



**Decisions and Resolutions adopted  
at the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
International Coffee Council**

**9 and 10 September 2021**

**Opening of the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council**

Item 1:	Adoption of the Agenda .....	2
Item 2:	Votes.....	2
Item 3:	Report on the work of the ICO and market situation and impact of the covid-19 pandemic .....	4
Item 4:	Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) and CEO & Global Leader Forum (CGLF).....	7
Item 5:	International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007 .....	9
Item 6:	Post of Executive Director .....	15
Item 7:	Report of meetings of committees and other bodies .....	17
Item 8:	Promotion of coffee consumption.....	22
Item 9:	World Coffee Conference .....	23
Item 10:	Special Fund.....	23
Item 11:	Cooperation with other agencies.....	24
Item 12:	National Coffee Policies .....	25
Item 13:	Financial and administrative matters.....	26
Item 14:	Office holders and committees .....	30
Item 15:	Credentials .....	31
Item 16:	Future meetings .....	31
Item 17:	Other business.....	31
Item 18:	Closing session .....	32

1. Mr John Muldowney, of EU-Ireland, chaired the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council, held at the end of coffee year 2020/21. Due to social distancing restrictions, the Council took place virtually on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2021, using the online Zoom platform.
2. The Chair of the Council opened the Council by welcoming all Members and then giving his official opening statement<sup>1</sup>.
3. The Chair invited the Vice-Chair of the Council, His Excellency Ambassador Iván Romero-Martínez, of Honduras, to give his opening speech<sup>2</sup>. The Vice-Chair sent a message of solidarity to all those affected by the pandemic and thanked ICO Members and Secretariat for the work carried out throughout coffee year 2021/22.
4. The Chair then invited the Executive Director to give his opening speech<sup>3</sup>.

**Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda**

5. 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 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council had been reached.
6. The Chair of the Council noted that the running order of the agenda was rearranged at request of several Member States and external guest speakers, mainly due to time zone constraints.
7. The Council adopted the draft Agenda contained in document [ICC-130-0 Rev. 3](#).

**Item 2: Votes**

**Item 2.1 Redistribution of votes for coffee year 2020/21**

8. The Head of Operations reported on the document [ICC-130-2 Rev. 1](#), containing the redistribution of votes for coffee year 2020/21, which had been calculated in accordance with Article 12 of the International Coffee Agreement (2007). He explained Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 and informed document [ICC-130-2 Rev. 1](#) had been revised to restore the voting rights of Panama after payment of its outstanding contribution. He reminded that only Members of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 who have paid their contributions were eligible to vote during the Council.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9. The Council took note of the report of the Head of Operations and approved the redistribution of votes for coffee year 2020/21.</li></ol> |
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<sup>1</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-6](#).

<sup>2</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-8](#).

<sup>3</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-7](#).

**Item 2.2 Initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2021/22**

10. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) reported on the initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2021/22 and discussions held within the FAC. With reference to document [ED-2378/21 Rev. 1](#) 'Basis for the initial distribution of votes among exporting and importing Members for coffee year 2021/22', the Chair of the FAC informed that four Members had requested corrections to their export data. In three cases, the situation had been satisfactorily resolved, with small changes that did not affect the initial distribution of votes. In the fourth case – Viet Nam – the ICO Statistics Section requested additional information, since the numbers supplied by the Member differed from other sources, including official agencies of the Vietnamese government. Considering that no agreement had been reached, the contributions for exporting Members could not be calculated in time for approval during the Session of the Council. In order to avoid holding a costly Special Session of Council, the Chair of the FAC therefore proposed that the Council delegate responsibility for the determination of the basis for the initial distribution of votes and their redistribution according to the provisions of Resolution 470 to the Committee, in the following manner:

- (a) The Council would approve the budget and delegate responsibility to the FAC for revising the basis for the initial distribution of votes;
- (b) The Secretariat would make efforts to agree on mutually acceptable figures with the Member; if these efforts were successful, the revised basis for distribution would be submitted to the FAC's approval;
- (c) In case no mutually acceptable solution were to be reached, a special working group (chaired by an importing Member and joined by four exporting Members) would convene and analyse the data to be presented by the Secretariat and the Member and make a recommendation.
- (d) If, in late September, the FAC reached a consensus on a revised basis for the initial distribution of votes and their redistribution according to the provisions of Resolution 470, this would be considered as approved for use in coffee year 2021/22. If no consensus were reached within the FAC, a special session of the Council would need to be held.

11. The delegate of the European Union endorsed the provision presented by the Chair of the FAC and confirmed his availability to provide assistance with the creation of the Working Group.

12. The delegate of Honduras echoed the intervention of the delegate of the European Union and expressed his support to the proposal presented by the Chair of the FAC.

13. The delegate of Viet Nam stressed that the data used for the calculations contained in document [ED-2378/21 Rev. 1](#) did not reflect the figures submitted to the Secretariat in July 2019 and July 2020. He also informed that, due to the lockdown imposed by the pandemic, Viet Nam was unable to double check data with the agency responsible for issuing Certificates of Origin, the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and invited the Secretariat to further investigate this question and correct the figures. He also stressed that Vietnam had been excluded from the distribution of votes for coffee year 2020/21 because it was in arrears and requested further clarifications on this point affirming they were wrongfully deprived of their right to vote. The delegate of Viet Nam reminded delegates that his organization needed to collect fees from their exporters in order to pay for their contributions to the ICO and that Viet Nam proposed to pay its contributions for coffee year 2020/21 in instalments.

14. In response to the intervention of the delegate of Viet Nam, the Executive Director informed that questions related to the contributions of Viet Nam for coffee year 2020/21 would be discussed under item 13.2.1 of the Agenda. With reference to the question of data, the Executive Director recalled the numerous attempts (December 2020-July 2021) made by the Secretariat and the Chair of the Council to establish a constructive dialogue with the government of Viet Nam, in order to clarify and further discuss the matter. The Executive Director confirmed the commitment of the Secretariat to continue engaging with Viet Nam until an agreement was reached.

<p>15. The Council approved the proposal made by the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee as contained in paragraph 10 (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.</p>
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**Item 3: Report on the work of the ICO and market situation and impact of the covid-19 pandemic**

16. The Executive Director presented a report on the work of the ICO during the coffee year 2020/21. Regarding coffee market trends, the Executive Director highlighted the increased volatility and the surge in prices mainly due to climate events in different regions of the world.

