

**Decisions and Resolutions adopted  
at the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
International Coffee Council**

**13, 14 and 16 October 2025**

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**Opening of the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council**

1. Mr Tom Fabozzi of the EU-Ireland chaired the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, on 13, 14 and 16 October 2025.
2. Dr Laura Elena Suazo, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Honduras, gave her opening remarks, subsequently published as document [ICC-140-5](#).
3. Mr Maximiliano Alonso, representative of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), expressed his honour in participating in the 140<sup>th</sup> session of the International Coffee Council and the 7<sup>th</sup> CEOs and Global Leaders Forum. He highlighted CAF's shared commitment to a coffee sector that generated well-being, territorial cohesion, and opportunities for millions of producing families in Latin America, the Caribbean, and worldwide. He thanked President Xiomara Castro, national authorities, coffee stakeholders, international organizations, and the International Coffee Organization (ICO), for their dedication and cooperation. Mr Alonso emphasized that coffee was not only a daily consumer product but a strategic asset, a symbol of cultural identity, and a driver of social and territorial cohesion, supporting over 12.5 million families globally. Highlighting challenges such as low incomes, price volatility, an ageing rural workforce, and environmental pressures, he presented CAF's Agricultural Prosperity Strategy, which aims to mobilize \$8.5 billion by 2030, while outlining three lines of action: a global strategy for inclusive and sustainable rural economies, a regional initiative for Central American coffee in partnership with ICO, FAO, IFAD, and IICA, and national support in Honduras, including sovereign operations, technical cooperation, and gender-focused projects. He concluded by reaffirming the bank's commitment to provide technical, financial, and knowledge-based support to transform the reality of coffee producers and build a fairer, sustainable future for coffee-growing regions.
4. Mr Gunther Beger, representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), gave a speech subsequently published as document [ICC-140-6](#).
5. Dr Vanúsia Nogueira, Executive Director of the ICO, delivered her opening remarks, subsequently published as document [ICC-140-7](#).
6. The Chair of the Council gave his opening remarks, subsequently published as document [ICC-140-8](#).
7. Ms Iris Xiomara Castro, President of Honduras, gave her opening speech subsequently published as document [ICC-140-9](#).

8. The delegate of Honduras expressed gratitude to the ICO's management and staff for their work to prepare the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council. He noted that the Honduran government had made significant efforts to ensure a pleasant stay for all participants and thanked them for accepting Honduras as the host country. On behalf of his Government and the people of Honduras, he conveyed appreciation for their presence and kindness, emphasizing the hospitality and gratitude of his compatriots.

9. The Head of Operations informed the Council that, in compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 11 of the 2007 Agreement, the quorum for holding the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council had been reached.<sup>1</sup>

**Item 1: Draft Agenda**

10. Following a suggestion put forward by the Chair of the Council, Members agreed to address agenda items that did not require a decision by the Council first, without affecting the content of topics to be discussed.

11. The Council adopted the draft Agenda contained in document [ICC-140-0 Rev. 2.](#)

**Item 2: Admission of observers**

12. The Chair of the Council presented document [ICC-140-2](#) containing the list of observers invited to the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council. He confirmed that representatives of the Inter-African Coffee Organisation (IACO), the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Agency for Robusta Coffee of Africa and Madagascar (ACRAM), the All Japan Coffee Association (AJCA), the Alliance Bioversity International – CIAT, Conservation International (CI), the Global Coffee Platform (GCP), International Women's Coffee Alliance (IWCA), PROMECAFE, Specialty Coffee Association (SCA), and World Coffee Research were present. Lastly, he noted that discussions on financial and administrative matters would be restricted to Members only.

13. The Council approved document [ICC-140-2](#) on the admission of observers.

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<sup>1</sup> Matters on which decisions by the Council were required were only addressed on Tuesday, 14 October 2025, when the quorum to hold the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council was reached.



*Enlace*. He reported that the coffee sector remained a major economic driver in the country, contributing significantly to its GDP and exports, and supporting over 552,000 farming families. The delegate of Colombia also underlined the role of the National Coffee Fund in stabilizing prices and supporting cooperatives during volatile times, noting that it provided security and stability to growers regardless of fluctuations in the global market. He concluded by reaffirming Colombia's dedication to quality, innovation, and international cooperation to ensure a sustainable and prosperous global coffee sector.

19. Ms Lilibeth Aguillón Girón of El Salvador noted that the country's coffee sector had been revitalized and was now engaging globally to address common challenges through cooperation. She reported that, under the leadership of President Nayib Bukele, coffee had been recognized as a strategic national asset, leading to the creation of the Salvadoran Coffee Institute and the implementation of a public policy focused on productivity, sustainability, and resilience. She also highlighted progress in renewing plantations, improving traceability and quality, and advancing agroforestry systems that captured carbon and preserved biodiversity. While expressing support for deforestation-free supply chains, the delegate of El Salvador stressed the need for financial and technical support for small producers to meet new regulatory standards. Lastly, she reaffirmed the country's conviction that international cooperation, responsible innovation, and the protection of both producers and consumers were the pillars for building a fair and sustainable global market and invited all Members to work together so that coffee continued to be a bridge between land, people, and the world.

