1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and, on behalf of the Chairman of the World Coffee Conference, wishes to inform Members that the Government of Guatemala has established a system for issuing visas electronically to delegates attending the Conference. The form can be accessed in English at www.visasguatemala.com/inglesversion.htm and in Spanish at www.visasguatemala.com/ or through the following steps:

   • On the Conference website (www.wcc2010guatemala.com), click on the ‘Travel information’ icon on the right hand side of the homepage.
   • Click on the ‘Visa requirements’ icon of the ‘Travelling to Guatemala’ page.
   • Click on the ‘Request visa’ icon on the left-hand side of the page – this opens a page with a form which can be completed electronically.
   • At the top right-hand corner of this page the link ‘Click here to check if you need a visa to visit Guatemala’ lists countries which require visas to visit Guatemala.

2. Once the visa has been approved and sent electronically, it should be printed and shown on arrival in Guatemala to immigration officials. The Guatemalan Immigration office has issued a letter to airlines and immigrations offices to inform them about the event (attached as Annex I). Passports must be valid for six months beyond the intended length of stay. In the event of difficulties with obtaining the electronic visa, please contact the conference organizers in Guatemala, who will be able to provide further assistance (blanca.MCG@anacafe.org).

**Transit visas for travel via USA**

3. In the case of delegates with travel connections or transfers via the USA, a valid transit (C-1) visa will also be required (see Annex II). Further information can be obtained through the US Embassies in individual countries (www.usembassy.gov/). Applicants will
need to complete a visa application form (DS-156), pay a visa application fee (US$131), provide a photograph which meets State Department regulations and present a passport or other travel document valid for at least six months beyond the period of stay in the USA with at least one blank page.

4. Delegates from ICO Member countries are advised to initiate the process for obtaining visas for Guatemala and other transit destinations at the earliest possible opportunity, to avoid difficulties.
AIRLINES AND MIGRATION OFFICES

It is an honor to inform you that in Guatemala City we are celebrating the World Wide Coffee Conference 2010, during the days from the 26 to the 28 of February 2010.

Some of the participants to this congress must require on a visa form to enter to Guatemala, they will make the request by an electronic VISA form, and in the same way we are authorizing the visa by the dates of the congress mentioned.

By the previous thing, we are asking for your support so that these people do not find any obstacle when approaching the respective flights, as well as in the migratory proceedings in the different countries is asked for in which they could make the stop.

An electronic visa copy is enclosed, which will be printed to them passport by the Migration Office when they arrive.

Without another individual request, I take advantage of the occasion to salute to you.
INFORMATION ABOUT TRANSIT VISAS FOR THE USA

C-1 Visa – Transit*

In general, travelers in transit through the United States require valid C-1 visas. That is unless they are eligible to transit the United States visa free under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), or they are a national of a country which has an agreement with the United States allowing their citizens to travel to the United States without visas.

If you are not eligible to transit the United States under the VWP, or are not a national of a country where visa requirements are waived, you will be required to apply for a transit (C-1) visa before traveling.

All C-1 visa applicants, even children and babies listed in parents' passports are required to:

• complete the visa application form DS-156;
• pay a visa application fee;
• present a passport or other travel document valid for at least six months beyond the holder's period of stay in the United States with at least one blank page – the six-month requirement does not apply to United Kingdom passports; and
• provide one photograph which meet State Department regulations.

Note: The decision to approve or deny the application will be based on the interview and information provided orally. However, the consular officer may ask the applicant to provide documentary evidence of the following:

• funds sufficient to cover all expenses while in the United States; and
• a residence abroad to which he/she intends to return at the end of the stay in the United States. This is generally established by evidence of family, professional, property, employment or other ties and commitments to some country other than the United States sufficient to cause the applicant to return there at the conclusion of his/her stay.

Additional processing requirements and information for the following:

• applicants eligible to apply for a visa by courier;
• applicants who have a criminal conviction, are HIV positive, have a medical ineligibility, have been denied entry into or deported from the United States

* Extracted from the website of the US Embassy at www.usembassy.org.uk/cons_new/visa/niv/transit.html
males aged 16 to 45;
• nationals of China, Northern Cyprus, Russia, Somalia & Vietnam;
• nationals of North Korea, Cuba, Iran, Libya, Syria & Sudan;
• temporary residents of the United Kingdom.

Issuance fees

Nationals of certain countries are required to pay an issuance fee in order for an approved visa to be issued. No fee is charged for the issuance of a C visa to a British citizen passport holder.

How do I apply for the visa?

Applicants aged 14 to 79 are required to appear in person before a U.S. consular officer. Applicants under the age of 14 and those aged 80 and over may be eligible to submit their application by courier.

Reminder: We always recommend that individuals apply for visas well in advance of their proposed date of travel. No assurances regarding the issuance of visas can be given in advance. Therefore, final travel plans or the purchase of non-refundable ticket should not be made until a visa has been issued and you are in receipt of the passport.