17. The ICO composite indicator was currently above 160 US cents/lb, with the level reached in August 2021 representing an increase of 51.3% since October 2020. Among the key consequences of the reduced supply availability, the Executive Director mentioned challenges related to compliance with contracts, substantial increases in the

freight costs and supply chain disruptions. The four coffee groups registered a similarity in behaviour, although the highest percentage increase had been recorded by Brazilian Naturals. The Executive Director noted that the volatility of New York futures market was 21% in August 2021 compared with 13.6% in July 2021, mainly due to the uncertainty caused by the frosts in Brazil.

18. During coffee year 2020/21 production had remained stable, with a 1.1% increase for the ten largest producing countries, with Viet Nam and Peru being the only two countries registering a decrease (4.9% and 0.8% respectively). Despite the impact of the pandemic, substantial flows of coffee had been registered. In the last ten months, exports amounted to 108.96 million bags, an increase of 2.2% compared with the same period of the previous coffee year. On the other hand, demand had suffered due to lockdowns and reduced opportunities for out-of-home consumption. Most of the last 10 years had shown a surplus of production over consumption, although a reversal of this trend was expected in coffee year 2021/22 with a substantial production deficit due to the impact of Brazilian frosts. In this sense the international community was urged to allocate resources and to address climate threats and environmental-related issues affecting production, also within global events such as the G20, World Food Summit and the COP 26.

19. With reference to covid-19, the pandemic had continued to affect coffee production, trade and consumption. The Executive Director highlighted how the disruptions in the global value chain and consequent exposure of the vulnerability of the coffee sector had increased the focus on social and environmental risks of supply chains and on the need for greater traceability and transparency. During 2021, the ICO Secretariat has conducted a new survey on the impact of covid-19 on the coffee sector, extending the participation also to importing Members and their associations. The Secretariat would present the final results of the survey in late September, but preliminary analysis had shown respondents had perceived an improvement in the situation of the world coffee market in comparison with the results of last year's study.

20. Regarding the key activities of the Organization, the Executive Director noted that in addition to carrying out its mandatory functions as defined in the ICA (2007), in 2020/21 the Secretariat was involved in the execution of specific activities such as the operationalization of a new statistical database, the preparation of the Coffee Development Report 2021, the promotion of coffee consumption and the celebration of the International Coffee Day 2021, as well as the mobilization of partnerships and financial resources and the monitoring of the impact of the covid-19 pandemic. The main resources for the implementation of these activities were the professional and technical staff funded by the ICO's regular budget. The Executive Director highlighted that the drastic reduction of the staff had led to the cancellation and/or the reduction in scope of

several activities. The Executive Director noted that the budget for coffee year 2020/21 included £67,000 for the Programme of Activities to support the staff in carrying out specific activities, especially those that required skills not available in-house. In addition, the ICO had received between £600,000 and £900,000 for the execution of the Programme of Activities, in the form of cash and in kind contributions mainly from Members, the private sector and other international organizations through the Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF).

21. With reference to the analysis of the coffee sector, the Executive Director informed that the next Coffee Development Report would focus on “Coffee’s Next Generation”, although full funding for this activity had still not been confirmed. Surveys to collect best practices and success stories had also been launched in order to highlight youth-led initiatives and the important role played by youth in the coffee value chain, with results to be disseminated by the end of 2021.

22. With regard to the promotion of coffee consumption, the campaign for International Coffee Day 2021 had been reduced in scope due to lack of resources. Meanwhile, the Coffee Market Development Toolkit for the promotion of coffee consumption in producing countries had been validated and supported by the ICO Members and then received funding from the German government. The Executive Director reported on the organization of the Y20 Coffee Day, an event held within the G20 framework that promoted dialogue on key topics such as innovation and sustainability between the Y20 delegates and important players of the private sector.

23. The delegate of Nicaragua congratulated the Chair, the Vice-Chair and the Secretariat for the achievements obtained throughout the 2020/21 coffee year, despite the many challenges the whole coffee sector was facing, particularly emphasizing the progress made by the CPPTF. She then thanked the ICO for the project to be implemented in Honduras and Nicaragua and confirmed Nicaragua’s commitment to the sustainability and the development of the national coffee sector.

24. The delegate of the European Union thanked the Executive Director for the report on the development of the coffee market and stressed the important role played by the ICO in the provision of statistics. He showed appreciation for the accomplishments obtained by the Secretariat despite working with reduced staff.

25. The delegate of Brazil expressed his gratitude to the Executive Director and the staff of the Organization for the excellent work carried out and emphasized the key role of the ICO in the coffee sector as well as the importance of Members’ engagement in ICO activities.

26. The delegate of Mexico congratulated the Secretariat for efficiently adapting the activities of the Organization to the new pandemic context and reiterated Mexico's technical, diplomatic and financial commitment for the coffee year 2021/22

**Item 3.1: Proposal for the ICO theme for coffee year 2021/22**

27. The Head of Operations provided information on discussions with academics, which showed a priority focus on a circular economy, a topic becoming increasingly important for the coffee sector, as it was already for other international organizations. The proposed theme was "Towards a circular economy for coffee: new investment, income and job opportunities".

28. The Council noted the proposal for the ICO theme for coffee year 2021/22.

**Item 4: Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) and CEO & Global Leaders Forum (CGLF)**

29. The Executive Director presented the report for the Coffee Public-Private Task Force. He noted that the Coffee Public-Private Task Force met seven times and held four outreach sessions with ICO exporting Members and thirty Technical Workstream meetings. The Executive Director emphasized the CPPTF's growing recognition and Members increased willingness to engage with the activities of the Task Force.

30. Document [CPPTF 4/21](#) contained consensus proposals that had been elaborated in Technical Workstreams 1 "Living-prosperous income" and 4 "Resilient coffee landscapes", while document [CPPTF 2/21](#) had been elaborated within the Technical Workstream 2 on market transparency and contained learnings from cost of production and value distribution efficiency.

31. The third key document to be considered was the joint communiqué of the International Coffee Council and the CEO and Global Leaders Forum ([CPPTF 3/21](#)). It consisted of an open letter to farmers and consumers based on a shared vision on threats, challenges and opportunities the coffee sector could offer. The document reiterated the commitment of Task Force members to strive for action, while also highlighting the key role of future generations and the need to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement towards a truly transformational and positive change for coffee growers.

32. The Council considered and approved documents [CPPTF 2/21](#)<sup>4</sup>, [CPPTF 3/21](#)<sup>5</sup> and [CPPTF 4/21](#)<sup>6</sup>.

