Draft of the new International Coffee Agreement (ICA)

WHEREAS:


The WGFA met 28 times from 2019 to this week;

The WGFA was also supported by an ad-hoc drafting group that met eight times and held several bilateral and engagement meetings with other coffee stakeholders and partners;

The ICO Secretariat effectively supported the process through research on other treaties, including those of international commodity bodies and other intergovernmental organizations, surveys and simulations and by producing a series of technical working papers to provide Members with the necessary information and knowledge for their discussions and decisions;

By Resolution 473, the International Coffee Agreement 2007 (ICA 2007) has been extended till 1 February 2024;
A draft of the new International Coffee Agreement, prepared by the Secretariat and containing all the inputs, discussions and decisions of the WGFA, based on the indication expressed by the majority of Members, was circulated as WGFA-101/22;

Members expressed the need to carry out an internal review of the draft, which will be also provided by the Secretariat in all four ICO official languages; and

Members expressed their deepest gratitude to Ambassador Hermano Telles Ribeiro, of Brazil, and Ms Stefanie Küng, of Switzerland, who occupied the Chair of the WGFA during this period, and Mr Mick Wheeler, of Papua New Guinea, who occupied the role of Vice-Chair, for their tireless efforts in leading this group, as well as to all engaged members, the ICO Executive Director and the Secretariat.

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

Decides that:

1. The process of informal consultation on the text of the draft ICA 2022 contained in document WGFA-101/22 will continue, and ad-hoc meetings will be held as requested by Members.

2. The new draft contains significant improvements and innovations compared with the ICA 2007, which better reflect the reality of the Coffee Global Value Chain and help ensure that it will be the most suitable instrument to promote international cooperation among coffee-exporting and -importing countries, industry and all coffee stakeholders, so as to achieve a sustainable and resilient coffee sector focused on the livelihoods of coffee farmers and other producers.

3. A period shall be established, during which ICO Members will have the possibility to review the text of the proposed new Agreement and suggest possible rewording or amendments to allow its prompt finalization and approval. Any amendments proposed by Members should reach the ICO by 18 May 2022.

4. The WGFA has successfully completed its mandate and therefore ceases to exist.
5. A Special Session of the Council will be held 8-9 June 2022 to review the final text of the International Coffee Agreement 2022, incorporate all amendments agreed by Members by consensus and, if appropriate, to approve it.