1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and wishes to inform Members that, in compliance with the decision of the International Coffee Council during its 121st Session, he and the Chairman of the Council, together with representatives of the US private sector, will meet with officials of the Executive branch of the Government of the United States in Washington, DC, later this week.

2. During the meeting, the ICO delegation will present ICC Resolution 462, which contains a request from ICO Member Governments for the United States of America to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Organization, while also highlighting the importance of the USA’s continuing membership of the ICO in order to meet the challenges facing the world coffee sector and to address the Sustainable Development Goals. A copy of the Resolution is attached to this document.

3. The Executive Director would like to invite all Members to join this Mission. Please contact the Secretariat at your earliest convenience to confirm your participation.
INVITATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM
THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT 2007

WHEREAS:

The Governments Party to the International Coffee Agreement 2007,

Acknowledged that the United States of America was one of the driving forces behind the foundation of the International Coffee Organization (ICO) in 1962 and has played an active role in the development of the ICO by its participation in the International Coffee Agreements of 1968, 1976, 1983, 2001 and 2007;

Acknowledged with regret and disappointment that the United States of America has recently notified the ICO of its decision to withdraw from the International Coffee Agreement 2007;

Further acknowledged that the goals of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 are fully aligned and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to eradicate poverty;

Recognized the exceptional importance of coffee to the economies of producing countries largely dependent upon this commodity for employment and export earnings, and for their continued social and economic development;
Recognize that the United States of America is the largest consumer of coffee in the world, and that coffee has an annual economic impact in the USA exceeding US$225 billion, while generating more than 1.6 million jobs;

Recognize the importance of the coffee value chain, which contributes to the livelihoods of more than 100 million people all over the world, many of which are smallholder farmers;

Recognize that the sustainable development of the coffee sector helps to reduce migration to urban areas and abroad;

Acknowledge that the associations representing the coffee sector in the United States of America, namely the National Coffee Association and the Specialty Coffee Association, support the continued membership of the United States of America within the International Coffee Organization,

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

1. To request the United States of America to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the International Coffee Agreement 2007.

2. To ask Member Governments and respective private sector associations to encourage the United States of America to continue to be a Member of the International Coffee Organization.

3. To request the Executive Director, in coordination with Member countries to contact government officials in the United States of America to inform them of the contents of this Resolution and to provide them with all possible information and assistance concerning continued membership of the International Coffee Organization.

4. To request the Executive Director to report to the next Session of the International Coffee Council on the progress of actions requested in paragraphs 1-3 above.