33. The Executive Director then reported on the 3<sup>rd</sup> CEO & Global Leaders Forum held on 8 September, which was attended by more than 60 high-level private sector representatives, as well as sector organizations and representatives of ICO Member Countries. He noted the issue of coffee price volatility was at the core of discussions held, being this also the main topic of the keynote speech presented by Professor Jeffrey Sachs – Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development at Columbia University and President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network. Additional interventions were made by the Minister of Agriculture of Brazil, the CEO of the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia, Starbucks Coffee Company and Volcafe. The CPPTF was increasingly recognized as the ideal place to address and solve the structural weaknesses of the coffee sector and to ensure its sustainable growth and prosperity for farmers and all coffee stakeholders. Among the main conclusions of the event the Executive Director highlighted i) the importance of collaboration, although this had not been considered as a strong skill across the coffee sector; ii) the need to sharpen the Task Force focus on key outcomes such as the living and prosperous income; iii) the need to strengthen the role of the public sector in ensuring level playing field and guidance. In conclusion, the 3<sup>rd</sup> CGLF called for more practical actions and tangible results in the field and committed to meet for the fourth time in September 2022 alongside the World Coffee Conference to be held in Bangalore, India.

34. Regarding the nomination of sherpas representing ICO Members from 2021 to 2023, the spokesperson for exporting Members and the spokesperson for importing Members informed that list of representatives remained unchanged. The delegate of the European Union took the opportunity to stress the importance of the work conducted by the Task Force and to thank the support provided by Germany and Switzerland.

35. Next, the Executive Director informed that a new sherpa for the private sector had joined the CPPTF and therefore the nomination of a new sherpa from the public sector was required, in order to maintain equal representation between the two sectors. He suggested the nomination of an exporting Member, while the Head of Operations noted that a vacancy for an importing Member was also available.

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<sup>4</sup> Subsequently published as ICC-130-11.

<sup>5</sup> Subsequently published as ICC-130-12.

<sup>6</sup> Subsequently published as ICC-130-13.



36. The delegate of Nicaragua congratulated the work of the CPPTF and the remarkable progress made since its creation, emphasizing the key role of the Task Force as a unique platform for dialogue and the identification of joint solutions to the main challenges of the coffee sector.

37. The delegate of Brazil informed that India would be the exporting Member joining the CPPTF as a sherpa for the public sector. The Chair of the Council agreed to receive the nomination from importing Members at a later stage.

38. The Council took note of the Report.

**Item 5: International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007**

**Item 5.1: Review of the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007**

39. The Chair of the Council invited the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Coffee Agreement (WGFA) to report.

40. The Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement summarized the work of the WGFA over the previous months. Since the Session of the International Coffee Council held in April 2021 the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement met five times. During its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting a small Drafting Group was created to narrow down options for further discussion within the larger Working Group. Discussions within the WGFA focused on three main issues: the role of the private sector; votes and contributions; and the text of a new Agreement.

41. With reference to the role of the private sector, the WGFA received the results of surveys conducted by the Secretariat with ICO Members and the private sector, both of which showed mutual interest in a closer relationship within the new ICA. Consensus has been reached on the importance of integrating and granting representation within the ICO governance not only to the private sector but also to civil society. In virtue of this Members agreed i) to formally integrate the Coffee Public-Private Task force (CPPTF) within the 2021 International Coffee Agreement; ii) on the inclusion of a new category of affiliate membership without voting rights, thereby maintaining the intergovernmental nature of the ICO; iii) to reform the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) and replace it by establishing a Board of Affiliate Members comprising the private sector and the civil society (NGOs, academia, development partners, etc.), with modalities for accession and regulations to be defined by the Council at a later stage.

42. Substantial progress had also been made with reference to votes and contributions. Consensus has been reached on the use of a mix of 50% value and 50% volume of exports and imports for the determination of votes and Members confirmed

their openness to change, in principle, the distinction between exporting and importing Members in the determination of contributions. Although significant advances had been made, the Chair of the WGFA noted that further discussion on the question of contributions was still required.

43. The Chair of the WGFA also informed that Members had started to review the draft of the International Coffee Agreement, starting with the Preamble and that the delegate of Papua New Guinea was nominated Vice-Chair *ad interim* by exporting Members. She hoped that the work of the WGFA would be concluded by the end of 2021.

44. The delegate of the European Union congratulated the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement for the remarkable progress Members had made under her chairmanship. With regard to votes and contributions, he informed that the European Union still did not make a final decision, since not all the EU Member States had positioned themselves on the question. With reference to the remaining points the Chair of the WGFA reported on, the delegate of the European Union expressed his full support.

45. The delegate of Brazil thanked the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement for her work and ability to lead discussions and accommodate different positions within the Group. He affirmed he was confident the new text of the agreement would be more inclusive and would allow the ICO to perform more efficiently.

46. The delegate of Colombia praised the leadership of the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement and informed further discussion at national level on the question of votes and contributions was still needed before Colombia confirmed its final decision.

47. The delegate of Viet Nam thanked the Chair of the WGFA for her continued efforts and informed that the Vietnamese government had not reached any final position on the use of a mix of value and volume for the determination of votes.

48. The Chair of the WGFA noted that, as per the intervention of the Chair of the Private Sector Consultative Board under Item 7.4, the integration of the private sector should effectively give a voice to the stakeholders of the coffee sector.

49. The delegate of Peru congratulated the Chair of the WGFA for her intense work and expressed his optimism regarding the text of the new International Coffee Agreement.

50. The Chair of the Council thanked the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement for her report.

**Item 5.2: Extension of the International Coffee Agreement 2007**

51. The Chair of the Council recalled in September 2020 the Council had approved Resolution 471 extending the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007 for a further year and that the current deadline was 1 February 2022. In August 2021 document [WP Council 315/21](#) on the extension of the 2007 Agreement for a further year until 1 February 2023 had been circulated for the kind consideration of Members.

52. The Chair of the Council also presented a communication from Viet Nam, contained in document [ED-2383/21](#), stating that the Vietnamese government did not agree with the extension of the Agreement.

53. The Executive Director informed Viet Nam that the communication by itself was insufficient and that an additional communication needed to be sent to the Depository, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 48 of the Agreement. He also stressed that if the decision by Viet Nam was confirmed the Member State would leave the Organization at the end of the current period of extension.

54. The delegate of Japan supported the extension of the Agreement until 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 as this would grant Members adequate time for internal considerations and procedures on the ratification of the new agreement.

55. The delegate of the European Union endorsed the statement of the delegate of Japan and informed the EU had taken all the necessary measures to support the extension of the Agreement.

56. The delegate of Viet Nam informed that although his government disagreed with the extension of the ICA 2007 he would still be keen to participate in the negotiation process and to join the new ICA.

57. In response to the intervention of Viet Nam, the Executive Director expressed his appreciation for their willingness to join the new ICA, while pointing out that they could no longer be involved in the process of negotiation after leaving the Organization.

