



# Why is there a global boycott of Uzbek cotton?

Matt Fischer-Daly  
Cotton Campaign Coordinator  
International Labor Rights Forum  
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## Uzbekistan's Cotton Industry

- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cotton exporter
- 75% exported by state-owned enterprises  
Uzprommashimpeks, Uzmarkazimpeks,  
Uzinterimpeks
  - Mainly to Bangladesh, China, Russia, Germany, Italy
- 25% sold by SOE for domestic cotton processing
  - *e.g.* Daewoo International & Indorama International
- State order system, underpinned by forced labor



  
ЎЗБЕКИСТОН РЕСПУБЛИКАСИ  
ПРОКУРАТУРАСИ  
ЖИЗЗАХ ВИЛОЯТ  
ПРОКУРАТУРАСИ

Зарбдор туман ички  
ишлар бўлими бошлиғи  
майор  
А.Бегматовга

130100, Жиззах шаҳри,  
Сайилжойи кўчаси, 65-уй  
2011 йил «09» август  
№18-11

*Handwritten notes:*  
Ушбу ҳужжат, баъзи  
№18-11 а. тўғрисида  
қўшимча қилинган ва  
саҳифаси қа  
сқилинган

Жиззах вилоят прокуратураси томонидан вилоят Кишлоқ ва с/х хўжалиқ  
бошқармаси ҳамда Ер ресурслари ва давлат кадастр бошқармаси мансабдор  
шахсларига нисбатан кўзгатишган жиноят иши тергов қилинмоқда.

Тергов жараёнида Зарбдор туман ҳудудида фаолият кўрсатаётган фермер  
хўжаликлари томонидан пахта экилиши режалаштирилган ер майдонларига хар  
хил турдаги сабзавот, поллиз ва бошқа экинлар экилганлиги аниқланган ва ушбу  
ноқонуний экилган сабзавот, поллиз ва бошқа экинлар давлатга етказилган  
зарарни қоплаш мақсадида хатланган.

Юқоридагиларга кўра, юборилаётган рўйхатда қайд этилган фермер  
хўжаликлари ер майдонларидаги хатланган сабзавот, поллиз ва бошқа экинлари  
фермер хўжалик раҳбарлари ёки ишчилари томонидан бегоналаштирилиб ва  
ўзлаштирилиб кетилишининг олдини олиш чоралари кўрилишини  
таъминлашини сўрайман.

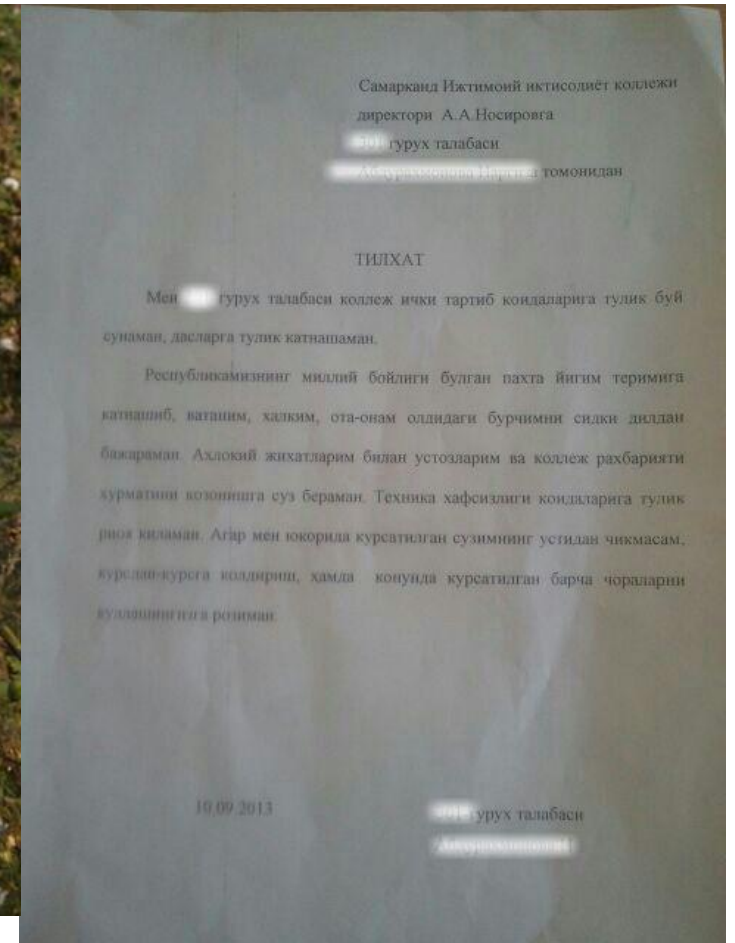
Илова: Рўйхат " 8 " варақдан иборат.

