/Recommendations of the Twelfth Meeting of the Committee on Projects (COP)
C/(XIII)/7	Consideration of Decisions/Recommendations of the 11th meeting of the PSCB
C/(XIII)/8	Discussion on 'Draft ToR for IJSG beyond 2014'
C/(XIII)/9	Staff matters and related issues of the IJSG
C/(XIII)/10	Financial resources of the Special Account
C/(XIII)/11	Status of administrative budget of the IJSG for the year 2011/2012
C/(XIII)/12	Draft internship policy for IJSG
C/(XIII)/13	Signing of MoU with different organizations
C/(XIII)/14	Record of Decisions/Recommendations of the Thirteenth Council Session
C/(XIII)/15	Report of the Thirteenth Council Session

Annex 3

Material for the speech of Secretary (Textiles) at 13th Council Meeting of IJSG

I take this opportunity to welcome the delegates and thank them all for making it convenient to participate in the thirteenth session of the Council of International Jute Study Group at Dhaka. IJSG is about ten years old and it has always tried hard to achieve its mandated objectives as laid down in the terms of reference. The IJSG has given focus to its primary objective of providing an effective framework for international cooperation, consultation and policy development among the members with regard to all relevant aspects of the world jute economy, and to promote the expansion of international trade in jute and jute products by maintaining existing markets and by developing new markets, including the introduction of new jute products and the development of new end-uses, along with addressing the issues of poverty alleviation, employment and development of human resources, particularly women, in the jute sector. IJSG has achieved considerable success in these areas.

I would like to re-iterate the importance of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in promotion of the natural fibres sector. It is an important instrument for achieving growth with equity and inclusiveness. This would also help in attracting more number of associate members as well as member countries in a bigger way. IJSG plays a very important role to address the issues of poverty alleviation, employment and development of human resources, particularly women engaged in the jute sector.

IJSG Projects:

The two very important on-going projects of IJSG which are sponsored by CFC are **"Increased Production Efficiency in Small holder Kenaf Production Systems for Specific Industrial Applications"** and **"Development and Application of Potentially Important Jute Geo-textiles.** The first project involving Bangladesh, Malaysia and China is a four-year project while the second is to be implemented in Bangladesh, India and UK within a five-year time frame. The jute geo-textiles project is of great significance for the expansion of domestic and international markets for jute products especially in European countries.

Further the project on Skill Development of Supervisors and Technologists of Jute Industry targets a crucial area of jute goods production system, which would lead to improvement in both efficiency and quality parameters.

It may be mentioned that non-woven technology is cost-effective as compared to woven technology and large scale adoption of such technology would entail substantial reduction in cost of production. I am pleased to know that IJSG has already taken up a project on Jute Thermoplastic components for Automotive and other continuous Profile Applications.

One of the primary concerns in today's world is the environment issues. Jute as an environment friendly natural fibre can address such concern of the international community. Therefore, IJSG as the only international commodity board in jute sector should shoulder the responsibility of placing

jute sector in its important position of an environment friendly packaging material and host of other house hold and industrial items. Accordingly steps need to be taken to consolidate the marketing potential of jute on this aspect. The exploration of procedures for **Earning Carbon Credit through Jute Cultivation will be a boost for such activities.**

An area of vital importance catered by IJSG is to create and increase awareness of the beneficial effects of the use of jute as an environmentally friendly, renewable and biodegradable natural fibre. The use of mineral-oil based batching oil in the process of manufacturing jute bags used for packaging Cocoa Beans, Coffee Beans, Shelled Nuts etc. has been a matter of concern for the final consumers due to alleged and possible hydro-carbon contamination of such bags. At the initiative of India and Bangladesh, erstwhile IJO formulated an International Standard for testing of jute bags manufactured with hydro carbon free (vegetable) oil instead of mineral based oil. The standard was revised in 2005 by the IJSG and was subsequently implemented by India and Bangladesh which immensely helped in overcoming the concerns of the overseas buyers. Undertaking the present project on **Development of Rapid Test Method for Determination of Un-saponifiable in Food Grade Jute Products** is a continuation of the good and effective work done by IJSG in this respect.

As jute and kenaf are internationally traded agricultural commodity sand IJSG has a mandate to facilitate such trade it will be imperative to give a larger focus to resolve the issues of trade barriers through process of consultation with governments and trade associations of importing countries. For this purpose it is important to up-date and up-grade the Harmonized Code of jute and jute products, which would be accepted globally. I am happy to note that IJSG has already taken some positive steps in this regard.