58. The delegate of Brazil asked for clarifications on the level of ratifications necessary for the ICA to enter into force and questioned the one-year duration of the extension proposed, suggesting that a two-year extension would provide Members with the necessary time to conduct internal procedures for the ratification of the new ICA.

59. In response to Brazil, the Executive Director informed that the provisions of Article 42 of the ICA 2007 were as follows: the Agreement should enter into force after signatory Governments holding at least two-thirds of the votes of the exporting Members and signatory Governments holding at least two-thirds of the votes of the importing Members had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval. This proportion of two-thirds could, of course, be changed during the negotiation of the new Agreement.

60. The delegate of Papua New Guinea clarified that previous Agreements had customarily been extended for only one year due to the fact that conditions for the entry into force of a new Agreement could have been met before the end of the extension itself.

61. The delegate of Brazil requested Members to consider the possibility of extending the Agreement for two years, as both the drafting and the ratification processes of the new ICA could require considerable time.

62. The delegates of Honduras, the European Union, Japan, Peru and the Philippines endorsed the proposal presented by Brazil. The delegate of Mexico supported the extension of the agreement and suggested to accelerate the work within the WGFA in order to have a new draft text by the end of 2021.

63. The delegate of Brazil asked Viet Nam to reconsider the decision to leave the ICO also in virtue of the promising prospects of the new ICA, especially in regard to the wider collaboration with the private sector.

64. The Executive Director informed that the Secretariat had just received a communication from Uganda stating the Member also did not approve the extension of the ICA 2007. He also noted the Secretariat would seek legal advice to verify the eligibility of the letter sent, considering that accession is usually notified by the Head of State, Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Agreement and other key documents were unclear as to the authority to notify in case of a refusal to accept extension of the Agreement.

65. The delegate of the European Union asked the motivations of the opposition to extension of the Agreement by some Members to be clarified, affirming he would also urge the work of the WGFA to be faster if it was confirmed Members were not approving the extension as a form of protest.

66. The Executive Director informed that the communication received from Uganda did not provide any specific motivation, while the communication received from Viet Nam mentioned only the existence of “unreasonable articles” and that “the agreement has been extended once”.

67. The Chair of the Council underlined that Members needed to consider the implications on the budget for future coffee years of the withdrawal of any Member from the ICA.

68. The delegate of Nicaragua supported the interventions of Mexico and Honduras, affirming the extension of the Agreement would allow the WGFA to conclude the excellent work carried out to date.

69. The delegate of Switzerland emphasized the WGFA represented a unique opportunity to jointly work on the text of the agreement and ensure it reflected the needs and ideas of all Members and invited Viet Nam and Uganda to reconsider their position.

70. Despite acknowledging the importance of the ICO, the delegate of Viet Nam confirmed the Vietnamese government would not approve the extension of the Agreement but expressed his country’s willingness to participate in the negotiations of the new Agreement as an observer.

71. The Executive Director noted that, by refusing to extend the agreement, Uganda and Viet Nam would cease to be Members of the Organization at the end of January 2021, but would still participate in the distribution of votes and contributions for the coffee year 2021/22.

72. In response to the European Union, the Executive Director clarified that, based on Article 15 of the ICA, the Council could invite any non-member country to attend any of its meetings as an observer.

73. The delegate of Brazil asked the Secretariat to confirm whether the possible withdrawal of Viet Nam from the Organization would lead to the invalidation of the Vietnamese candidacy for the post of Executive Director.

74. The Executive Director informed that in principle, the assumption of the delegate of Brazil was correct, but no definitive conclusion could yet be drawn since the Secretariat would still need to seek legal advice on the legal status of the communications of Viet Nam and Uganda. He also expressed his hope that the two Members could still change their position before February 2022 and informed he had already scheduled a meeting with the High Commissioner of Uganda in London.

75. The delegate of Vietnam requested the Secretariat to send a written communication with clarifications on the contributions for coffee year 2021/22 that would be due even if his country were to cease to be a Member of the Organization.

76. The delegate of Brazil regretted the position of Viet Nam and Uganda and confirmed his availability to assist in the dialogue with the two Members. He also asked further information on the procedures for the withdrawal of a Member State from the Organization and proposed a special Session of the Council for the election of the new Executive Director to be scheduled in February 2022.

77. In response to Viet Nam, the Executive Director clarified that the distribution of votes and contributions for coffee year 2021/22 would take into consideration Viet Nam, since the country was still a Member of the Organization.

78. With regard to the question raised by Brazil, the Executive Director informed that according to Article 45 of the ICA a Member could withdraw from the Organization at any time by giving 90 days of notice to the Depositary. He also took the opportunity to highlight the provisions of Article 47 of the ICA on the settlement of accounts with withdrawing or excluded Members.

79. The delegate of Honduras expressed his respect for the position of every Member State and requested the Secretariat to seek for further clarification on the reasons behind the decision of Uganda to not approve the extension of the current ICA, considering the communication sent to the Organization did not contain detailed information. He also stressed the text of the new Agreement should better identify the rights and obligations of Member States within the Organization.

80. The Chair of the Council noted that the decision to extend the duration of the Agreement had the sole intent of granting Members the necessary time for the ratification process of the new agreement.

81. The Council approved the draft Resolution contained in document [WP Council 315/21](#) to extend the ICA 2007 for two years, which was subsequently published as [ICC Resolution 473](#), a copy of which is attached to these Decisions.

**Item 5.3: Extension for the deposit of instruments for the ICA 2007**

82. The Chair of the Council noted the deadline for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession was 1 February 2022. As a number of Governments could require more time to complete the procedures for the 2007 Agreement, the Council asked Members considered the draft Resolution contained in

document [WP Council 316/21](#) which would extend the time for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to 1 February 2024 (due the approval of the two-year extension of the current ICA).

83. The Council approved the draft Resolution contained in document [WP Council 316/21](#) to extend the time limit for deposit of instruments for two years, which was subsequently published as [ICC Resolution 474](#), a copy of which is attached to these Decisions.

**Item 6: Post of Executive Director**

**Item 6.1: Report of the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee on the review of candidates for the post of Executive Director**

84. The Chair of the Council recalled that during the 129<sup>th</sup> ICC Session, held in April 2021, the Finance and Administration Committee had been tasked with examining the applications for the post of Executive Director received and ensuring that they met the Terms of Reference established by the Council.

85. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) noted that the Secretariat had received CVs and motivation letters from three candidates before the deadline established by Council. The candidates were:

- Mrs Vanúsia Maria Carneiro Nogueira, of Brazil, whose documentation could be found in [ICC-130-3](#);
- Mr Joseph Antoine Kasonga Mukuta, of Dem. Rep. of the Congo, whose documentation was in [ICC-130-4](#); and
- Mr Tran Kim Long, of Vietnam, whose documentation was in [ICC-130-5](#).

