Background

1. At its 96th Session from 25 to 29 September 2006, the International Coffee Council, in order to facilitate the process of determining the future of the International Coffee Agreement, decided to establish a Working Group with the mandate of examining the current Agreement and proposals submitted by Members, or other invited parties, and submitting recommendations to the Council at its Session in May 2007. The Council further decided to appoint Mr. Saint-Cyr Djikalou of Côte d’Ivoire and Mr. Max Schnellmann of Switzerland as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Group respectively. A copy of the Council’s decision is contained in document ICC-96-9 and is attached as an Annex to this document.

2. The Working Group has met on three occasions and has made substantial progress in drafting the text of a new International Coffee Agreement; however further time is required to allow it to conclude its work. It is proposed therefore that the period for submitting its recommendations should be extended to 30 September 2007.

Action

The Council is requested to consider and if appropriate, to approve the draft decision attached to this document extending the remit of the Working Group.
DRAFT DECISION OF THE COUNCIL

EXTENSION OF THE REMIT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT

The International Coffee Council, in order to conclude the process of determining the future of the International Coffee Agreement, decides to extend the remit of the Working Group established in September 2006 (see document ICC-96-9) until 30 September 2007. The Council further decides that the term of office of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman should also be extended until 30 September 2007. The Working Group should therefore submit its recommendations to the Council at its 98th Session from 24 – 28 September 2007.
1. The International Coffee Council, in order to facilitate the process of determining the future of the International Coffee Agreement, decides to establish a Working Group with the mandate of examining the current Agreement and proposals submitted by Members, or other invited parties, and to submit recommendations to the Council.

2. The Working Group shall be open to all Members and shall establish its own procedures.

3. The International Coffee Council shall appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

4. The Working Group shall hold its first meeting as soon as possible, with the aim of submitting its recommendations to the Council at its Session in May 2007.

5. The Group shall normally meet at the seat of the Organization, to the extent possible, at the time of regular meetings of the Council and/or Executive Board, and between these meetings as decided by the Group.