Жиззах вилоят прокуратураси  
жиноятларни тергов қилиш  
бўлими бошлиғи  
адлия кичик маслаҳатчиси

*Handwritten signature*  
X.X.Ғозиев

*Stamp:*  
10.09.11

***Forced-labor system of production. State demands farmers 'meet cotton production quota, or lose your land'***

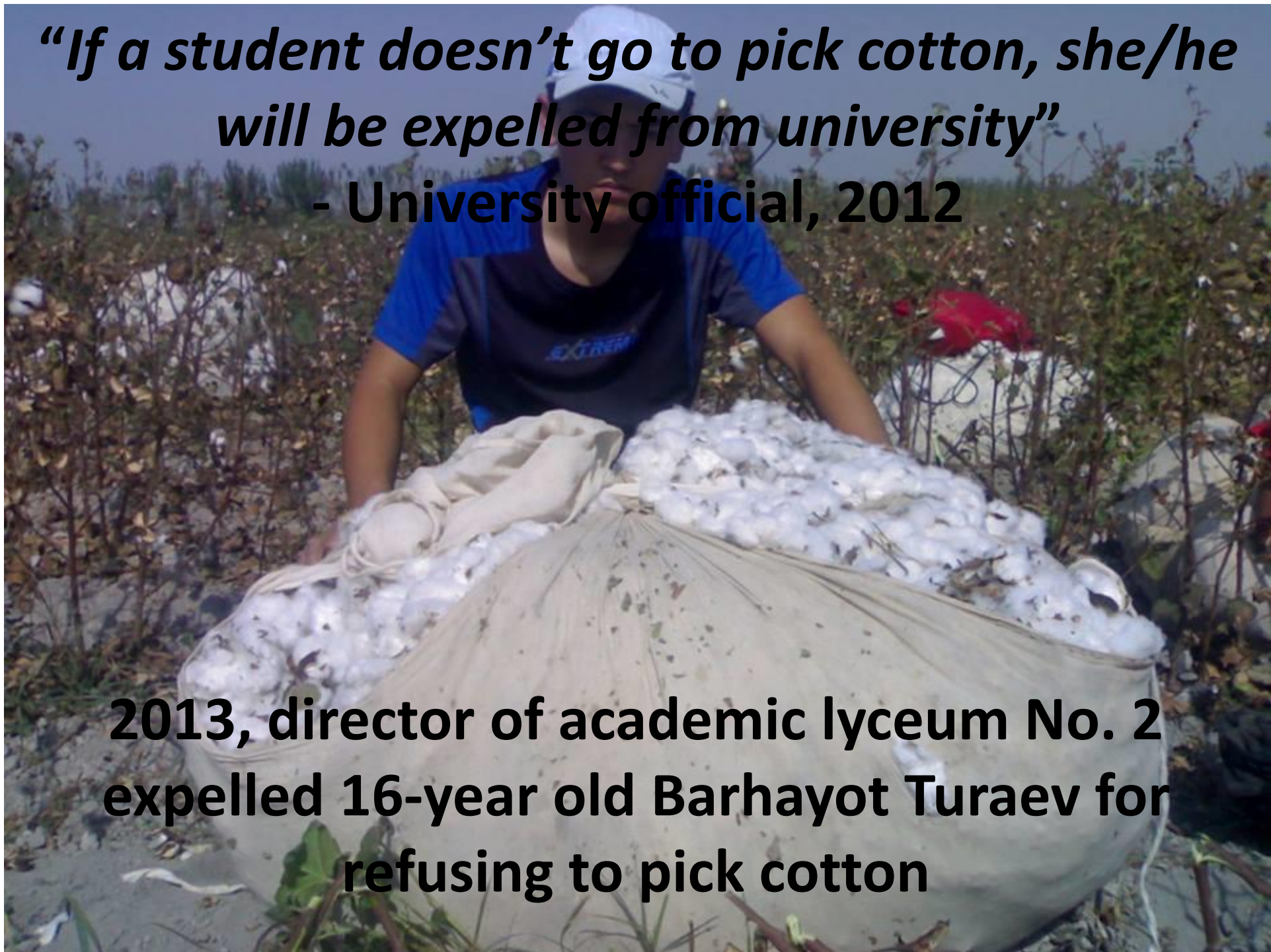


## Forced Child Labor in 2013:

- Parents required to sign contracts committing their children to pick cotton
- Students required to sign statements of their “voluntary” participation in the cotton harvest

***“If a student doesn’t go to pick cotton, she/he  
will be expelled from university”  
- University official, 2012***

**2013, director of academic lyceum No. 2  
expelled 16-year old Barhayot Turaev for  
refusing to pick cotton**



# FORCED LABOR OF ADULTS

- Public-sector workers
  - Teachers, Nurses, Doctors, Military,
  - Pensioners, Mothers receiving child-care support
- Private Companies
  - GM Uzbekistan, Trastbank, Shurtanneftgaz
- Coercion: job, salary, benefits, tax penalties, legal action
- Negative impacts on health care & education





## Health & Safety risks:

- Hazardous work
- Unhygienic living
- Lack of potable water & adequate food
- Agrochemicals?