As an international body, the need for having more members is very important for IJSG. The objectives of IJSG would be fulfilled only when we can bring a larger number of stakeholder nations into the fold of IJSG. However, even after seven to eight years we have not been able to increase the membership of this group despite sincere efforts from IJSG secretariat in the past.

IJSG is an important international centre for information collection and dissemination about various aspects of jute and jute products and I appreciate the new website launched by IJSG which much more user-friendly and informative. In this connection I would also stress upon the need of the periodic updation and circulation of publications like **"Jute Matters"** to all members and associate members regularly.

IJSG can play a very important role in publishing market surveys of potential markets highlighting in particular their specific requirements. For instance, Africa has substantial production of commodities and was a major buyer of jute packaging. IJSG surveys can offer roadmap for regaining old markets and exploring new ones through promotional measures addressing specific market requirements. Similar initiatives in South America could also help regain lost markets. Overall, the objective should be to regain lost markets and create new markets for jute products.

Area(s) of Focus:

Agriculture: The biggest challenge today is to increase availability of raw jute and also to increase availability of higher grade raw jute. In quantitative term by and large production of raw jute in India as well as in Bangladesh has come to saturation / stagnation level of around 100-110 lakh bales and 55-60 lakh bales respectively. The demand of jute fibre has increased over the years and therefore the challenge is to increase the production to at least 120 to 150 lakh bales in India and 75 to 100 lakh bales in Bangladesh to meet the increased demand. Similarly one of the main factors responsible for quality of raw jute is the process of fibre extraction, At present the age old retting process isbeing followed by the farmer for this purpose. The next generation is shying away from jute cultivation because of the physically demanding retting practices. We need to come out with innovative fiber extraction methodology either by way of adopting some of the best practices being followed in other countries for extraction of similar kind of natural fibre such as sisal or develop our own methodology.

Industry: As we all aware that jute industry is still running on 60 years old process technology. Little advancement in form of better process technology has taken place in jute industry as compared to other natural fibres such as cotton. Moreover the bulk of the current production of jute industry is of woven type. Only a handful of composite jute mill have diversified and started production of jute goods made from non-woven technology. Large scale adoption on non-woven technology, which is cost effective as compared to woven technology, is needed. Therefore we need to take projects in partnership with renowned international machine manufacturer in these vital areas of the jute value chain.

IJSG should play vital catalytic role and come out with suitable projects on these areas. We can assure that Governments of the Member countries will extend all support to IJSG for execution of these projects in their respective nations.

Before I conclude, I offer my thanks to the honorable members, distinguished observers and participants for their genuine interest towards the IJSG and natural fibers. I hope that these deliberations will help in charting the future course of actions for the sustained development of the jute sector, bring out and .lay down certain milestones for development and be able to initiate the efforts in this direction.

Annex 4

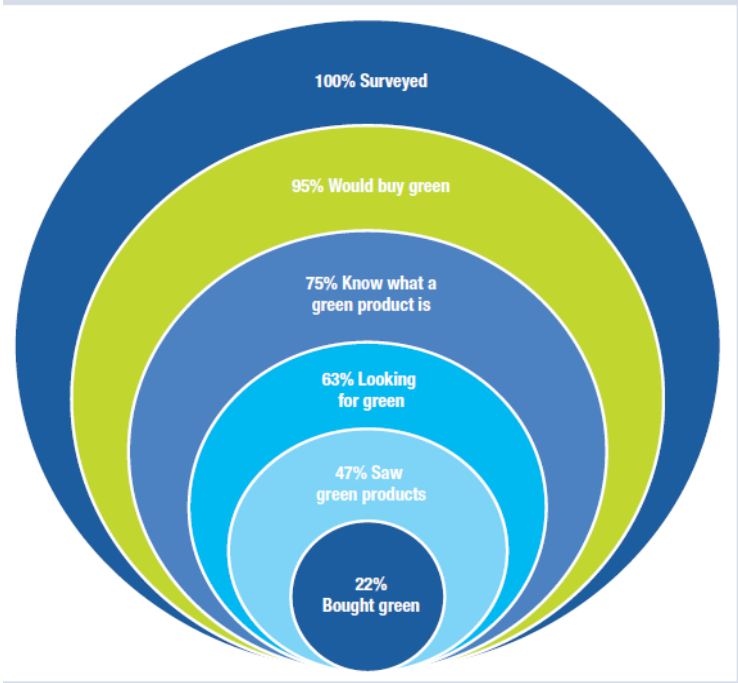
Burning Issues of Jute Sector

- Falling raw jute price and way out (Need for jute commodity exchange/ paper pulp option/MSP/ Role of BJMC & JCI)
- How to regain the export markets in developed world the green challange (Generic promotion/ diversification/ blending with synthetics/
- An economic model for non member countries to go for jute (yarn imports- value added products- employment generation- domestic consumption- export)

