



**Report of the 15th meeting of the
Projects Committee held on 10 April 2018**

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1. The Projects Committee held its 15th meeting in Mexico City on Tuesday 10 April 2018.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Committee approved the draft Agenda contained in document [PJ-118/18 Rev. 1](#).

Item 2: Appointment of the Chair and ratification of the appointment of the Vice-Chair for coffee year 2017/18

3. The Committee appointed H.E. Mr Iván Romero-Martínez of Honduras as Chair and Ms Ina Grohmann of EU-Germany as Vice-Chair. The Chair thanked Members of the Committee for his election for this coffee year and took over chairing the meeting.

Item 3: Report of the meeting held of 26 September 2017

4. The Committee approved the report of the meeting held on 26 September 2017 contained in document [PJ-118/17](#).

Item 4: Monitoring and evaluation of projects

Item 4.1 Current coffee development projects

5. The Chief Economist introduced document [PJ-119/18](#) containing a summary of the status of projects sponsored by the ICO, including projects under implementation, projects already concluded, and one project endorsed by the Council but still seeking funds for implementation.
6. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 4.2 Identifying coffee sector challenges in selected Central American countries and Mexico

7. The Chief Economist presented document [PJ-120/18](#) containing a preliminary report on the challenges affecting the coffee sector in selected Central American countries and Mexico based on relevant information provided by Members. Dynamics of the coffee sector in the selected countries of the region and its contribution to their economies were presented before highlighting the main challenges affecting coffee production. These challenges included rising costs of production, disease and pest management, climate change, price levels and volatility, low productivity and consequent low economic profitability of coffee farming, and in some countries, weak organizational capacity of small-scale coffee growers. Limited research and development potential, weak technology transfer and limited generation of value addition were also indicated as challenges facing the coffee sector in the selected countries. Members were requested to provide the ICO with further information in order to update the report.
8. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 5: Cooperation activities

Item 5.1 The Delta Project: Bridging the Gap in Measuring Real-Time Sustainability Performance

9. The Senior Economist presented document [PJ-121/18](#) containing an outline of a proposal for the implementation of the Delta Project, a collaborative initiative between the ICO, the Global Coffee Platform (GCP), the Better Cotton Initiative and the International Cotton Advisory Committee. Ms Annette Pensel, Executive Director of the GCP, presented the key features of the Platform and provided an overview of the Delta Project that aimed at developing appropriate sustainability indicators. The objective of the Delta Project¹ was to develop a commonly agreed sustainability performance measurement and reporting framework that would include a set of indicators to help track the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by the public and private sectors.

10. The Committee considered the creation of a subcommittee in order to support and monitor the implementation of the Delta Project, and specifically the assessment of a draft set of sustainability performance indicators. This would be based on a pilot project on the coffee sector in Vietnam.

11. The Committee decided to recommend for Council approval the proposal of setting up a subcommittee.

12. The new Chair of the GCP, Mr Carlos Brando, was introduced to the Committee.

Item 5.2 The Coffee Global Adaptation Plan (C-GAP)

13. Mr Andrea Illy, Chairman of illycaffè provided an update and an extensive presentation of the Coffee Global Adaptation Plan (C-GAP), an initiative of the private sector to address the threat to coffee production due to climate change by leveraging impact investment and finance blending. In the intense debate, Members, from both exporting and importing countries expressed great interest in the initiative and stated their willingness to join the C-GAP. The Committee recommended the coordination of all initiatives to address the challenge caused by climate change and confirmed their support for this initiative.

14. The Committee took note of the report.

¹ The project is funded through a Swiss grant to the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance (ISEAL Alliance) amounting to CHF550,000.

Item 6: Other business

15. The Executive Director introduced the new Head of Operations, Mr Gerardo Pataconi, who provided the Committee with a brief overview of the new initiative by the Secretariat to mobilize resources for development and funding of technical cooperation and investment projects with a focus on networking with key international organizations. As part of the initiative, a number of meetings with key international organizations had already taken place (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)) or were planned (development agencies and international financial institutions, such as the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), the Italian Development Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Bank Group, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), etc.). A report of the findings and recommendations would be provided at the next Committee meeting in September 2018. Specifically, it was reported on the opportunities offered by the GEF and its 7th cycle that would begin on 1 July with a budget of US\$4.4 billion. A detailed presentation was to be made at the Finance and Administration Committee meeting, including the proposal for setting up a Coffee Sustainability Projects Trust Fund (CSP-TF).

16. The Committee welcomed Mr Gerardo Pataconi as the new Head of Operations, and took note of the new initiative to mobilize resources for coffee sector development projects.

Item 7: Date of next meeting

17. The next meeting would take place in London, at the time of the 122nd Council Session from 17 to 21 September 2018.

18. The Chair thanked Members of the Committee, all the presenters, the Secretariat and interpreters for their contributions.