# **Agrochemicals Applied While Children, Women and Men Pick Cotton, 2012**



**2013, citizens forced to work in fields obliged  
to apply defoliant w/o training or protection**

## 11 Deaths resulting from forced-labor cotton production system in 2013



Safarboy Karimov, 38

Orif Ruziboyev, 29

Tursunali Sadikov, 63

Erkinboj Yoldashev, 16

Khayrulla Nurmatov, 31

Nuriddin Kholdorov, 22

Malika Embergenova, 17

Kozim Omonov, 22

Samandar Nurmatov, 23

Amirbek Rakhmatov, 6

Mukhlisa Rajabova, 17

# Status of Monitoring

## **ILO**

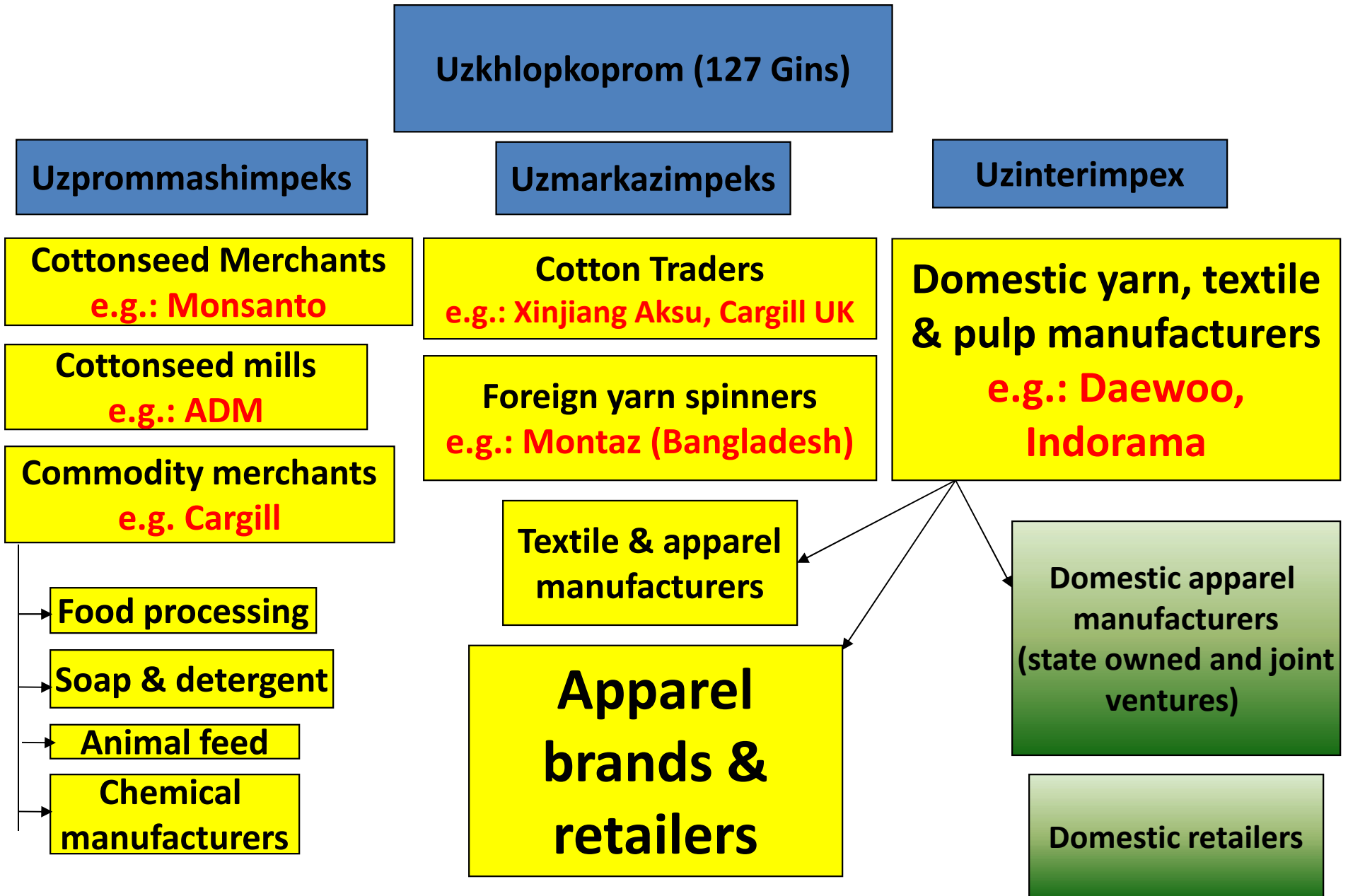
- **Intl Worker & Employer Consensus**
- **Recommendation of tripartite HLM mission**
- **2013 ILO mission**
  - **ILO C. 182**
  - **Uzbek government accompaniment & interference**
- **Start of a process?**  
**Depends on Uzbek Government response**

## **Uzbek continues repression of civil society**

- **Sergei Naumov, Sept. 2013: human rights monitor, arrested on 0, detained, denied due process**
- **Bobomurad Razzakov, Sept. 2013: human rights defender, sentenced to prison**
- **Uktam Pardaev: house arrest=no monitoring 2013**

## Uzbekistan Cotton Commodity Chain

Certain links in the diagram presented here have been presumed and extrapolated from unofficial information from various sources. This diagram is only meant to provide a starting point for understanding how Uzbek cotton plays in to the global economy.





# Investor Leverage

- Government of Uzbekistan & bilateral govts.
- Firms in Uzbekistan: Daewoo, Indorama, etc.
  - Direct, with parent (POSCO), with investors (Berkshire Hathaway)
- Cotton traders:
  - Xinjiang Yinlong International Agricultural Cooperation Co., Ltd B. Liang (China)
  - Olam (Singapore)
  - Cargill UK
- Brands and Retailers



# From Pledge to Practice

## Daewoo Protocol

1. No Uzbek Cotton
2. No Uzbek Cotton Companies
3. Contractual Commitments
4. Throughout the Supply Chain
5. Utilize Supplier Databases
6. Compliance Audits
7. Document

