



INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION
ORGANIZACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DEL CAFÉ
ORGANIZAÇÃO INTERNACIONAL DO CAFÉ
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU CAFÉ

ICC 109-6

20 September 2012
Original: English

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International Coffee Council
109th Session
24 – 28 September 2012
London, United Kingdom

Admission of observers

Background

1. Rule 5 of the Rules of the Organization provides that, at the start of each Session, the Council shall decide on the acceptance of observers and designate the items on the Agenda of the Council and Committee meetings which shall be open to accepted observers¹. Meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee are only open to Members. The terms of reference for the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) (Annex II of document ICC-106-4) provide that non-members, relevant organizations and experts in coffee matters may participate at meetings upon the invitation of the PSCB. Observers should therefore submit requests to attend PSCB meetings through its Chairman.

2. At the 106th Session of the Council in March 2011, with a view to streamlining the process of accepting observers, it was proposed that at its last Session in each coffee year, the Council should approve a list of observers to be admitted to Sessions in the following coffee year. A list of observers to be admitted to Council Sessions in 2011/12 was approved in September 2011 (see document ICC-107-9 Rev. 1). It is proposed that, as was the case with presenters at the Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance, the advisors to the Core Group on the Consultative Forum should be admitted as observers to the Session. Details of the observers on this list who have advised the Executive Director of their attendance and the meetings they wish to attend is attached as Annex I. Additional observers wishing to attend these meetings should have submitted requests for observer status in writing to the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the Session (i.e. by 9 August 2012).

¹ Paragraph 5 of Rule 34 provides that the Rules of the ICO shall also apply to meetings of committees, other subsidiary bodies and advisory bodies.

3. It is suggested that items relating to finance and administration on the Council Agenda should be restricted to Members only at this Session.

Sessions in 2012/13

4. As was the case in 2011/12, with a view to streamlining the process of accepting observers and encouraging attendance by non-member countries and other observers, it is proposed that the Council should approve a list of observers who may be admitted to Sessions in March and September 2012/13. A list of observers who have been invited to previous Council Sessions and who could be considered for admission in the next coffee year is attached as Annex II. The list has been expanded to include Core Group advisors, Consultative Forum presenters and five new international organizations: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI); International Finance Corporation (IFC); International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Organization of American States (OAS). It is also proposed that experts in the field of statistics should continue to be invited to attend meetings of the Statistics Committee.

5. Observer countries and organizations not included on this list should submit requests for observer status in writing to the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the Session (i.e. by 17 January and 25 July 2013). In the case of additional organizations and individuals invited to attend Council Sessions to make presentations or to make a contribution on a specific topic the Council would be informed about this at the start of the Session and they would attend for the relevant agenda item only.

6. The Council will decide at each Session specific items which would be open to observers in these categories. Annex III contains copies of Articles 15 and 16 of the 2007 Agreement and Rule 5 of the Rules of the International Coffee Organization.

Action

The Council is invited to consider the admission of the observers in Annex I and the items and meetings that shall be open to them at the 109th Session, and to further consider and approve observers who may be admitted to the Council Session in coffee year 2012/13.

OBSERVERS WISHING TO ATTEND THE COUNCIL SESSION AND OTHER MEETINGS

Intergovernmental organizations	Meetings / Items of interest
Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)	Council and committees
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)	Council and committees
InterAfrican Coffee Organisation (IACO)	Council and committees
International Trade Centre (ITC)	Council and committees
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Council and committees
World Bank	Council and committees
Non-member countries	
China	Council and committees
Japan	Council and committees
Lao People's Democratic Republic (the)	Council and committees
Russian Federation	Council and committees
Saudi Arabia	Council and committees
Private sector associations	
All Japan Coffee Association (AJCA)	Council and committees
African Fine Coffees Association (AFCA)	Council and committees
Statistical experts	
Rob Simmons	Statistics Committee
Andrea Thompson	Statistics Committee
Consultative Forum presenters and Core Group advisors not already included in Member or observer delegations	
Noemí Pérez, FAST	Council and Committees
Nicolas Tamari, Sucafina	Council and Committees
Presentations / contributions on specific topics	
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Requests from new observers at this Session	
Dr Gavin Fridell, Canada Research Chair in International Development Studies and Associate Professor at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Canada (request to attend 110 th Session in March 2013)	See document ICC-109-6 Add. 1