Price of Raw Jute in India and Bangladesh (at growers' level) in US$/MT

Year	Bangladesh	India
2006-07	231	296
2007-08	324	294
2008-09	441	484
2009-10	642	622
2010-11	714	711
2011-12	500	528

Green drivers of Market : Latent demand



This figure suggest an unfulfilled, latent demand for green products that could be realized through the right product development, instore communication, and product availability. However, even if consumers did "buy green", what would this mean, and would it be enough to put us on a track to sustainability? Consumer engagement is only one piece of the puzzle, and it needs to move beyond the belief that society can consume its way to sustainability.

A/Deloitte Study, *Finding the green in today's shoppers:* Sustainability trends and new shopper insights, 2009

Some statistics on Jute shopping bags

Annual World demand for shopping bag is 500 billion pieces. In case this demand is to be met by jute bags the estimated calculation of the need for raw jute for different bags are given below:

For low cost light shopping bags

Jute shopping bags of size :4″x 10″ and 14″ x 10″
Average weight :15 g
Useable :4/5 times
Total weight of 500m pcs of such bags :15 x 500,000,000,000 g= 7.5 m tons
Total amount of raw jute required :**8 m tons**
(with negligible wastage in production)

Conventional shopping bags made of CBC:

Cost/piece

1. 3kg capacity bag : 14″x10.4″ (35cmx26cm) USD 0.202
   Average weight : 55.9g
   Total wt. for 500m bags : 55.9x500,000,000,000= 27.95 m tons
   Total amount of raw jute required : **29.65 m tons**
   (with 6% wastage in production)

Cost/piece

2. 5kg capacity bag : 15.6″x12.8″ (39cmx32cm)
   USD 0.236
   Average weight : 73.8g
   Total wt. for 500m bags : 73.8x500,000,000,000= 36.9 m tons
   Total amount of raw jute required: **39.1 m tons**
   (with 6% wastage in production)

Cost/piece

3. **6kg capacity bag*** : 12.2″x10.2″x5.1″
   USD 0.372
   (30.5cmx25.4x12.7cm)
   Average weight : 80.23g
   Total wt. for 500m bags : 80x500,000,000,000= 40 m tons
   Total amount of raw jute required : **42.4 m tons**
   (with 6% wastage in production)

Note: ***Annual raw jute requirement will be*** **about** **7 m tons*****, if one bag is used/ week, which is more than double the current total raw jute production in the world.***

Cost/piece

USD 0.325

4. 10 kg capacity bag : 20″x15.2″ (50cmx38cm)
   Average weight : 93.3g
   Total wt. for 500m bags : 93.3x500,000,000= 46.65 m tons
   Total amount of raw jute required : **49.45 m tons**
   (with 6% wastage in production)

Hand made braided shopping bags

Jute shopping bags(western clients) : 18″x14″x5″ (45cmx34cmx12cm)
Average weight : 175 g
Reusable & durable : Many times
Total weight of 500m pcs of such bags :175 x 500,000,000,000 g= 87.5 m tons
Total amount of raw jute required :**100.62 m tons**

(with 15% wastage in production)

Annex 5

Response by the IJSG Secretariat on the report "Evaluation of the Activities of the IJSG (April 2002-2010)"

Positive Observations about IJSG:

Section/Page	Comment of the External Evaluator	Response from IJSG Secretariat
4.1.2 (Relationship with Other Org.) P. 20	The Group is assisting CFC in developing commodity strategies particularly in the context of Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. IJSG and FAO have agreed and strengthened their collaboration. Both of the Organization signed MoU and agreed to support the effort of the Members to facilitate jute production, consumptions and trade so far.	The Group indeed assists CFC and works closely with FAO, prepared a modified format for seeking information from countries, and participates in joint meetings with FAO. The MOU with FAO is working well.