20. A video message from the Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Ms Reem Alabali Radovan, was shown. She emphasized Germany's responsibility to promote fair and sustainable coffee supply chains and ensure living income and good working conditions for farmers. She highlighted strengthened cooperation with the International Coffee Organization and the GCP and reiterated Germany's support for the ICO's Coffee Public Private Task Force. Lastly, she congratulated Honduras on a key milestone: the shipment of the first fully traceable, EU Deforestation Regulation-compliant coffee container to Europe, demonstrating the importance of private sector efforts in tackling deforestation.

21. Ambassador Gonzalo Fournier of the European Union reaffirmed the EU's strong commitment to coffee, recognizing its importance in producing countries like Honduras and Colombia. He emphasized the European Union's shared responsibility alongside producers and exporters to ensure the sustainability of the coffee value chain and to keep more value within producing countries. The delegate of the European Union also highlighted coffee's role in breaking the vicious cycle of poverty and supporting economic development, while promoting the rejuvenation of plantations, better access to financing, increased investment in research and development, and compliance with environmental regulations. With a €100 million portfolio **for**

the coffee sector across 14 countries, he noted that the European Union supported climate adaptation through sustainable agroforestry, innovation, and strengthening small producers' capacity under its comprehensive Global Gateway investment agenda. He also expressed strong support for the International Coffee Organization, valuing its role in fostering multilateral cooperation, technical exchange, and dialogue between exporters and importers to address environmental and market challenges. Finally, the delegate of the European Union praised Honduras's private coffee sector and called for improvements to the port of Cortés in order to facilitate increased coffee exports.

22. Dr Laura Suazo of Honduras emphasized the importance of having a national public policy for the coffee sector, highlighting that technical improvements alone were not sufficient without state-level support. She explained that Honduras had approved a 20-year national agricultural policy in 2023, developed collaboratively across sectors, with coffee playing a central role due to its economic and cultural significance. She noted that 10% of the Honduran population was directly involved in coffee and that a new Sub-Secretariat for Coffee within the Ministry of Agriculture was helping focus efforts, including the creation of an agricultural extension model and a national farm renovation plan. The delegate reported that Honduras had reactivated its national agricultural development bank to offer low-interest loans and was working with international institutions to relieve the sector from debt burdens worsened by climate change and lack of insurance. She also highlighted policies related to gender and climate change within the coffee sector and referenced a successful public-private partnership programme called "Con Rural" that was helping to industrialize coffee through co-investment and state grants. Finally, she mentioned ongoing efforts to implement a national agricultural commercialization strategy and the need for further legal tools to support producers facing financial consolidation challenges.

23. Mr Miguel Guzmán of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) presented its Agricultural Prosperity Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, focused on providing pragmatic financial solutions for sustainable rural development. He emphasized that achieving long-term prosperity required not only increased productivity and infrastructure but also strong partnerships across public and private sectors, and financial tools to support producers through transitions, especially toward climate-resilient and regenerative agriculture. He noted that CAF had already invested \$4.3 billion in agro-related sectors and aimed to double the amount by 2030, aligning its policies with the SDGs and global climate and biodiversity goals. Mr Guzman also highlighted that the Bank was developing a regional initiative for sustainable coffee production in Central America, with pilot efforts already underway in countries like Honduras, including support for digitalization, technical assistance, and co-financed programmes like the "bono cafetalero." He concluded by reaffirming CAF's commitment to act as a pragmatic and catalytic partner in enabling

inclusive, financially viable, and environmentally sustainable development across agri-food systems in the region.

24. The delegate of Ecuador acknowledged CAF's longstanding role in regional development and suggested that Honduras's pilot experience be shared as a model so that countries like Ecuador could learn from both its successes and challenges in implementing similar initiatives.

25. In response to the delegate of Ecuador's intervention, the representative of CAF confirmed that a regional, shared agenda model was already being applied—such as in sustainable dairy projects involving multiple countries—and expressed openness to expanding participation and financing similar initiatives in other sectors.

26. The Council took note of the reports on national coffee policies.

**Item 5: Report of meetings of committees and other bodies**

**Item 5.1: Joint Committee**

27. The Chair of the Council recalled that the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of both the Council and Committees are nominal. He noted that, at its 138<sup>th</sup> Session, the Council had appointed Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Chair and Mr Natan Tambuno of Indonesia as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee. He then informed Members that, due to unforeseen constraints, both the Chair and the Vice-Chair had been unable to travel to Honduras and, consequently, the Executive Director would report on the activities and the most recent meeting of the Joint Committee.

28. The Executive Director reported that, since the last meeting of the International Coffee Council in March 2025, the Joint Committee had met three times for its third, fourth, and fifth meetings. She explained that the first two meetings had been strategic in building consensus around the proposals that the Committee had decided to recommend for approval by the Council at its fifth session, which the Council would consider and potentially approve during the Session at hand.

