

# ANIMAL FIBERS ROUND TABLE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## About the Animal Fibers Round Table

### **Animal Fibers Round Table Summary**

The Animal Fibers Round Table is a collaborative, pre-competitive team of internal and external stakeholders where people can connect, share knowledge, and drive collective action within the animal fibres sector, and in line with Textile Exchange's Climate + sustainability vision and targets. To get there, we're helping the sector to develop a shared understanding of its core sustainability issues, create alignment on goals and actions, boost commitment from major players, and measure progress.

The Animal Fibers Round Table aims to leverage industry expertise by bringing balanced participation from business, civil society, government, and development partners to discuss specific sustainability themes in the textile industry, through facilitated dialogue while working together to articulate a broad industry strategy and action plan.

Participation in the Animal Fibers Round Table is voluntary. Discussions are confidential within the group, but we ask for regular attendance and contribution to meetings, as well as a willingness to engage in collaborative action.

## Vision and Methods

### **Vision**

The vision for the Animal Fibers Round Table is a global animal fiber industry that supports the Climate + vision of reducing its climate impact and improving biodiversity, water and soil health while respecting the rights of people and animals.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Animal Fibers Round Table is to support Textile Exchange's sustainability vision with a focus on wool, mohair, alpaca, cashmere, and yak. Together, we aim to speed up the shift from discussion to action and deliver measurable results. The Animal Fibers Round Table will achieve this by gathering industry members to identify barriers to growth, impacts and opportunities, and take collective actions that result in meaningful impacts. The Animal Fibers Round Table promotes the advancement of animal fibers to achieve high-level, global climate sustainability goals in the international animal fiber textile sector by identifying barriers to the success of those goals and creating breakthroughs to achieve them.

### **Objectives**

The objective of our work is defined as:

- Improve the sustainability of animal fiber production (with a focus on raw material production).
- Align on on-farm impact measurement for land and animal welfare.
- Catalyze collective action and cross-sector and -region and -species partnerships, particularly with organizations working on the ground.

### **Scope**

The scope of our work is defined as:

- Focused on raw material production.
- Focused on animal fibers. Specifically, wool, mohair, alpaca, cashmere, and yak.

### **How We Add Value**

The Animal Fibers Round Table adds value to the international animal fiber textile sector by:

- Providing an inclusive place for all stakeholders to come together and develop a shared understanding of the issues.
- Being pre-competitive and collaborative.
- Creating alignment on goals and action with commitment to work towards these from key industry players.
- Operating at both global and regional levels, including the Round Table meetings, and working groups operating as part of the Round Table.

## **Round Table Membership Agreement Form**

[\[Round Table Sign-up Form\]](#)

### **Background Information**

Textile Exchange is a global non-profit driving positive impact on climate change across the fashion and textile industry. It guides a growing community of brands, manufacturers, and farmers towards more purposeful production from the very start of the supply chain.

Round Tables support [Textile Exchange's Climate+ vision](#) for a global textile industry that protects and restores the environment, reduces the climate impact of our industry, and enhances lives. It inspires and equips people to accelerate sustainable practices and reduce climate impact in the textile value chain. We focus on minimizing the harmful impacts of the global textile industry and maximizing its positive effects. Our goal is to help the industry to achieve a 45% reduction in the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that come from producing fibers and raw materials by 2030. This is known as Tier 4 of the supply chain, and it accounts for 24% of the industry's GHG impacts related to the supply chain.

Textile Exchange's Round Tables are global stakeholder platforms that support and bring together the textile community to be inspired, share knowledge, and drive collective action with a focus on achieving our common goals.

For real change to happen, everyone needs a clear path to positive impact. That is why we believe that approachable, step-by-step instruction paired with collective action can catalyze change, mobilizing leaders through attainable strategies, proven solutions, and a driven community. The Round Tables will deliver our strategy by:

- Convening a community of stakeholders across materials and fibers,
- Identifying market issues and barriers,
- Aligning the textile industry on common, actionable goals and
- Creating an action plan that reflects regional needs.

The Round Tables are open to all (including non-members of Textile Exchange), but everyone must register to become a member and gain access to the Round Table Hub.

The Round Table Hub community is the virtual home for the Round Table members and is hosted in Textile Exchange's online membership portal, The Hub.