4.2.3 Intangible benefits P. 25	Various positive impacts of IJSG including **socio economic development in member countries**, **increased use of Jute fibers** in domestic and global market, diversification of jute, small scale entrepreneurship, promotion of gender equity and environmental regeneration.	The outcomes of the projects have actually been quantified and helped the participating countries in mentioned areas. **Till now-** • **15 projects** have been completed; **total cost** of about **USD 5.025 million.** • Artisans crafts persons received **skill development training** - Bangladesh 1750 - India 1700 • **Earning Increased for entrepreneurs per month** - **Bangladeshi** BDT 10,000/= to BDT 35,000/= - **Indian** INR 5,000 to INR 20,000 **Common HS Code -** Export increased **USD 20,900** in 2002-03 to **USD 584,000** in 2008-09. • Export of jute floor coverings increased from **USD 0.2m** in 2002-03 to about **USD 4.4m in 2008-09** **Diversified Products-** • Sales increased - **India**: USD 37266 in 2006 to USD 440,000 in June 2009, - **Bangladesh**: USD 730 in 2006 to USD 141,795 in June 2009. **IJSG does have a role in it.**
4.5 International reference and resource center P. 29	IJSG Library is rich in collection of books and information.	It has been **further enriched** by computerization and uploading the most of the reference material on the IJSG website. Now we are **getting interns from the University of Dhaka;** Library Science Department.

4.6
Effectiveness of website
P. 29
	Provides info. About global jute scenario
	
	More visitor have accessed the website
		IJSG website is now a major global trade centre getting large number of queries from buyers and passing it on to stakeholders and uploading on website.
		• **The visitors Hit count**
		- **Old Website-**
		  - The average number of visitors from May 24, 2007 to May 17, 2011 was 1,325 per month.
		- **Modified website**
		  - Total hit since May 17, 2011 to October 28, 2011 (6 Months) is 13,490
		  - The average monthly visitor's number is 2248
		  - Monthly **increase of 70%** in hits than that of the previous website hits.

5 Conclusion P. 35	The Secretariat performed well given its limited resources and in this sense the evaluation findings are generally positive. The fact has been acknowledged by the EU's consultant as '**Today only one ICB - the IJSG is explicitly mentioning poverty alleviation as one of its objectives'.** As far as size and economy of the Secretariat is concerned the IDC has noted **---'The IJSG has the smallest budget of less than E 0.4 million (in 2006).'**	In comparison to other ICBs, the output of limited number of staff is much higher in all spheres.
	Motivated the participation of the private sector (PSCB). On the issue of the Private Sectors participation, the Consultants (IDC-2006) remark **"ICB should be the vehicle for the Private Sector Representatives to talk to the Government and the vice versa."**	As of October 30, 2011 total number of Associate Members is 158 representing 20 different countries.

5 Conclusion P. 35	IJSG addressed the issues of poverty alleviation.	Only ICB with agenda of Poverty alleviation and the issue is perfectly addressed by the activities of IJSG
	IJSG raised awareness of beneficial aspects of use of jute in the international market.	IJSG has been promoting jute and allied fibres and raising awareness in this regards through various measures such events organizing events, celebrating
5 Conclusion P. 35	With its limited work force it carries more task than the erstwhile IJO.	This fact has been noted by EU consultant as well.
	The Group has taken initiative to take up projects on the basis of guideline provided by Road Map of Jute prepared in 2006 crucial for the survival of jute sector.	Group has also taken into account the recent trends since 2005, revised the Road Map in **Jute Matters** and taken a step ahead.

Weaknesses of IJSG:

Section/Page	Comment of the External Evaluator	Response from IJSG Secretariat
3.3 Functions P. 16	It may be commented that the mentioned six functions of IJSG are even less than the seven objectives of IJSG.	It is a wrong conclusion by the consultant merely in counting terms. **The functions broadly include all the objectives** and the IJSG secretariat is fulfilling both the responsibilities of the 'objectives' and 'functions' put together.
3.3 Functions P. 16	The list of functions does not include organizing workshop, seminar, fairs and exhibitions that are being done by IJSG on a regular basis.	Even if it does not include it IJSG has been doing at least 3 to 4 seminars/workshops/conferences every year which is well appreciated by Member countries.
3.3 Functions P. 17	Revision of work program has not been made as decided by the Eighth Council held in May 2007.	Revision of work programs is already under implementation based on the feedback from stakeholders. It has just not been formally drafted.
3.3 Functions P. 18	No such periodic evaluation was done for more than eight years after the inception of the Group.	Yes, such an external evaluation could have been done in the past but IJSG has been doing its internal evaluation every year and learning its lessons honestly.
4.2.1 Progress of projects P. 24	Some stakeholders commented that most of the projects undertaken have no cost-benefit to jute goods manufactured in non member countries. **MoTJ:** **(Ongoing projects for overall development of Jute sector has not been found to be fully achieved)**	Not many projects have been taken up in non member countries as a policy matter otherwise the benefits of membership are diluted. However, projects with China and Malaysia are under implementation in the larger interest of jute sector. Raw jute exports from Bangladesh to China, Turkey has substantially increased.