29. The Council took note of the report by the Executive Director on the Joint Committee.

**Item 5.2: Procedures for the submission and evaluation of proposals for ICO initiatives**

30. The Executive Director introduced document [JC-13/25 Rev. 2](#), which contained the procedures for the submission and evaluation of proposals for ICO initiatives. She noted that the document had been revised following the receipt of comments from Members. At its fifth meeting, the Joint Committee had decided to recommend the document for approval by the Council.

31. The delegate of Switzerland welcomed the document structuring the proposal process, and thanked the Secretariat and Brazil for the initiative. She emphasized that it should serve as a starting point and encouraged all Members, particularly exporting ones, to actively contribute to future discussions within the Joint Committee to establish common priorities and activities for the Organization.

32. The delegate of the European Union endorsed the approval of the procedures contained in document [JC-13/25 Rev. 2](#).

33. The delegate of the Philippines suggested that a call for proposals be issued under the established procedures for the submission and evaluation of ICO initiatives, and requested for them to be circulated among all Members to facilitate a better understanding.

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| 34. The Council approved document <a href="#">JC-13/25 Rev. 2</a> (Procedures for the submission and evaluation of proposals for ICO initiatives). |
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**Item 5.3: Report on compliance with the provision of statistical data in accordance with Statistical Rules - Coffee years 2023/24 to 2024/25**

35. The Executive Director reported that, during the fifth meeting of the Joint Committee, the Head of Operations had presented the annual report on Members' submission of statistical data for the coffee years 2023/24 and 2024/25 (document JC-19/25). She noted that the Committee had observed a decline in the compliance indicator for exporting countries, despite an increase in the number of Members submitting data, due to less complete or less timely information being provided. The Executive Director added that the Committee had recommended increasing ICO resources to enhance data collection and had decided to recommend the document to the Council for approval.

36. The Council approved document [JC-19/25](#) (Report on compliance with the provision of statistical data in accordance with Statistical Rules - Coffee years 2023/24 to 2024/25).

**Item 5.4: Proposal to improve the ICO's basic statistical data collection and dissemination**

37. The Executive Director reported that, following discussions during the second, third, and fourth meetings of the Joint Committee, one of the Secretariat's proposed initiatives had been approved at the fifth meeting and was being recommended to the Council for approval. The initiative focused on improving the collection and dissemination of the ICO's statistical data, as detailed in document [JC-20/25 Rev. 1](#). She explained that Members would receive support for the timely and accurate collection and submission of data through regional workshops and intensified bilateral sessions. Moreover, she added that access to data and reports would be improved, and both the budget and human resources dedicated to statistics were being increased, with the number of full-time staff rising from 2 to 3.6 units.

38. The Council approved document [JC-20/25 Rev. 1](#) (Proposal to improve the ICO's basic statistical data collection and dissemination)).

**Item 5.5: Status of implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan**

39. The Executive Director reported that, during the last meeting of the Joint Committee, Members had taken note of the report on the status of implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan (document [JC-14/25 Rev. 1](#)), which was also being submitted to the Council for consideration. She highlighted that the report represented the first time that the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) had been compiled since 2018 and the first time they were being presented to the Council. While noting that the Five-Year Action Plan required updates, she noted that the Joint Committee had recognized and commended the Secretariat's efforts in this regard.

40. The delegate of the European Union congratulated the Secretariat on the progress achieved, as reported in document [JC-14/25 Rev. 1](#).

41. The delegate of Brazil thanked the Executive Director for the work carried out and congratulated her and her team on their achievements. She stated that the outcome was fully aligned with Brazil's expectations, while emphasizing that, in Brazil's view, the Organization's primary function was to provide reliable statistical data.

42. The Council took note of document [JC-14/25 Rev. 1](#).

**Item 6: Financial and administrative matters****Item 6.1: Finance and Administration Committee**

43. The Chair of the Council informed Members that Ambassador Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire and Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC), respectively, had not been able to travel to Honduras. Consequently, he noted that the Executive Director would report on the activities and the most recent meetings of the FAC.

44. The Executive Director reported on the main discussions and recommendations arising from the 64<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> meetings of the FAC, held on 5 and 24 September 2025.

45. She noted that the Head of Finance and Administration had provided a presentation on the financial situation, as outlined in document [FA-394/25](#), sharing details on the actual cash balances at the end of July 2025 and all budgeted expenditures to January 2026. The cash balance had been deemed sufficient to fund the Organization's operations until the end of the current financial year. The Executive Director added that the Committee had emphasized the importance of ensuring the Organization's financial sustainability, promoting sustainable activities within the coffee sector, and strengthening public-private partnerships, while also reminding Members of the need to pay their contributions promptly.

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| 46. The Council took note of the report by the Executive Director. |
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**Item 6.2: Report on collection of contributions from Members in arrears**

47. The Executive Director informed the Council that the Head of Finance and Administration had presented a report on the collection of contributions in arrears, as contained in document [FA-395/25 Rev. 1](#). The report showed that outstanding contributions for the 2024/25 coffee year had decreased, and that total assessments had increased by £7,622 following payments received from Madagascar, Nigeria, and Tunisia. The Executive Director highlighted that, to that date, approximately 94% of the contributions for the 2024/25 coffee year had been received.

