



ICT



PRESS RELEASE

GLCC MEETS IN SHANGHAI

The Global Leather Co-ordinating Committee met in Shanghai, during the All China Leather Exhibition (ACLE) on 30 August, where there were 15 members present from the three constituent bodies – the International Council of Tanners (ICT), International Council of Hides, Skins and leather Traders Associations (ICHSLTA) and the International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies (IULTCS).

The Committee welcomed a presentation from representatives of Leather Naturally (LN) on the proposed development plan for Leather Naturally LN regarding the global promotion of leather, and members agreed to consult and confirm their respective associations' support for the plan by the end of September.

The GLCC also reviewed the definition of “leather” in view of the upcoming meeting of the International Standards Organisation (ISO), which was expected to consider leather terminology, and agreed on an industry position for the meeting. Committee members were reluctant to change the longstanding definition currently applied in many national and European standards and regulations, but agreed that, if possible, a note should be included in the ISO standard to make explicit reference to the fact that leather is made from the hide or skin of an animal. The GLCC also agreed a joint statement on the definition and description of genetically engineered collagen (biofabricated material) – a copy of which is attached to this release.

Other issues considered by the Committee included the plans for the upcoming 4th World Leather Congress – scheduled for 16 July 2019, in New York - the latest information regarding the trade situation between the US and China (where leather products were now being mentioned for possible tariff increases), and developments regarding the Chinese customs treatment of imported hide and wet blue pieces.

Finally, the GLCC received brief updates on other labelling and PR issues, including the latest position regarding the European Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for leather, the latest developments regarding the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance (LEAP) Programme, and other industry and third-party certification and schemes.

11 September 2018

For further information contact Paul Pearson, Secretary, ICT
sec@tannerscouncilict.org