4.3.1 Outcome of activities P. 27	There has not been any significant development on promotion of jute packaging products that is the mainstay of the industry.	It is a wrong conclusion. Indian Jute consumption is still dominated by packaging products while new Act in Bangladesh will provide boost to packaging sector also. IJSG did pass a resolution and requested GOB to pass such an Act. IJSG project on **"Implementation of IJO Standard 98/01 for Food Grade Jute Bags"** increased the demand for food grade jute packaging substantially by removing doubts in the minds of the buyers. The challenge is now to diversify in non packaging sector with more value addition. Consultant's inference is factually and strategically incorrect.
4.4 Role and activities of PSCB; P.28	PSCB Meets after long intervals (Yearly) PSCB Meeting Agenda – academic and Administrative in nature	PSCB meets are now being organized twice a year. The first meeting was held in China in May, 2011 while the second is being held in Turkey in December 2011. The meetings are now being focused on trade promotion
4.9 Increasing Membership	Despite of the strong role played by the IJSG Secretariat, no new member has joined as full member. In August 2007, a follow up meeting was held with the representatives of 15 countries but no real outcome was seen.	This is true. IJSG started its journey from closure of IJO when most of the countries had already left. Reorganization and getting new members is a tedious task. Morocco has removed the jinx and more Countries are going to join in near future. We just have to believe in it.
4.10 Survey of stakeholders P. 32	Due to resource constraint no survey was done of its stakeholders in the existing activities.	Resource constraint is an important factor but with limited resources constant interaction with stakeholders are on.

4.11 Functioning of Secretariat P. 33 & P. 42	Vacancy of the post of Operation Manager. Limited personnel strength -Work load is heavy. **MoTJ:** **(Provision of adequate technical manpower needs to be created.)**	Yes, presence of Operation Manager and more staff could have helped but as mentioned earlier, much more output has been achieved even with a limited staff.
5 Conclusion P.35	IJSG's present membership status gives a flavor of regional organization as opposed to international organization.	IJSG is the legal successor of IJO which could not hold several members together. However, IJSG has Members from Europe and Asia thus no way it gives a flavor of regional organization. Rebuilding things from scratch is a time taking process. Apart from Asia and Europe, beginning has been made in Africa and efforts are on with Latin America (Brazil). Uncertainty about the future of the organization and limited mandate has been a major constraint.
5.1 Indicators for measuring achievements **P 37 and P 40**	**(a)** IJSG reports and documents do not show performance measure of achievements vis-à-vis set/planned targets **(b)** No measure to achievements of broader issues such as poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability, etc. **MoTJ:** **(The Ministry also agrees with the comments of the consultant that IJSG documents do not show achievements, results against targets / goals and as such proper assessment of the performance of the Group could not be made.)**	**(a)** IJSG does have built in targets under various projects and the activities and 100% achievement has been done in completed projects and a statement has been provided to all the participating countries. **(b)** Poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability are vast issues concerning various measures adopted by the countries as a whole. Intervention of IJSG projects not even fraction of it in the overall context. The impact is visible in case of poverty alleviation as reflected in the lives of 'direct project beneficiaries' which has been ascertained. The observation is abstract.

5.2 Prevalent Challenges P. 40	No jute sector investment could be developed to bring on the required investment in the form of support from EU, IFC, EDF or others after the Road Map prepared in 2006.	Road Map has been a broad policy guideline. Investment has taken place in the jute sector as seen in the form of new jute mills being set up in Bangladesh and India (Andhra Pradesh), revival of public sector jute mills in India and Bangladesh and also new mills in Brazil. Named International organizations do not invest in countries like private sector.
5.5 Strengthening IJSG P. 42	Lack of political support and Lack of interest of producing countries Lack of PPP	Political support is now being provided both by the host Government and the GOI. PPP is a policy matter in setting up industries by the national Governments and not by the IJSG

Suggestions/Recommendations:

Section/Page	Comment of the External Evaluator	Response from IJSG Secretariat
3.3 Functions P. 16	In Implementing the mentioned functions of IJSG, it should take into account the activities of other relevant organization including FAO.	IJSG does interact closely with various international organizations like UNCTAD, FAO, CFC, CIRDAP, NCDPD, SAC; in fact we have forged MOUs with many of them
4.4 Role and activities of PSCB	Future projects and activities of IJSG need to involve more participation from non-member countries and from PSCB members.	Non member countries have already been involved in projects. China, Malaysia, Nepal are such beneficiary countries which IJSG treats as prospective member countries
4.4 Role and activities of PSCB	There need to have a separate body within PSCB to look after the interest of various jute industry sectors – such as grower, technologies, machinery, manufacturers, traders etc.	IJSG agrees with the suggestion and seeks the Council's approval to constitute such bodies without any change in TOR and any additional expenditure.
4.6 Effectiveness of website; **P.29**	Data needs more frequent updating. Non members should pay for information.	The trade related data on price and other information is now being updated on daily basis. More cooperation of member country organizations is solicited
4.9 Increasing Membership	The foreign missions of prospective member countries could lobby their respective governments for membership of IJSG. **MoTJ:** BD-(The respective Member governments have not been found to play their role effectively to steer IJSG to keep on rolling its activities and take necessary actions for extension of the tenure of the group)	This was not very effective in the past but constant requests and persuasions of IJSG have brought the change. Govt. of BD has sent advice to all the prospective member country missions to pursue membership issue. A request has been made for similar gesture from GOI. Individual GOI missions are however, helping when approached by IJSG.
4.11 Functioning of Secretariat P. 34	Provision to apply for the position of Secretary General from both producer and consumer countries and also from the private sector.	The provision is already there. Member countries on their own choice have been recommending Govt. officials which have its own merit. The suggestion is debatable.
4.11 Functioning of Secretariat P. 34	Representative of IJSG based in Kolkata could have made the communication easier for both the producing countries. IJSG could also consider a position of	GOI has been kind enough to approve this proposal. Formal communication is awaited

	Indian Liaison Officer.	
5. Conclusion; P.36	Projects undertaken by IJSG would require more time than the current tenure of IJSG	Projects are mostly implemented by member country organizations and are approved every year. Both can never remain correlated.
6.1 New possibilities P. 44	More effective secretariat.	IJSG does feel the shortage of staff but would like to add more numbers with increased mandate beyond 2014 before any increase. High output with limited numbers has already been acknowledged.
	New Business model to attract new Member Countries.	Non producing countries going for diversified jute goods, especially the shopping bags has already been developed for employment generation and is attracting attention.
	Bring service oriented approach.	Increased hits on the IJSG websites is the best example of success in this direction
	Focus on Burning Issues such as development of improved seed variety, farming technique etc.	IJSG focus on burning issues has already led it to submit an HYV seed project with CFC. Other important issues like diversification, modernization are already under implementation/ proposal.
	Explore contribution options from private sectors; increased fee from associate members.	Private sector is already contributing in projects; more will be welcome Increasing associate member fee can be thought of.
	Seek fund for commercialization (R&D projects).	Suggestion has already been made by IJSG to CFC.
	Explore other sources of funding.	Other funding options from UNDP, US Aid, UK Aid etc are under exploration
	Engage with non member countries in various aspects.	Non member countries are being engaged in the form of workshops, conferences etc.
	BD- (IJSG should take initiative for arranging funds for the development of	Desirable but a tall order normally within the purview of national

	human resources, specifically the scientific personnel of the Member state so that the research capability can be increased.)	Governments. The international R&D seminar is attempting to forge relations between different institutes from various countries to cooperate and go for joint projects
6.2 Recommended Option P. 46	With its continued and enhanced performance and impressive achievements, the ToR of IJSG can be renegotiated beyond 2014 (in the long run) with wider scopes and new nomenclature. **MoTJ:** **(Recommendations are very rational but concrete suggestion should have been made to go ahead for effective remedial measures.)**	IJSG secretariat agrees that the need for an intergovernmental organization like IJSG is now much more than it was in 2001 when IJSG was formed. IJSG is on the right track now on increasing its utility. The concrete measures are known to it and also to the member countries. Consultant cannot know and help beyond a point

Annex 6

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

OF THE INTERNATIONAL JUTE STUDY GROUP (IJSG)

Decision I (XIII)

(Agenda item A.3.a)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the limited number of membership and recalling the decisions taken at its previous Sessions;

Decides:

not to elect a Credentials Committee but to entrust the responsibility to the Secretary General of the IJSG to check the appropriate documents and report back to the Council during the Session.