48. The Executive Director further shared that, since the last meeting of the FAC, the Russian Federation had communicated that its Federal Treasury had successfully opened a special account for foreign currency transactions and was now authorized to make payments in euros, including those related to its contributions to international commodity bodies based in the United Kingdom. She informed Members that the Secretariat had already requested that the United Kingdom

Government's Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation amend the ICO's General Licence in order to receive the contribution from the Russian Federation.

49. The delegate of Switzerland urged all Members that had not yet paid their contributions to do so on time, stressing their importance for the proper functioning of the Organization.

50. The delegate of the European Union echoed the intervention of Switzerland, reiterating the shared financial responsibility of all Members to ensure the proper functioning of the ICO and the implementation of its work programme.

51. The Council took note of the report by the Executive Director on the collection of contributions from Members in arrears.

### **Item 6.3: Draft Administrative Budget for coffee year 2025/26**

52. The Executive Director noted that the Head of Finance and Administration had presented the revised draft Administrative Budget for the 2025/26 coffee year, as contained in document [FA-388/25 Rev. 5](#).

53. She explained that the revision reflected a reduction, taking into account Members' feedback from the meeting on 5 September, as outlined in document [FA-397/25](#), as well as the recent United Nations 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Initiative. The fifth revision of the draft budget represented a 6.5% decrease, with Members' contributions reduced from £2,600,000 (£1,300 per vote), as in 2024/25, to £2,432,000 (£1,216 per vote) for the 2025/26 coffee year. This adjustment was made while ensuring that the Organization could continue to strengthen its activities and fulfil its mandate at normal levels of operation. She concluded by informing Members that the Committee had recommended document [FA-388/25 Rev. 5](#) for approval by the Council.

54. The delegate of Switzerland thanked the Secretariat for addressing Members' concerns and welcomed the budget reductions. She acknowledged that the exercise had been difficult but necessary, and emphasized that financial sustainability remained essential, stressing that resources should continue to be allocated in a targeted and efficient manner.

55. The delegate of the European Union endorsed the approval of the Draft Administrative Budget and the 6.5% reduction made, and encouraged the Secretariat to maintain its stability, emphasizing the importance of this for the implementation of the long-term goals of the Organization.



procedures, along with the percentages required for the entry into force of the ICA 2022, namely two-thirds of the votes from both exporting and importing Members. The Executive Director further noted that in recent weeks the Secretariat had been in contact with several Members to obtain updates on their internal processes, highlighting that Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, and Vietnam had already finalized its internal procedures and only needed to deposit their instruments of ratification.

63. While congratulating Members that had completed their membership procedures under the ICA 2022, the delegate of Switzerland expressed her country's concern about the slow progress made by several other countries in this regard. She reminded Members that the ICA 2007 could not be extended indefinitely, as stipulated in the provisions of the Agreement, and stressed that the February 2029 deadline could not be exceeded, urging Members to make every effort to complete their internal procedures as soon as possible.

64. Thanking Switzerland for its comments, the delegate of the European Union informed the Council that, as mentioned in earlier meetings, the European Union was making very good progress regarding the approval of the ICA 2022, which was now under consideration by the two co-legislators – the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament. She explained that the process at hand usually took a few months and noted that the European Union expected to be ready by mid-2026.

65. The delegate of the United Kingdom informed Members that the country was in the final stage of the internal governmental authorizations required for the ratification of the ICA 2022. He reaffirmed the United Kingdom's full commitment to the innovative principles of the Agreement, particularly its emphasis on sustainability, resilience, and private sector inclusion. He further reiterated his country's strong and active support for the Organization and its evolving mandate, expressing the United Kingdom's readiness to join fellow Members in formally ratifying the 2022 Agreement and advancing their shared goals.

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| 66. The Council took note of the report on the membership of the ICA 2022. |
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## **Item 7.2: Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022 (WGEF)**

67. The Chair of the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022 (WGEF), Mr Michael Wheeler of Papua New Guinea, reported on the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WGEF held on 15 October 2025, noting that the Group had previously not met for over a year and explaining the reasons for the delay. He noted that good progress had been made on the terms of reference of the Economics

Committee, with helpful contributions from the delegation of Brazil, which had been unanimously accepted. However, regarding the terms of reference of the Board of Affiliate Members, he mentioned that there had been a divergence of opinions. The Chair of the WGEF noted that, after several meetings, Members had decided to allow more time for proposals to mature and be considered. He added that, despite the long interval since the last meeting, informal consultations had been ongoing; proposals had been exchanged among delegations and some progress was to be expected in the near future.

68. Mr Wheeler emphasized that it was important for the Working Group to make progress, as many countries might delay ratification of the new Agreement until its function became clearer. He explained that the next meeting, scheduled for the last week of January, would aim to advance its work. Finally, he announced his intention to step down as Chair of the WGEF in view of future developments.