86. The Chair of the FAC then noted that the Committee had been instructed by the Council to check that candidates met the Terms of Reference and that its remit did not extend to excluding any candidate. In this regard, the Chair informed that, during the 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FAC a delegate requested further information on the command of English of the candidate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In the absence of a delegate from that country, the Secretariat had been instructed to request information from the Democratic Republic of the Congo on the candidate's fluency in English, in order to for the Council to take an informed decision on his eligibility.

87. The Executive Director informed that the ICO Secretariat had just received a communication from the Minister of Agriculture of the D.R. Congo ([ED-2384/21](#)) in response to the letter sent on behalf of the Chair of the Finance and Administration

Committee. In the document, the Minister informed that the candidate had the expertise and experience to carry out the function of Executive Director of the ICO and requested the Council to consider his candidature, since the command of the English language should not be a deterrent for a multi-lingual organization.

88. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee noted that the proficiency in English was one of the essential qualifications, as per the Terms of Reference approved by the Council during the 129<sup>th</sup> Session in April 2021.

**Item 6.2: Candidates for the post of Executive Director**

89. The Chair of the Council noted that, in accordance with the Council Decision on the appointment of the Executive Director ([ICC-129-6](#)) the Council would consider, during a Special Session, applications for the post of Executive Director from candidates received. According to the procedures, Member Governments could forward names of endorsed candidates, together with curricula vitae and personal letters of motivation. He also stressed that only two of the three candidatures met the criteria in the Terms of Reference.

90. The delegate of the European Union stated that he was not in favour of the Vietnamese candidacy because his country was in arrears with the payment of contributions, even if this was not a criterion in the Terms of Reference.

91. The delegate of Japan echoed the position of the European Union and stated the Council should not accept a candidacy put forward by a Member in arrears in the payments.

92. The delegate of Viet Nam attributed the lack of payment of contributions to a miscalculation by the ICO Secretariat.

93. The Executive Director noted that, while the command of English language was one of the essential criteria included in the Terms of Reference, there was no mention to the need of a Member State to be up to date with payments in order to endorse a candidate. In his understanding, the candidate from Viet Nam met the necessary requirements, in principle, as per the Terms of Reference.

94. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire stated his country could not support the application of a candidate who did not meet the language criteria foreseen in the Terms of Reference. Regarding the candidature presented by Viet Nam, he urged Members to make a final decision on the eligibility of candidates and emphasized Côte d'Ivoire would not be able to support a candidate from a Member State that did not pay its contributions.



95. The delegate of Honduras asked the Executive Director to read the relevant articles related to the elections to the Committees of the International Coffee Organization in order to obtain a general sense of Member States' obligations in this regard. He also mentioned recalling an Article stating Members with outstanding contributions could not be elected to the Committees.

96. In response to the request from Honduras, the Executive Director read out Articles 10 'Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council' and 17 'The Executive Director and the staff' and noted that no mention existed of an obligation of Member States to be up to date with payments at the moment of the appointment of their candidate. He then referred to paragraph 2 of Article 21 'Payment of contributions', which stated that Members' voting rights and rights to take part in the meetings of specialized committees were to be suspended in case of outstanding payments.

97. The delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo stressed that French was also one of ICO's official languages – as well as one of the administrative languages within the majority of international organizations – and that having the command of the English language as a criterion for the election of the new Executive Director could discourage other Members from applying for the post.

98. The Chair of the Council noted that only two out of three candidatures presented were eligible to move forward in the election process and emphasized the moral obligation of candidates' Member States to pay their contributions in full, even if this was not explicitly mentioned in the ICA and the Terms of Reference for the post of Executive Director.

#### **Item 7: Report of meetings of committees and other bodies**

99. The Head of Operations provided a summary of discussions and recommendations of the ICO advisory bodies: Statistics Committee, Projects Committee and Promotion and Market Development Committee. The meetings of the abovementioned committees were held jointly in one session – the Joint Committees meeting – chaired by the Executive Director on 7 September 2021, mainly due to time constraints related to the online nature of ICO meetings. The agendas of the three committees and the reports of previous meetings were all adopted.

100. The Statistics Committee considered and approved two proposals to be submitted to the attention of the Council. The first one was a proposal to modify the Rules on Statistics related to Certificates of Origin, as proposed by Colombia (document [SC-110/21](#)) and previously amended by CECAFE in Brazil. In this regard, the Executive Director had informed the Committee that there were no objections on the part of the Secretariat to the proposed changes, thanking Colombia and CECAFE of Brazil for their

initiative. The second proposal focused on the list of exporting countries and their country codes, ICO Certifying Agents and registered ports of export ([SC-109/21](#)). Following a communication of the Executive Director on this standard procedure, only Ecuador and Indonesia had notified changes to the Secretariat. The Head of Operations had reported on the new ICO statistical database expected to revamp the coffee statistics application and facilitate easy access online to members and subscribers.

101. With regard to the Promotion and Market Committee, the Head of Operations provided an update on the project to develop a Coffee Market Development Toolkit highlighting its objective, namely the promotion of the creation of national regional programmes for the development of sustainable production and responsible consumption in coffee-producing countries in line with Sustainable Development Goal 12. The Toolkit project had been already formally included in the CPPTF (Technical Workstreams 4 and 3). In this regards, the delegate of Germany had informed the Committee of the decision to fund the development of the Toolkit, adding to the 700,000 euros already provided by the German government in support of the ICO for the work of the CPPTF and the Coffee Development Report. She also invited all organizations, governments and the private sector to commit additional resources in order to secure the long-term commitments of the CPPTF. The Head of Operations informed a call for proposals for the toolkit had been launched on 9 September and invited Members to share it within their networks.

102. The Promotion and Market Development Committee also noted the reports on the use of ICO special fund, namely: i) the report on the regional programme in Mexico & Central America (PROMECAFE); ii) the report on the regional programme in Africa implemented by the Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO); iii) the report on the regional programmes in Asia and the Pacific, under which each country was allocated a portion of the Special Fund to carry out its activities individually (with more time allowed to Timor-Leste for the claim of its portion of the Special Fund).

103. Finally, the Projects Committee reviewed and approved the Terms of Reference for a study on 'Building a resilient coffee value chain to mitigate climatic disasters and covid-19 pandemic in Honduras and Nicaragua' aiming to provide a full assessment of the impact of the climatic disasters and the covid-19 pandemic and to design project proposals to mitigate these impacts and build a more resilient coffee sector. In this regard, the delegates of Honduras and Nicaragua requested the support of the members of the Committee, since the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) was considering grant financing for the preparation of a full appraisal report on the impact of climate-related shocks in these countries.