OBSERVERS TO BE ADMITTED TO COUNCIL SESSIONS IN 2012/13**Non-member countries**

Algeria	Equatorial Guinea	Mauritius	South Africa
Argentina	Fiji	Morocco	Sri Lanka
Armenia	Iceland	Mozambique	Sudan
Australia	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Myanmar	Syrian Arab Republic
Belarus	Israel	Nepal	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Belize	Japan	New Zealand	Trinidad and Tobago
Botswana	Jordan	Oman	Ukraine
Cambodia	Korea, Republic of	Pakistan	United Arab Emirates
Canada	Kuwait	Peru	Uruguay
Chile	Lao People's Dem. Rep.	Russian Federation	
China	Lebanon	Saudi Arabia	
Croatia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Serbia	
Egypt	Malaysia	Singapore	

Intergovernmental organizations

- African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States (ACP)
- African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)
- CABI
- Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)
- Commonwealth Secretariat
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
 - International Centre for Science and High Technology (UNIDO – ICS)
- InterAfrican Coffee Organisation (IACO)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) – Regional Program for the Development and Modernization of the Coffee Industry in Central America, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica (PROMECAFÉ)
- International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)
- International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- International Grains Council (IGC)
- International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC)
- International Olive Oil Council (IOC)
- International Sugar Organization (ISO)

- International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC)
- International Women's Coffee Alliance (IWCA)
- League of Arab States
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Organization of American States (OAS)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Bank Group
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

Scientific organizations concerned with coffee

- Association for Science and Information on Coffee (ASIC)
- Centre for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD)
- International Coffee Genomics Network (ICGN)

Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) associations

As designated by the Council for 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance presenters

As invited by the Core Group and Executive Director in 2012/13.

Core Group advisers

As designated by the Council.

Experts in statistics who may attend Statistics Committee meetings

- Neil Rosser (*OLAM Europe*)
- Rob Simmonds (*LMC International Ltd., United Kingdom*)
- Judy Ganes (*J. Ganes Consulting LLC*)
- Andrea Thompson (*Coffee Network*)

INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT 2007**ARTICLE 15****Cooperation with other organizations**

(1) The Council may make arrangements for consultation and cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies; other appropriate intergovernmental organizations; and relevant international and regional organizations. It shall take full advantage of the facilities of the Common Fund for Commodities and other sources of funding. Such arrangements may include financial arrangements which the Council considers appropriate for achieving the objectives of this Agreement. However, in respect of the implementation of any project under such arrangements the Organization shall not incur any financial obligations for guarantees given by individual Members or other entities. No Member shall be responsible by reason of its membership of the Organization for any liability arising from borrowing or lending by any other Member or entity in connection with such projects.

(2) Where possible, the Organization may also collect from Members, non-members, and from donor and other agencies, information on development projects and programmes focussing on the coffee sector. Where appropriate, and with the agreement of the parties concerned, the Organization may make this information available to such other organizations as well as to Members.

ARTICLE 16**Cooperation with non-governmental organizations**

In pursuing the objectives of this Agreement, the Organization may, without prejudice to the provisions of Articles 15, 29, 30 and 31, establish and strengthen cooperative activities with appropriate non-governmental organizations having expertise in relevant aspects of the coffee sector and with other experts in coffee matters.

RULES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION

RULE 5 Observers

1. Any organization referred to in Article 16 of the Agreement, including private sector coffee associations and bodies, may request observer status at a session of the Council, by submitting such a request in writing to the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the session.
2. The written request shall indicate the Agenda items of interest. If necessary, the Executive Director will request any additional information needed by the Council in considering such requests. At least 30 days prior to the session, the Executive Director shall circulate to all Members the names of organizations requesting observer status, along with additional information and a proposal for Council action on each request.
3. Comments and/or possible objections by Members to the above requests shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the session. At least 10 days prior to the session, the Executive Director shall distribute to all Members any comments on such requests and provide information to the interested applicants on this. At the start of each Session, the Council shall decide on acceptance of observers and designate the items on the Agenda of the Council open to accepted observers.
4. The Council may also invite organizations and individuals to attend Council Sessions to make presentations or to make a contribution on a specific topic to be considered by the Council. Observers shall have no voice in the proceedings of the Council, its committees and subsidiary bodies, except by invitation of the respective Chairmen.