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| 69. The Council took note of the report on the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022. |
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#### **Item 8: Future meetings**

70. The Chair of the Council introduced the communication from the Government of Switzerland expressing the country's interest in hosting a Session of the Council in September 2026, as contained in document [ED-2491/25](#).

71. The delegate of Switzerland expressed appreciation for the warm welcome extended by Honduras and praised Ambassador Iván Romero Martínez and the team for organizing an excellent meeting. She then formally invited Members to the 142<sup>nd</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council in Geneva, emphasizing Switzerland's importance as a hub for both diplomacy and coffee, and noting that the country would be the second importing nation to host a Council session. She highlighted the opportunity to strengthen synergies with the international private coffee sector and international organizations and announced plans to provide insights into the work of the Swiss Coffee Platform, a multi-stakeholder sustainability initiative established in 2024. She also noted that the Swiss government was in close contact with the Swiss Coffee Trade Association (SCTA) to ensure back-to-back ICO meetings and the usual SCTA dinner and conference. Finally, she acknowledged the high standards set by Honduras and affirmed Switzerland's commitment to meeting the same expectations.

72. The delegate of Colombia endorsed Switzerland's proposal to host the International Coffee Council in 2026, while welcoming the coordination with the Swiss Coffee Trade Association and reaffirming Colombia's availability to attend. He then reminded Members that Colombia would be hosting a Session in 2027.

73. The delegate of Honduras thanked the Swiss delegate for her kind remarks about Honduran hospitality and supported Switzerland's candidacy to host the meeting, while reaffirming Honduras's commitment to participate.

74. The delegate of Brazil echoed the interventions of Colombia and Honduras and confirmed Brazil's support for Switzerland's offer to host the 142<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Council in Geneva.

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| 75. The Council approved the decision to host the September 2026 Session of the Council in Switzerland. |
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**Item 9: Report on the work of the ICO and market situation**

76. The Executive Director reported that the ICO Composite Indicator Price had reached record nominal levels in 2024/25, averaging 307 US cents per pound – a 52% increase from the previous year – and peaking at 354 US cents in February 2025, though still remaining below the real-term highs of the 1970s. She explained that the price surge was driven by consecutive global supply deficits from 2019/20 to 2023/24, caused by factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic, frost in Brazil, and droughts in Indonesia and Vietnam, which reduced stocks significantly. She added that despite a modest return to surplus in 2024/25, prices remained high due to continued uncertainty, tight Arabica supply from Brazil, logistical challenges in Vietnam, and resilient demand, particularly in Asia and the Middle East. The Executive Director highlighted that exports had reached another record in 2024/25, with 128 million bags shipped, i.e. only a slight volume increase but a sharp rise in export earnings to USD 47 billion, driven by higher prices. She further noted that while Brazil's exports had declined, countries such as Uganda, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Colombia, and Mexico had recorded strong growth. Lastly, she indicated that export distribution had returned to more balanced regional levels, with Africa showing increasing momentum, especially Uganda and Ethiopia, supported by new investments and expansion plans.

77. The Executive Director emphasized that, in the face of growing uncertainty in global coffee markets caused by climate shocks, pests, and logistical disruptions, reliable data had become more crucial than ever. She highlighted the ICO's unique role in providing verified, transparent, and comparable statistics that combined information from both producing and

consuming countries, thereby strengthening market confidence and supporting evidence-based policymaking. She further noted that the ICO's data approach was aligned with other international commodity bodies and drew on a wide range of official and market sources to ensure high-quality information. Finally, she informed the Council that the Secretariat had enhanced its capacity and started to provide targeted support to Members through regional workshops and improved access to its statistical databases.

78. The Executive Director then reported on the status of implementation of the Programme of Activities since March 2025. For Strategic Goal I, she explained that the Secretariat had made efforts to enhance Member compliance through three regional workshops, maintained its regular publications with growing subscriber numbers, and increased proactive media outreach. Regarding Strategic Goal II, she noted that institutional meetings had been intensified, including consultations on membership procedures for the ICA 2022. In terms of communication efforts, the Executive Director explained that the ICO website had received over 1.5 million visits and that engagement was growing across social media. On Strategic Goal III, she noted that the ICO had strengthened cooperation through Memoranda of Understanding with key organizations, joint webinars, and engagement with new financing initiatives. She also updated Members on the adoption by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of a resolution recognizing 1 October as International Coffee Day, noting the role that Brazil and other ICO Members had played in achieving this milestone. She added that the resolution was awaiting final consideration by the UN General Assembly and encouraged Members to take the necessary steps to support its adoption.

79. Lastly, the Executive Director concluded by noting that reports summarizing the missions she had undertaken since the last Council session, including all completed activities and results, had been submitted to Members as requested during the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council. She briefly outlined four missions with pending reports—Brazil, South Africa, Colombia, and New York— and highlighted that these trips had included meetings with national coffee bodies, international fora, and the ICO's first participation as observer at the UN General Assembly.