104. The Projects Committee also took note of: i) the report by ICO's Chief Economist and IACO on the project 'Rapid appraisal of the financing landscape for the coffee sector in Africa: A business case for financing the "missing middle" and last mile borrowers in the African coffee value chains' under the Africa Coffee Facility (ACF); ii) the presentation by the Trust Fund for the Regional Coffee Transformation Initiative (ITRECAFE); iii) the progress report on the 'SatCafé Project: Satellite remote sensing for improved and sustainable coffee production' funded by Innovate UK and implemented in Colombia; iv) the progress report on the 'Delta Project: Bridging the Gap in Measuring Real-Time Sustainability Performance' presented by Global Coffee Platform and for whose pilot testing Viet Nam had been selected.

105. The Council noted the report on the meetings of committees and other bodies presented by the Head of Operations.

**Item 7.1: Changes to the Rules on Statistics: Certificates of Origin**

106. The Chair noted the proposal submitted by Colombia contained in document [SC-110/21](#), which had been circulated to ICO Members on 6 September 2021 and considered within the Statistics Committee.

107. The delegate of Brazil expressed his concerns on the proposal presented by Colombia, affirming that Members should be careful not to mix up responsibilities of the private sector and public sector. In this regards, he emphasized the certification of exports should be handled by only one official public authority for each country and not by different private agencies. A Director of CECAFÉ, the Council of Brazilian Coffee Exporters, stressed that the date of export should be the date on which the coffee leaves the country of origin and not the date determined by a Certifying Agency, as this could potentially lead to the loss of uniformity of data at a global level.

108. The delegate of Indonesia informed he had no objections to the proposal by Colombia and added Indonesia used the bill of lading for the determination of the date of export. He also requested that the name of the certifying authority for Indonesia in [SC-109/21](#) be amended and informed he would share with the Secretariat further details on this point.

109. The delegate of Colombia affirmed that allowing certifying agencies to determine the date of export would make the certifying process more efficient and international trade and exports more flexible. In the case of Colombia, the Government had delegated the certification of the date of export to the National Coffee Growers Federation, in compliance with Article 1, Chapter 1 of the ICA. Colombia agreed conceptually with the need for uniformity, while specifying that this should not prevent private agencies complying with all the requirements foreseen in the ICA and by their national

government from carrying out their role of certifying agencies, also considering that their activities are always supervised by governments. He finally invited the delegate of Brazil to review his position on this question in order to allow the approval by the Council.

110. The delegate of Brazil expressed his appreciation for the clarification provided by Colombia and emphasized the main reason he originally requested further discussion on the proposal was to guarantee uniformity among sources of information on certifications. In this sense, the delegate of Brazil suggested the ICO could register only one certifying agency per Member State to avoid receiving data on certification from multiple sources.

111. The delegate of Colombia agreed with the proposal presented by Brazil.

112. The Executive Director informed the ICO already had a List of Certifying Agents to be considered and approved under item 7.2 and noted that Members sometimes designated more than one certifying agency.

113. The Council approved the proposal of the Statistics Committee regarding the Rules on Statistics: Certificates of Origin, contained in document [SC-110/21](#)<sup>7</sup> and agreed on further discussing the possibility of having only one certifying agency per Member State within the Statistics Committee.

**Item 7.2: List of exporting countries and their country codes, ICO Certifying Agents and registered ports of exports**

114. The Head of Operations presented the list of exporting countries and their country codes, ICO Certifying Agents and registered ports of exports contained in document [SC-109/21](#) and circulated on 17 August 2021.

115. The Council approved the proposal of the Statistics Committee regarding the list of exporting countries and their country codes, ICO Certifying Agents and registered ports of exports, contained in document [SC-109/21](#)<sup>8</sup> and agreed, as referred to in paragraph 113 above, on further discussing the possibility of having only one certifying agency per Member State within the Statistics Committee.

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<sup>7</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-102-9 Rev. 4](#).

<sup>8</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-14](#).

**Item 7.3: Terms of Reference for a study on: Building a resilient coffee value chain to mitigate climatic disasters and covid-19 pandemic in Honduras and Nicaragua**

116. The Head of Operations informed that document [PJ-146/21](#) was presented to the Statistics Committee which recommended its approval to the Council.

117. The delegate of Nicaragua thanked the Head of Operations for the report on the Projects Committee and highlighted the important efforts deployed by the ICO to support the development of coffee growing in producing countries. She also thanked the Secretariat for the report on the Promotion and Market Development Committee and in particular on the PROMECAFE project, praising its results. With reference to document [PJ-146/21](#), the delegate of Nicaragua noted the possible partnership with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) to carry out a study on the impact of the two hurricanes that affected many coffee producers in Central America in 2020. The representative of the National Committee for Processing and Development of the Coffee Growing Sector (CONATRADEC) thanked the ICO for the work carried out in Nicaragua, underlying the project strengthened their national strategy for the coffee sector and stressing the importance of developing a more resilient and sustainable coffee chain in order to better address challenges such as price volatility, the effects of the pandemic and natural disasters.

118. The delegate of Honduras thanked the Head of Operations for his report and endorsed the intervention of the delegate of Nicaragua. He informed he received formal confirmation of funding to the project from CABEI and asked Members to support this pilot project, hoping it would be extended to other countries in the region.

119. The Council approved the terms of Reference of the project as contained in document [PJ-146/21](#).

**Item 7.4: Report of the Chair of the Private Sector Consultative Board**

120. The Chair of the Council invited the Chair of the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB), Mr Anil Bhandari of the India Coffee Trust, to present the report under item 7.4.

121. The Chair of the PSCB presented the report of the meeting held on 7 September 2021.

122. Regarding Item 3: Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF), Members of the PSCB received a report on the achievements of the CPPTF by its Coordinator, who highlighted the expansion of the membership during coffee year 2020/21, as well as the highly positive performance of the five Technical Workstreams and the increased recognition of

the Task Force. He also stressed the need to speed up the resource mobilization efforts in order to accelerate the implementation of activities and presented the results of the Seminar “ICO Task Force Regulatory Trends and Developments for Supply Chains” held on 26 August 2021. The work of the Task Force was highly praised by many ICO Members who also emphasized the importance of the Task Force in the dialogue with the private sector and for the improvement of the whole coffee sector.

123. Under Item 4, members of the PSCB discussed the role of the private sector in the new International Coffee Agreement, currently being considered within the Working Group on the Future of the Agreement (WGFA). The recent crisis affecting farmers emphasized the need for integration of the private sector in the International Coffee Organization, as this has been identified as the only way to have the ICO Members and the private sector working together to address the most pressing issues of the coffee sector.