### Round Table Terms of Engagement

<b>Convener and Strategic Lead</b>	Textile Exchange
<b>Eligibility</b>	Participation in the Round Table is voluntary
<b>Composition, Representation</b>	Representatives from Textile Exchange and the global textile industry: Suppliers, Brands, NGOs, and other industry professionals
<b>Member Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular attendance of and contribution to meetings</li> <li>• Non-disclosure and confidentiality of shared information within the group</li> <li>• Support the Round Table development and collectively create solutions to address Climate+ and supply barriers and uptake challenges in the global textile industry.</li> <li>• Commitment to achieving Climate+ goals and outcomes</li> <li>• Sign the Membership Agreement below</li> </ul>
<b>Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization: The Textile Exchange Round Table Lead will chair meetings and design them to facilitate discussion and action.</li> <li>• Determination: The Round Table will identify opportunities for the global textile industry to drive beneficial impact in their sector.</li> <li>• Action: The Round Table is committed to addressing and increasing positive impacts in the global textile industry.</li> </ul>
<b>Decision Making</b>	The Round Table shall strive for consensus among all members of the group. As the entity responsible for delivery of initiatives, Textile Exchange reserves the right to make the final decision and will disclose any decisions that differ from the will of the wider feedback obtained through stakeholder groups.
<b>Length of Membership</b>	Round Table members can participate in the Round Table for as long as they have interest.
<b>Meeting Frequency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Round Table Summit will happen annually with the purpose of bringing the community together to share knowledge and learning and will be an opportunity to workshop strategies and plans for the Round Table. In-person attendance is encouraged, although a virtual option will be available. These are open to all interested parties.</li> <li>• Round Table meetings will happen quarterly with the purpose of driving action. These meetings will be an opportunity to present projects, ideas, and concepts that will help us achieve our Round Table strategy and shared objectives. These meetings will be virtual. Round Table participants sign up to join these meetings.</li> <li>• Round Table Working Group meetings will happen as needed with the purpose of focusing on a specific task to drive progress towards our Round Table strategy and shared objectives. These meetings will be virtual. Round Table participants join working group meetings if they have the right skills to contribute to the task and have a demonstrated history of engaging with the Round Table(s).</li> </ul>
<b>Time Commitment</b>	Members will attend and contribute to meetings regularly. There will be quarterly meetings of the Animal Fibers Round Table plus Working Group meetings as needed.

### Round Table Terms of Reference

Please read the relevant Round Table Terms of Reference(s) below or click the arrow icon to download it to your computer. Click "Next" to confirm your agreement to the Membership Requirements outlined in the Terms of Reference and to join the Round Table. The membership includes access to the Round Table Hub, our online community network.

### Round Table Membership Agreement

The undersigned has read and understands the Round Table Terms of Reference and agrees to the Membership Requirements therein:

- Contributing time and expertise during participation in Round Table activities.
- Working openly and collaboratively to meet the objectives of the Round Table, sharing best practices and lessons learned.
- Respecting Textile Exchange values (integrity, respect, inclusive community, learning, and collaboration) in all Round Table activities.
- Non-disclosure and confidentiality of shared information within the group and compliance with all applicable antitrust and anti-competitive laws, including, without limitation:
  - Treating any information that is shared as part of any Round Table meeting or activity in accordance with the Chatham House Rule (*Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed*)
  - Ensuring that none of the information shared as part of the Round Table is used to cause competitive injury or disadvantage to another Round Table member, participant, Textile Exchange, or the Animal Fibers Round Table; and
  - Abstaining from any conversations or activities that may restrict competition or set prices
- Refraining from using any information obtained through the Round Table, other than to advance the objectives of the Round Table and in no event to disparage Round Table Members, their products, practices, businesses, or their reputations.

Non-mandatory but highly encouraged:

- [Become a Textile Exchange member](#) .
- [Familiarize yourself with the Textile Exchange Climate+ Strategy](#)

Signed\* \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(X) I confirm that I have read and agree to the Round Table Terms of Reference and Membership Agreement

(X) I understand that failure to abide by the terms of my membership in the Round Table in any material way may result in my termination of membership and ability to participate in the Round Table.

(X) Optional – I give permission for my organization to be publicly listed as a member of the Round Table.

(X) Optional – I agree to receive communications from Textile Exchange, including industry news and relevant information (this can be changed at any time using the “update your preferences” option in any email you receive from us).