80. The delegate of Brazil thanked the Executive Director for her comprehensive presentation and congratulated her and her team, noting that the presentation had been enlightening and informative, as well as a valuable learning opportunity. She observed that high prices were often subject to criticism; however, they served as an incentive for farmers to reinvest in their production, improve soil management, and promote other practices beneficial to coffee cultivation. She emphasized that high prices ultimately contributed to the long-term sustainability of coffee production.

81. Another delegate from Brazil congratulated the Executive Director on the report and acknowledged that the achievements of the Organization underscored the importance of adopting a constructive narrative when referring to prices—using the term “remunerative” rather than “high”—to convey a balanced and sustainable perspective. He emphasized that remunerative prices could generate positive outcomes, including the reduction of deforestation and the promotion of social initiatives. For instance, he noted that with adequate and fair remuneration, producers would not be compelled to expand cultivation areas and could instead invest in soil restoration to enhance productivity, ensure a stable supply to consumers, and promote more efficient water use. He also praised the formal recognition of 1 October as International Coffee Day, highlighting its importance in raising the profile of the coffee sector, especially among young people.

82. The delegate of Honduras noted that the report by the Executive Director had impressed him, despite his many years of service as his country’s Permanent Representative to the ICO. He commended her for her leadership in broadening the ICO’s global scope of action and expressed appreciation for her tireless efforts on behalf of the entire coffee sector, as well as her ability to always identify positive solutions to challenges.

83. The delegate of Colombia echoed the intervention of Honduras and thanked the Executive Director, particularly for the intensive agenda during her visit to his country and the very fruitful meetings held with producers and the Colombian Minister of Agriculture.

84. The delegate of India thanked the Executive Director for her presentation and comprehensive report, commending the Organization’s efforts to enhance data analysis and transparency. He highlighted India’s recent virtual discussions with the Organization aimed at improving data sharing and addressing existing gaps, and expressed interest in continuing such constructive engagements in the future.

85. The delegate of Switzerland joined other delegations in expressing appreciation to the Executive Director, her team, and all partners for their extensive and remarkable work. She stressed the importance of transparency, echoing the remarks made by India, and emphasized how this was essential for building trust among Members.

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| 86. The Council took note of the report on the work of the ICO and market situation. |
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**Item 10: Sustainability and partnerships****Item 10.1: Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) and CEOs & Global Leaders Forum (CGLF)**

87. The Executive Director reported on the work of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF), starting with activities related to Living and Prosperous Income (LPI) processes in Rwanda and Mexico, as well as follow-up on initiatives with the GCP. She also noted that dialogue on these activities had also been maintained with Ethiopia and El Salvador. She highlighted that the ICO had participated in several panels on LPI, including those organized by GIZ, Fairtrade/IDH, and SCA, and that the strategic dialogue with the Government of Germany and GCP on LPI within the framework of the Joint Declaration had continued.

88. The Executive Director noted that the LPI Process Guide had been developed as an online application. She clarified that modifications would be made based on feedback from Sherpas and ICO Members before the tool was made publicly available. The Executive Director explained that, for the measurement of current household income and production costs, proxy tools had been developed to streamline the process, and COSA was also developing a production-cost application with external funding. She further reported other engagements, including one Technical Workstream 1 meeting and two Technical Workstream 3 meetings, as well as the initiation of a joint action on EUDR within the TW3 subgroups.

89. The Executive Director added that a newsletter of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force had been launched, and that the ICO and its CPPTF were actively participating in the COP30 Action Agenda meetings, promoting collaboration in the coffee sector as a model case. Finally, she reported that the CPPTF had been submitted and approved as an initiative to advance climate resilience for COP30.

90. The Executive Director reported on the 23rd CPPTF Sherpas meeting held on 15 October 2025, noting that two key topics were discussed: whether high coffee prices were reaching producers, and LPI, particularly regarding a transition to regenerative agriculture and collective climate action. She added that it was generally agreed that fair prices had benefited producers, though rising production costs and living expenses could affect this impact. Finally, she explained that some participants had noted that higher prices could discourage investment in farmers' professional development.

91. The Executive Director noted that JDE Peet's had presented a regenerative agriculture initiative that could potentially increase farmers' net income by 60%, with support including compensation, training, and guidance, while Tchibo had highlighted the importance of collective climate action and scalable good agricultural practices.

92. The Executive Director explained that, while many CPPTF members had supported further exploration of these opportunities, emphasizing the benefits of regenerative agriculture and the importance of pre-competitive public-private cooperation, some had urged caution, noting that it should not currently be a top priority and that profitability and the appeal to farmers in different contexts must be considered. She noted that a consensus had emerged on regenerative agriculture being desirable, but that the CPPTF's role in scaling it needed clearer definition, potentially as a platform for dialogue and linkages with funding opportunities. Lastly, the Executive Director added that members of the CPPTF had noted that the latter could also serve as a platform for deepening knowledge of agricultural models and practices that are effective in different contexts, in order to encourage farmers to transition to regenerative agriculture.