Decision II (XIII)

(Agenda item A.4)

Decides:

to accept the representatives of Morocco, China, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Brazil, Denmark, Indonesia, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, and FAO as **Observers** according to paragraph 14(c) of the Agreement Establishing the Terms of Reference of the IJSG.

Decision III (XIII)

(Agenda item A.5)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/2; Distribution of Votes** to the Administrative Budget for 2011/2012; which was **already approved** by the Council in its Twelfth Session **Decision IV (XII)** (Agenda item A.6)

Decides:

to continue with the current vote distrubution made in the Twelfth Session to the Administrative Budget of IJSG for the year 2011/2012.

Decision IV (XIII)

(Agenda item A.6)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/3;** presenting the report of the Twelfth Session of the Council

Decides:

to approve the report of the Twelfth Session of the Council.

Decision V (XIII)

(Agenda item B.1)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/4** relating to the **"Report of the Secretary General on Membership"** on initiatives for increasing membership of the IJSG; The Council highly appreciates the role of the IJSG Secretariat under the leadership of the present Secretary General in ensuring the formal membership of Morocco to the IJSG. The Council also appreciating the efforts of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Govt. of Bangladesh for their assistance in the membership drive of IJSG

Noting the interest shown by the Syrian Embassy in India in membership of IJSG;

Noting the probability of Myanmar joining IJSG in near future;

Noting the progress made on other potential member countries such as China, Brazil, Nepal, Malaysia;

Noting the comments of the Sri Lankan delegate regarding their Government's strong consideration for joining IJSG as a full member in near future;

Considering that efforts to persuade potential member countries to become members of the IJSG need to be continued and intensified;

Decides:

(a) to continue the efforts for getting more members;
(b) to reiterate its appeal to non-member countries issued at the Third Session of the Council of the IJSG;
(c) to request the Secretariat to continue its efforts as per the decisions taken by the Council at its previous Sessions; and

(d) to request all existing members to make collective efforts and also to utilise their appropriate diplomatic channels and help IJSG Secretariat to persuade the potential member countries to become members.

Decision VI (XIII)

(Agenda item B.2)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/5** concerning the **"Status of Associate Membership of the IJSG";**

Noting the invigorating initiative taken by the Secretariat in increasing the number of the Associate Members of the IJSG;

Noting *further* that the Secretary General has provisionally accepted the Associate membership of **thirteen** Associations/Entities provisionally as authorised by the Council;

Decides:

(a) to approve the associate membership of the Thirteen Associations/Entities, provisionally accepted by the Secretary General, as given in the List-B of the **document C/(XIII)/5**;
(b) to request the Secretariat and the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) to continue their efforts for increasing the associate membership of the IJSG.

Decision VII (XIII)

(Agenda item C.6)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/6** concerning the **"Confirmation of Decisions/Recommendations of the Twelfth Meeting of the COP";**

Considering the comments of the delegates;

Decides:

to approve the decisions/recommendations of the Twelfth Meeting of the COP as contained in the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/6.**

Decision VIII (XIII)

(Agenda item C.7)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/7** relating to the **"Eleventh Meeting of the PSCB"**;

Noting also the comments of the delegates;

Decides:

to approve the decisions/recommendations of the **Eleventh** Meeting of the PSCB as contained in the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/7.**

Decision IX (XIII)

(Agenda item C.8.a)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the presentation of the IJSG Secretariat on the evaluation report "Evaluation of the activities of IJSG";

Noting that no comment has been made formally by the Member Countries except Bangladesh;

Noting that comments from the Govt. of India will be sent from Ministry of Textiles, India, shortly;

Considering the comments of Govt. of Bangladesh (Ministry of Textiles and Jute);

Considering the positive progress of IJSG and considering further suggestion made for the need for further improvements in the activities of the group;

Considering the comments by the Head of European Union delegation

Considering the comments of the other delegates

Decides:

(a) to accept the External Evaluation report *'in principle'.*
(b) to instruct the IJSG Secretariat to follow and implement the good suggestions made in the report.

(c) to circulate the Evaluation report along with the views of IJSG Secretariat to all the stakeholders (Members, Associate Members and others) for their views and discuss it in the next Council meeting.

