



Organización Internacional del Café
Organizaçao Internacional do Café
Organisation Internationale du Café

WP Statistics 132/08

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Report

**Report of the Statistics Committee
on the meeting of 24 September 2008**

1. The Statistics Committee, chaired by Mr Jaime Junqueira Payne of Brazil, held its 25th meeting on 24 September 2008.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Committee adopted the draft Agenda contained in document WP-Statistics 127/08 Rev. 1.

**Item 2: Report of the Statistics Committee
on the meeting of 21 May 2008**

3. The Committee approved the report on the meeting of 21 May 2008 contained in document WP-Statistics 126/08.

Item 3: Compliance with statistical rules

4. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 130/08 containing information on the status of compliance by Members with the Rules on Statistics. Based on average trade data for the last four calendar years 2004 to 2007, levels of compliance with provision of data by exporting and importing countries were satisfactory at 87% and 98%, respectively. The Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania had made great efforts to improve their compliance and other countries were encouraged to follow their example.

5. The Committee took note of this information and further noted that compliance by exporting Members in providing production and internal consumption estimates continued to be poor, particularly in the last two years. The Committee urged all exporting Members to improve their performance, as this information was essential to the supply-demand analysis

made by the Organization. The Committee also noted that the Secretariat would continue its efforts to ensure that two importing Members (Bulgaria and Hungary) provided data on their coffee trade.

Item 4: Technical assistance

6. The Statistician reported that the preparation of a manual of best practice by selected exporting Members was still under way, and noted that the new Rules on Statistics could be introduced into it. The Organization would contact countries with poor and no compliance to establish the necessary procedures once the manuals were received.

7. The Committee requested the Executive Director to contact Brazil to discuss the possibility of providing assistance to African countries with poor or no compliance through its Agricultural Research Agency (EMBRAPA) based in Ghana. The Committee further noted that the USA had reiterated its offer to explore ways of providing support to some exporting countries.

8. The Committee noted that at a meeting on 22 September 2008 with a delegation from Vietnam it was agreed that the Vietnamese authorities would formally request the Executive Director to prepare a training programme to assist them with a workshop on the preparation of statistical data required by the Organization and on quality issues. The Committee further noted that funds had been allocated for this type of activity in the programme of activities for the Organization for 2008/09 (document EB-3945/08 Rev. 1) and Members would be kept informed of developments in this area.

Item 5: Statistical priorities under the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007

9. The Committee decided to recommend that the Council should approve document WP-Council 180/08 containing proposals to incorporate the collection of additional information from Members into the current Rules on Statistics – Statistical Reports (document EB-3830/02).

10. With regard to proposals related to voluntary information provided on Certificates of Origin contained in document WP-Council 179/08, the Committee decided that a revised document reflecting proposals discussed at the meeting would be prepared and submitted for approval by the Council in March 2009.

11. Regarding the Rules on Indicator Prices, the Committee noted that it had until September 2009 to consider proposals for changes to the current rules (contained in document WP-Statistics 122/08). The most recent revisions to the share of each market in the calculation of group indicators and their weighting in the ICO composite indicator price came into effect on 1 October 2007.

12. The Committee welcomed proposals for future activities contained in document WP-Council 173/08 Rev. 1 (Draft strategic action plan 2009-2014), particularly those set out under Goal 2 concerning market transparency and the availability of statistical data. The Chairman stressed the importance of statistical priorities under the ICA 2007 and suggested that the following topics should be included in studies and/or socio-economic analysis by the ICO:

- Employment generated by the coffee sector worldwide
- Costs of production
- Total tax revenues generated by exporting members
- Total tax revenues generated by imports and re-exports
- Volume of coffee certified by various programmes of certification
- Total GDP of coffee in agri-business in both exporting and importing countries

Item 6: Article 2 of the ICA 2007: Conversion factors for roasted, decaffeinated, liquid and soluble coffee

13. The Committee decided to request the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) to discuss this topic at its next meeting and noted that the Secretariat would inform the Committee of the recommendations of the PSCB.

Item 7: Inventories and stocks

14. The Committee noted that the latest information posted on the European Coffee Federation's (ECF) website showed data as at 30 June 2008. The Organization would continue to monitor this site regularly, as it had previously been decided that this data should be incorporated into its statistical series.

Item 8: Organic coffee

15. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 128/08 containing data on exports of organic coffee based on information extracted from Certificates of Origin and monthly reports from October 2007 to June 2008. The Committee took note of this document and of document WP-Statistics 123/08 Rev. 1 containing revised data on organic coffee exports in calendar year 2007, in the light of information received from Brazil.

16. The Committee further noted that in his report to the Council, the Chairman would urge exporting Members to provide accurate information on this market segment on their Certificates of Origin and Monthly Reports to the Organization in view of the lack of alternative sources of reliable data.

Item 9: Exports to exporting countries

17. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 129/08 containing data on exports of all forms of coffee from all origins to exporting countries.

18. The Committee took note of this document and, given the increasing importance of this type of data, noted that it was proposed that the provision of monthly reports on imports of coffee by exporting Members should be compulsory under the ICA 2007 (see document WP-Council 180/08 – Draft Rules on Statistics – Statistical Reports).

Item 10: Report to the International Coffee Council

19. The Committee noted that the Chairman would make a summary report to the Council of discussions at this meeting.

Item 11: Other business

Registered ports of export and ICO Certifying Agents

20. The Committee noted that a document containing detailed information on all ports of export from their countries and the names of Certifying Agents appointed to deal with matters related to Certificates of Origin would be circulated at the next session of the Council.

Implementation of the ICA 2007

21. The Committee noted that the Council would consider document WP-Council 171/08 Rev. 1 containing revisions to draft terms of reference for the Committee under the ICA 2007.

Statistics Committee

22. The Committee noted that the two-year term of office for members of the Statistics Committee expired on 30 September 2008. All members of the Committee had agreed to extend their participation until the entry into force of the ICA 2007. Exporting Members

would need to nominate a replacement for Ms María del Pilar Fernández of Colombia who had left the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia since the last meeting. The Council would consider this matter at its 101st Session this week¹.

Costs of production

23. Exporting Members were reminded to provide information on their costs of production as requested in document ED-2038/08.

Item 12: Future meetings

24. The Committee noted that the Secretariat would confirm the date of its next meeting.

¹ Ms Marcela Uruña Gómez, from Colombia, was nominated by the exporting Members – see paragraph 67 of document ICC-101-7.