93. The Executive Director continued to report on the 7<sup>th</sup> CEOs and Global Leaders Forum (CGLF), which had started the day before, featuring interesting presentations by Minister Laura Suazo, Minister Luis Soliz from the Forest Conservation Institute, UNIDO, CAF, and exceptional keynote speakers. She added that their interventions had drawn on extensive experience and real investments in the coffee sector. The Executive Director thanked them for their excellent contributions, noting that they had prepared the ground and broadened participants' perspectives for sessions on markets, LPI, and regenerative agriculture.

94. Regarding markets, the Executive Director reported that the speakers had provided important insights during the market analysis session. She noted that they had explained the causes and effects of high coffee prices and explored current trends in the coffee market. She noted that the market context was highly uncertain, strongly influenced by climate, geopolitics, and regulations with diverging interests, and that this uncertainty made it even more important to monitor developments collectively and to share evidence-based insights on market dynamics and regulatory impacts.

95. Regarding regenerative agriculture, the Executive Director commended the speakers for their contributions. She noted that the sessions had highlighted gaps and potential improvements through regenerative agriculture for increasing farmers' incomes. She also highlighted that the discussions had addressed mechanization and ways to ensure coffee supply security, while also outlining that different roles could be developed by the ICO/CPPTF in collaboration with partners, development agencies, and other donors, such as the European Union.

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| <p>96. The Council took note of the Executive Director's report on the activities of the CPPTF and on the 7<sup>th</sup> CGLF.</p> |
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**Item 10.2: Coffee sector regulatory framework**

97. The Head of Operations reported on the coffee sector regulatory framework, noting that the latter, as well as the market context, remained unstable. She addressed four key points, namely that:

- (a) The EU Regulation on Deforestation-free products (EUDR) was set to come into effect on 30 December 2025 (and six months later for micro and small enterprises). The EU Commission's risk benchmarking was also expected to enter into application on the same date despite a non-binding motion from the European Parliament against its methodology.
- (b) As of 1 October 2025, a new EU regulation on organic imports required adaptation to the EU's organic definition, replacing the previous equivalence mechanism.
- (c) An omnibus EU directive intended to simplify due diligence regulations had been published. The Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CS3D) had been delayed, giving EU Member States an additional year to define national legislation (with application for producing countries importing to the EU expected to start in July 2028).
- (d) The EU regulation on forced labour had been published and would come into force in December 2027, with guidelines and a database anticipated in 2026.

98. On funding opportunities, the Head of Operations highlighted global initiatives, noting that national and regional development banks may offer the best opportunities. She informed Members that the ICO continued to engage with Italy's *Cassa Depositi e Prestiti* and the World Bank on structuring the G7 Global Fund to be presented at the COP30, as well as the United Kingdom's Sustainable Markets Initiative, and the EU Global Gateway flagship project in Africa for sustainable coffee and climate-resilient value chains. Lastly, she noted that the Organization also continued to follow and promote coffee-related investments with UN agencies, including the International Trade Centre and FAO.

99. The Council took note of the Head of Operations' report on the coffee sector regulatory framework.

**Item 10.3: Status of implementation of the ICO's Memoranda of Understanding**

100. The Head of Operations presented document [ICC-140-4](#), recalling that an evaluation of ICO partnerships had been conducted following a request presented at the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICC in

March 2025. She noted that since coffee year 2021/22, post-COVID, the Organization had signed five memoranda of understanding:

- (a) Two with UN agencies: one just with ITC and another joint one involving ICO, ITC, and the Center for Circular Economy in Coffee.
- (b) Three with private sector associations or initiatives: one with GCP) one with SCA, and one with ACRAM.

101. She informed Members that four of those partnerships were global, while the one with ACRAM focused on Africa. The Head of Operations highlighted that the activities included capacity building, testing approaches, strategic networking, joint learning, promoting innovation, and knowledge management. She concluded by noting that a detailed list of activities had been circulated in the document at hand.

102. The Chair of the Council thanked the Head of Operations for her report. He then took the opportunity to invite representatives of the African Fine Coffees Association (AFCA) to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ICO, which had already been approved by the Council at its 139<sup>th</sup> Session.

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| 103. The Council took note of document <a href="#">ICC-140-4</a> . |
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**Item 11: Office holders and committees**

**Item 11.1: Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of committees**

104. The delegate of Brazil, in her capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, designated Ambassador Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire as Chair of the Joint Committee. She indicated that the following countries had expressed an interest in becoming members of the Joint Committee: Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, India, and Togo.

105. The delegate of the European Union, in her capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, designated Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee and confirmed the European Union and Switzerland as members of the Committee for coffee year 2025/26.

106. The delegate of Brazil, in her capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, informed the Council that the nomination for Vice-Chair of the FAC would be submitted at the next session

of the Council. She indicated that the following countries had expressed an interest in becoming members of the FAC: Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Papua New Guinea and Togo.

107. The delegate of the European Union, in her capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, designated Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Chair of the FAC. The following countries expressed their interest in becoming members of the FAC: European Union, Japan, Norway and Switzerland.

108. The Council approved the appointment of Ambassador Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire as Chair and Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee for coffee year 2025/26.