124. Item 5 on the PSCB Agenda had been amended to ‘Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the PSCB for the next two coffee years’. The Secretariat had circulated the communication sent by India urging the Committee to extend the term of the current Chair and Vice-Chair in view of the organization of the 5th World Coffee Conference, to be held in September 2022 in Bangalore. In this sense, the Executive Director clarified that elections were usually by acclamation. The extension of the PSCB Chairmanship and Vice-chairmanship of Mr Bhandari and Mr Murray had been considered and supported by the Board.

125. The PSCB highlighted the importance to continue working in order to secure the return of the USA to the ICO; in this sense, the Secretariat informed the Vice-Chair of the PSCB, Mr Bill Murray was already assisting the Secretariat and providing valuable guidance.

126. The delegates of Brazil and Colombia expressed their support to the extension of the PSCB Chairmanship and Vice-chairmanship of Mr Bhandari and Mr Murray.
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**Item 8: Promotion of coffee consumption**

**Item 8.1: International Coffee Day**

127. The Head of Operations presented this item. He noted that the Secretariat had very limited resources to carry out activities for the promotion of coffee consumption and the celebration of the International Coffee Day (ICD) in coffee year 2020/21. Nonetheless, he informed the International Coffee Day 2021 would take place as part of the World Food Forum during its opening day on 1 October 2021. The Head of Operations informed that the focus of ICD 2021 would be on youth in the coffee value chain and that a second

event under finalization and organized in partnership with the FAO was expected to take place on 15 October 2021 during FAO's 2021 World Food Day. The Head of Operations concluded by emphasizing both events would represent a remarkable opportunity to advocate for the coffee sector.

128. The Council took note of the presentation by the Head of Operations.

**Item 9: World Coffee Conference**

129. Dr K. G. Jagadeesha, CEO and Secretary of the Coffee Board of India, recalled that the International Coffee Organization had awarded the responsibility of hosting the fifth World Coffee Conference to India during the 119<sup>th</sup> and then the 127<sup>th</sup> International Coffee Council Session. The event had originally been planned to be held from 7 to 12 September 2020, but had been postponed indefinitely due to the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic. India had therefore requested to reschedule the event during the first half of September 2022 subject to changes related to the evolution of the pandemic.

130. Following an improvement in the global incidence of Covid-19 and the roll out of vaccinations campaigns all over the world, Dr K. G. Jagadeesha renewed India's keenness to host the event and invited all ICO Members to save the dates and attend the event.

131. The delegate of the European Union inquired if the event would also be held online or only in person.

132. The delegate of India informed he expected the event to be hosted entirely in person.

133. The delegate of Viet Nam expressed his appreciation for the organization of the World Coffee Conference in India and informed Viet Nam expected to be able to attend the event with a large delegation.

134. In replying to a question from Brazil, the Executive Director informed the event was open to all participants, while the meetings of the International Coffee Council would be open only to ICO Members as usual.

135. The Council noted that the next World Coffee Conference would be held in India and the expressed preference for an in-person event.

**Item 10: Special Fund**

136. The Chair of the Council invited the representative of PROMECAFE, Mr René León-Gómez, to present the results of the Domestic Consumption project financed by the Special Fund of the ICO.

137. Mr León-Gómez presented the main achievements of the program that had been concluded in April 2021. The region was the first to receive support from the ICO Special Fund, and activities were carried out by PROMECAFE, starting in 2018. The countries covered by the program were Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. Four major achievements of the project were presented: 1) Development of National Capacities in Promotion of Coffee Consumption; 2) Diagnosis and Design of Domestic Consumption Country Projects; 3) Strategic Alliances for the Promotion of Coffee Consumption; and 4) Information and Knowledge Management. A detailed report was available.

138. The delegate of Costa Rica thanked the ICO and PROMECAFE for the initiative and emphasized the very positive integration of national teams on a regional basis the project promoted, as well as its high level of replicability in Central America. She informed that, on the occasion of Costa Rica's National Coffee Day, the Government would launch an application platform containing detailed information on Costa Rican coffee for locals and tourists.

139. The delegate of Honduras expressed his appreciation to the ICO for funding the project and praised PROMECAFE for the very successful implementation of activities and results achieved.

140. The delegate of Nicaragua echoed the interventions of Costa Rica and Honduras and congratulated the ICO and PROMECAFE for the excellent work carried out. She emphasized the great role of the project in strengthening the regional integration among countries and in bringing together the public and the private sectors for the promotion of the coffee consumption.

141. The delegate of Mexico thanked the delegate of Honduras, the Executive Director and all the Members of the ICO for their support and stressed the positive impact of the project on the promotion of domestic coffee consumption. He then informed the Mexican government had allocated additional resources to replicate the results of the project and emphasized the importance of continuing to invest in policies in this sense.

142. The Executive Director congratulated all Central America countries for being an example to other producing regions, having been the first one to receive the funds and to successfully execute the projects. He also thanked the delegate of Honduras and all the Members who approved the initiative.

**Item 11: Cooperation with other agencies**

143. The Chair of the Council invited the representative of the International Trade Centre (ITC) to present "The Coffee Guide - Fourth Edition" to ICO Members.



144. The representative of the ITC thanked the ICO for the opportunity to present the new Coffee Guide and expressed her appreciation for the Organization's contributions to the new edition of the publication. She presented the evolution of the guide since 1992's first edition, highlighting how the publication became gradually more inclusive of all the coffee supply chain stakeholders. Topics such as sustainability, quality, digital transformation across the value chain, futures markets and hedging, and the commercial aspects of the coffee trade were at the core of the publication. The representative of the ITC finally focused on the "Coffee Network", an online interactive platform which should be developed jointly with the ICO aimed at promoting knowledge sharing and fostering connections within the coffee sector.

145. The delegate of Papua New Guinea congratulated the ITC for the new edition of guide, while stressing the publication was ITC's most downloaded document.

146. The delegate of Brazil praised the work of the ITC and stressed the importance of the Coffee Guide for the whole coffee sector. The Executive Director of the Brazilian Specialty Coffee Association (BSCA), who was involved in the conception of the publication, emphasized the active role growers had in the whole consultation process.

147. The Executive Director thanked the Head of Operations and the Chief Economist for their contributions to the guide and expressed the hope to continue the collaboration with the ITC.

148. The Chair of the Council thanked the ITC for their presentation.

**Item 12: National Coffee Policies**

149. The Chair of the Council invited the Executive Director of the National Coffee Council of El Salvador, Ms Carolina Padilla, to present the National Coffee Policy.