Decision X (XIII)

(Agenda item D. 1.a)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/8** entitled **"Discussion on 'Draft ' of the TOR of the IJSG"**;

Noting also the comments and views of the delegates;

Noting the comments of the Chairperson

Decides:

a) to advise the Secretary General to participate in the FAO sponsored 'Multi stakeholders Consultation' and the 'Joint Meeting' of the ***'The Inter Governmental Group on Hard Fibres and the Inter Governmental Group in Jute and Allied Fibres'*** at Salvador, Brazil and take into accounts the deliberations with the other natural fibre stakeholders in the draft ToR for any probable renegotiations and also communicate the outcome of the deliberations to the Member countries,
b) to instruct the IJSG Secretariat to modify the draft Terms of References for probable renegotiations after incorporating the relevant suggestions in this Council meeting and also the feedback from the deliberations in FAO meeting in Salvador, Brazil (November 15-18, 2011)
c) to again circulate the revised draft to member countries and also to other stakeholders and make their comments to be discussed in the next Council meeting and meanwhile
d) to continue working for preparing grounds for effective renegotiation with UNCTAD.

Decision XI(XIII)

(Agenda item D.2.a)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/9** entitled **"Staff Matters and Related Issues of the IJSG"**;

Noting also the comments and views of the delegates;

The Council appreciates the role of the present Secretary General and his team in membership drive and also making IJSG a much more vibrant organization.

Noting further that, the extension matter is a routine business to restore his tenure to normal 3 years in the light of extension of the tenure of the IJSG up to 2014, approved in the last Council meeting.

Decides:

(a) to approve the proposal of the Secretariat to formally approve a normal three year tenure of the Secretary General Mr. Bhupendra Singh from his date of joining at IJSG, October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2013.

Decision XII(XIII)

(Agenda item D.2.b)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/9** entitled **"Staff Matters and Related Issues of the IJSG"**;

Noting the comments of the Chairperson that, the Secretary General is not entitled for making extension of any official staff of IJSG beyond retirement age

Noting also the comments and agreement of the other Members on the issue,

Decides:

(a) to accord post facto approval for the extension of Finance Assistant Mr. Rozario from 26 September to 31 December 2011.
(b) to instruct the IJSG Secretariat to complete the recruitment process for the position of Finance Assistant as per the IJSG staff rules.

Decision XIII (XIII)

(Agenda item D.4)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/10** entitled **"Financial Resources of the Special Account";**

Noting the comments of the Members,

Decides:

(a) The jute based composite project submitted by IJIRA, Kolkata, may be referred to National Jute Board, India, for funding consideration.

Decision XIX (XIII)

(Agenda item D.5)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/11** relating to the **"Status of the Administrative Budget of the IJSG for 2011/2012"**;

Decides

(a) to take note of the approved budget

Decision XV (XIII)

(Agenda item E.1)

Noting also the comments and views of the delegates; the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/12** relating to the **"Draft internship policy for IJSG"**

Noting the need for more clarifications and lack of comprehensive details in the draft internship policy;

Noting the suggestions by the Members that the rate of the stipend being paid and suggested is too meagre especially for foreign interns;

Noting the views of the Members that the internship policy should not place an excessive financial burden and needs to limit the maximum numbers at a time;

Decides:

(a) to instruct the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive proposal and seek the approval of the Members through circulation;
(b) To give post facto approval to the extension of the internship in the proposed case and instruct the Secretary General not to further continue the tenure of the existing interns beyond the prescribed limit in the existing policy.

Decision XVI (XIII)

(Agenda item E.2 a.b.c)

The Council of the IJSG:

Noting the contents of the Secretariat **document C/(XIII)/13** relating to **"Signing of MOU with different organizations"**

Noting the views of Members and delegates,

Noting the very successful implementation of MOU with the NCDPD, India

Decides:

(a) to accord post facto approval the MOU signed between IJSG and INF&MP
(b) to approve the proposed MOU to be signed between IJSG and INTROP
(c) to take a note of the MOU signed between IJSG and CIRDAP and NCDPD
(d) to pursue the matter of MOU with SAC

Decision XVII (XIII)

(Agenda item F)

The Council of the IJSG Decides:

to convene its Fourteenth Session of the Council in **May 2012**. The actual date(s) of the Session will be decided through correspondence with the Member Countries.

Decision XVIII (XIII)

(Agenda item G)

The Council of the IJSG Decides:

to adopt the Record of Decisions of the Thirteenth Session of the Council as contained in **document C/(XIII)/14** and to authorise the Secretariat to prepare and circulate the Report of the Council Session in document **C/(XIII)/15** as soon as possible to all Members, Associate Members and Observers.