109. The Council approved the composition of the Joint Committee for coffee year 2025/26 submitted by exporting and importing Members.

110. The Council approved the appointment of Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Chair of the FAC for coffee year 2025/26.

111. The Council approved the composition of the FAC for coffee year 2025/26 submitted by exporting and importing Members.

#### **Item 11.2: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council**

112. The delegate of Brazil, in her capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, proposed Mr Michael Wheeler of Papua New Guinea for the position of Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2025/26.

113. The delegate of the European Union, in her capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, informed Members of the need to postpone the appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Council to its next session.

114. The Chair of the Council expressed that it had been an honour to serve during coffee year 2024/25, highlighting the diversity of ICO Members and stressing that open dialogue was always essential for the Organization's progress. He extended his sincere thanks to the Executive Director and the ICO Secretariat team for their dedication and professionalism in ensuring the success of the meetings. The Chair of the Council also expressed gratitude to all ICO Members for their

cooperation and hard work throughout the year, as well as to former Chairs for their support and guidance. Finally, he paid tribute to his successor, Mr Michael Wheeler, highlighting his extensive experience and long-standing commitment to the coffee sector, and expressing confidence that the Organization would remain in excellent hands under his leadership.

115. Mr Michael Wheeler of Papua New Guinea expressed his gratitude to the Council upon his election as Chair and thanked his predecessor and former Chairs for their leadership. He noted that it was a personal honour to assume the position, having worked closely with the ICO since 1978, and described it as the highest office he had held during that period. He reflected that serving as Chair of the ICO would be a learning experience, offering valuable lessons in negotiation and human nature, and anticipated an interesting and productive year ahead. Mr. Wheeler also expressed pride on behalf of his country, Papua New Guinea, noting that the honour coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its independence and reaffirming its long-standing commitment to international cooperation in coffee since the Organization's inception. He concluded by pledging to serve with dedication and to seek the guidance and support of his colleagues during his term.

116. The Council elected Mr Michael Wheeler as Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2025/26.

**Item 11.3: Chair of the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022**

117. The delegate of the European Union, in her capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, proposed Mr Tom Fabozzi of the EU-Ireland as Chair of the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022.

118. The Council elected Mr Tom Fabozzi of the EU-Ireland as Chair of the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022.

**Item 12: Credentials**

119. The Head of Operations stated that the credentials received were found to be in good order and noted that the Secretariat, as standard practice, would issue at a future date a Credentials Report and a list of delegations that had attended the Council session.

120. The Council approved the report on credentials.

**Item 13: Other business**

121. No other business was addressed.

**Closing session**

122. The delegate of the European Union expressed gratitude to the Government and people of Honduras for their warm hospitality and organization of the ICO meetings, and thanked the Chair of the Council, the Executive Director, and the ICO staff for their dedication and professionalism. She reaffirmed the EU's strong commitment to the ICO as a key platform for global coffee cooperation and highlighted future priorities, including increasing local value addition, rejuvenating coffee plantations, improving access to finance, and investing in research and agroecological practices. Lastly, she thanked all participants for their constructive engagement and described the session as a valuable and enriching experience.

123. The delegates of Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and India echoed the intervention of the European Union, thanking the Executive Director and the Secretariat for their efforts in organizing the meetings, as well as the Government of Honduras for its warm hospitality. They also congratulated Mr Tom Fabozzi on his chairmanship during coffee year 2024/25 and Mr Michael Wheeler on his appointment as Chair of the Council.

124. The delegate of Togo, also on behalf of Gabon and Rwanda, thanked the Government and people of Honduras for their excellent organization. He praised Ambassador Iván Romero-Martínez, congratulated the outgoing Chair, and welcomed the newly elected Chair. He commended the Executive Director and the ICO Secretariat for their professionalism, recognized interpreters' efforts, and thanked delegates for their collegiality. He also praised the Honduran Minister of Agriculture and highlighted the success and productive environment of the Council Session.

125. Dr Laura Suazo, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Honduras, on behalf of the Government and President Xiomara Castro, expressed deep gratitude to the ICO, its Members, and delegates for choosing Honduras as the host of a historic session of the Council. She highlighted the central role of coffee in Honduran culture, economy, and daily life, which she described as a symbol of identity, tradition, and joy for its people. The Minister emphasized that coffee sustained 10% of the country's population and served as a key vehicle for economic and social advancement. She reaffirmed Honduras's commitment to sustainability, traceability, and inclusion in coffee value chains, noting efforts to rejuvenate coffee plantations and support small and medium producers. She stressed the importance of public-private partnerships and international cooperation, particularly in empowering women and youth and adapting to new

global regulations and climate challenges. The Minister underscored that global coffee challenges should be addressed collectively through political will, shared vision, and multilateral cooperation, with the ICO remaining a vital platform for dialogue and consensus. She concluded by thanking all delegations, partners, and national teams for their dedication and invited all those present to carry forward the renewed spirit of collaboration and the taste of Honduran coffee as a symbol of unity and resilience among coffee-producing nations.

126. The Chair of the Council closed the 140<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council.