



PRESS RELEASE

ICO Members receive draft of the new International Coffee Agreement at the 132nd Session of the International Coffee Council

London, 4 April 2022 - The 132nd (virtual) Session of the International Coffee Council concluded after a two-day meeting (31 March – 1 April 2022) following a week of associated meetings of the Committees of the Organization – Finance and Administration Committee; the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement; Projects Committee, Statistics Committee, Promotion & Market Development Committee; and the Private Sector Consultative Board. The Session was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Iván Romero-Martínez of Honduras and brought together 34 Members from both exporting and importing countries.

The most important item on the agenda was the draft text of the new International Coffee Agreement 2022, the result of decisions made in 28 meetings of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement. The new Agreement has been reviewed to improve international cooperation among all coffee stakeholders both at the public and private levels, so as to achieve a sustainable and resilient coffee sector with a specific focus on the livelihoods of coffee farmers and other producers. The revised structure of the Agreement – which foresees the transformation of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force into a permanent Working Party – bears witness to the recognized need to enhance dialogue and build new partnerships with the private sector and civil society in order to jointly address common challenges such as climate change and the negative repercussion of the covid-19 pandemic. A new system for the calculation of votes and contributions that better reflects the reality of the coffee global value chain is also expected to be introduced in order to promote a fairer distribution of financial commitments among Members and enhance the financial sustainability of the Organization. The Council decided to hold a Special Session of the Council on 8 and 9 June 2022 to consider the adoption of the new Agreement.

The Council expressed its appreciation and praise for the advances the Coffee Public-Private Task Force has made in the mobilization of a substantial amount of resources to carry out the

transformation of the coffee sector thanks to the high-impact engagement with all actors of the global coffee value chain in a variety of areas, including living and prosperous income for coffee growers, market transparency, building resilient coffee landscapes addressing also gender transformation and deforestation. In the spirit of ensuring continuity to the activities of the Task Force, ICO Members approved the concept note for an overall funding proposal for the period 2022-2026, as well as the proposal from Technical Workstream 3 “Sector Transformation – Exporting Members” containing specific actions for the benefit of coffee producers and stakeholders facilitated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and by the Global Coffee Platform (GCP).

In view of the discussions in the Private Sector Consultative Board following a presentation by the European Coffee Federation (ECF) on the new draft Directive on Deforestation, the Council requested the Secretariat to continue monitoring and establish appropriate mechanisms, possibly within the CPPTF so that the ICO could voice the interest as well as the concerns of all coffee stakeholders before the European Union.

Members also appointed Mr Massimiliano Fabian of EU-Italy as the new Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council, as well as Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Commission as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) for coffee year 2021/22.

ICO Members and the Secretariat expressed their gratitude to Mr José Sette for his five years of service (2017-2022) as the Executive Director of the ICO and for the achievements obtained for the benefit of the global coffee sector under his leadership. On 1 May 2022 José Sette will be succeeded by Ms Vanúsia Maria Carneiro Nogueira, the first woman to lead the Organization since its creation.

The Council will resume in-person meetings starting with the last session of coffee year 2021/22, which will be held in Bogotá from 3-7 October 2022 following the generous offer made by the Government of Colombia to host the 134th Session of the Council.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

International Coffee Organization (ICO)

The International Coffee Organization (ICO) is a multilateral organization supporting exporting and importing countries to improve the sustainability of the coffee sector. It provides a high-level forum for all public and private stakeholders in the sector; official statistics on coffee production, trade and consumption; and support for the development and funding of technical cooperation projects and public-private partnerships.

International Coffee Council

The International Coffee Council is the governing body of the ICO, bringing together Governments from countries which export and import coffee. The Council meets twice a year to discuss wide ranging issues with the aim of promoting a sustainable coffee sector.

Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF)

The CPPTF is an innovative and unique model for public-private dialogue to mobilize efforts and resources for all to engage, reach consensus and put into action, but leaves flexibility to elevate existing individual and shared coffee sector sustainability initiatives and crucially fills gaps where no initiatives yet exist. Progress on commitments and targets are reported via the Sustainable Coffee Challenge (SCC) Commitment Hub and the Task Force website.

More information

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