150. Ms Padilla thanked the Executive Director and the ICO for the opportunity and for the work carried out in preparation for the 130<sup>th</sup> International Coffee Council. She presented the goals of El Salvador's Coffee Policy which aimed at generating actions to the coffee sector in harmony with the triple bottom line sustainability (Environmental, Economic and Social). The strategic objectives outlined focused on pressing issues such as the increased productivity and quality of coffee through the promotion of innovative solutions and technologies, as well as the traceability and transparency of the product and the promotion of the national coffee brand in the national and international markets. Among the priorities of the coffee policy Ms. Padilla also mentioned the participation of women and youth in the coffee sector, given their role as key actors in the coffee growing activity. The presentation finally identified seven strategic pivots, namely i) promotion of

sustainable production; ii) innovation and technological change; iii) real time information and markets; iv) organizational strengthening; v) articulated inter-institutional actions; vi) organization and business management; vii) financing and investment.

151. The delegate of Honduras congratulated Ms Padilla for her excellent work and ensured his support.

152. The Executive Director praised the presentation of Ms Padilla and wished her success in her efforts to implement El Salvador's coffee policy.

### **Item 13: Financial and Administrative matters**

#### **Item 13.1: Finance and Administration Committee**

153. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) reported on the 49<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 1 September 2021. The Head of Finance and Administration made a presentation on the financial situation, as contained in document [FA-302/21](#). The Committee noted that the ICO's current financial situation indicated a severe cash shortage by the end of September 2021 if total liquidation costs were taken into consideration. It also noted the need for Members to pay their contributions promptly in order to assure the economic sustainability of the Organization.

154. The Council noted the report of the 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee.

#### **Item 13.2: Report on collection of contributions from Members in arrears**

155. The Chair of the FAC informed that the Head of Finance and Administration had presented a report on the collection of contributions from Members in arrears, contained in document [FA-304/21](#), showing that approximately £422,000 were outstanding from the current financial year and £600,000 from previous years. These arrears represented a grave threat to the financial sustainability of the Organization.

156. The Council took note of the report on the collection of contributions from Members in arrears.

#### **Item 13.2.1: Communication from Vietnam**

157. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee informed that the Committee discussed an exchange of letters between Vicofa, ICO's designated contact in Viet Nam, and the Secretariat ([FAC 256/20 Rev. 9](#) and [FAC 256/20 Rev. 10](#)). The letter, dated 1 September 2021, contained a request to change the value of the contribution of Viet Nam for the current coffee year, 2020/21, on the grounds that the figures used in the calculation of votes were incorrect. Viet Nam emphasized that the only reliable

source of data was the one derived from the Certificates of Origin issued by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI). Viet Nam was disposed to make payment of its arrears for 2020/21 in three instalments during the last quarter of the year, provided that the value was corrected.

158. The Chair of the FAC informed that the 2020/21 budget and corresponding schedule of contributions had been duly approved by the Council in September 2020, based on the data contained in the basis for initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2020/21 (document [ED-2343/20](#)). The latter document had been circulated to Members as was customary, without any requests for correction being received. He noted the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20 of the ICA 2007: “The contribution of each Member to the Administrative Budget for each financial year shall be in the proportion which the number of its votes **at the time the Administrative Budget for that financial year is approved** bears to the total votes of all the Members.” During the meeting of the FAC, the Executive Director had also emphasized the numerous attempts by the ICO Secretariat to arrange meetings to discuss all outstanding issues with the Member.

159. The Chair of the FAC stated that the committee considered that the proposal made by Viet Nam was inconsistent with the provisions of the International Coffee Agreement and recommended that it should not be adopted by Council.

160. The Chair of the Finance and Administrative Committee recommended the Council should instruct the Secretariat to continue its attempts to establish a dialogue with Viet Nam on its export statistics.

161. The delegate of Viet Nam stated that his government had already replied and sent the correct data to the ICO Secretariat in July 2019 and in July 2020, before the calculation of the basis for the initial distribution of votes was made. He also stressed that due to the lockdown in place in the country Viet Nam was not able to check the data shared by VCCI.

162. The Executive Director stressed that the ICO Secretariat complied with the procedures used in the calculation of the basis for the initial distribution of votes and no request for corrections of document [ED-2343/20](#) from Viet Nam was received within the time limit provided. He also highlighted Viet Nam failed to submit the reports on Certificates of Origin on a monthly basis as was required of all Members, which left the Statistics Section with no other option than using data from other sources. If any miscalculations had been made by the Secretariat, these had been made in good faith and were a result of Viet Nam’s failure to comply with the rules for submission of data. He also pointed out the several attempts by the Secretariat to obtain clarifications on data discrepancies, which had not been addressed by Viet Nam.

163. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire expressed discomfort with the situation regarding Viet Nam's contributions and emphasized the key role played by this Member State in the coffee sector and within the Organization. For this reason, he encouraged the Executive Director to organize a visit to Viet Nam in order to clarify this situation with the Vietnamese authorities and identify a final solution to this urgent question.

164. With reference to the intervention of Côte d'Ivoire, the delegate of the European Union reiterated the importance of Viet Nam in the coffee sector and referred to the question of contributions as an urgent matter to be solved. He also noted he was involved in all the attempts made by the Secretariat and the Chair of the Council in order to have high-level exchanges with the Government of Vietnam. He finally offered to assist the ICO in the dialogue with Viet Nam.

165. Echoing the intervention of the delegate of the European Union, the Chair of the Council reiterated that throughout the year as Chair he had contacted Vietnamese authorities on numerous occasions and even organized a meeting with the Ambassador of Viet Nam in London in order to discuss the question of contributions.

166. The delegate of Honduras and Vice-Chair of the Council informed that he also participated in the attempts to communicate with the Vietnamese authorities and confirmed all the efforts made by the Secretariat and the Council to engage with Viet Nam. He also pointed out the question at hand should not be considered as an issue between Viet Nam and the Executive Director and that the ultimate responsibility for a final solution to the question relied on the Council.

167. The delegate of Brazil fully supported the intervention of the delegate of Honduras, stressing the procedures and regulations of the Organization must be followed by all Members and hoping for a rapid solution to the question.

168. The delegate of Viet Nam requested the Secretariat to reach out to former staff who supposedly received the data sent by Viet Nam in July 2019 and 2020.

169. In response, the Executive Director requested the emails to be resent to the Secretariat. So far, difficulties had been encountered in retrieving the necessary information, due to the fact that the staff members Viet Nam referred to were no longer working for the ICO. Efforts to ascertain the dates the figures were received would continue. If, after bilateral consultations with Viet Nam and discussion within the Finance and Administrative Committee, any data were to be considered incorrect the Council could use its discretion and at a later date find a way to repair any possible damage.

170. The Council agreed that questions related to Viet Nam's contributions needed to be further discussed bilaterally and within the Finance and Administration Committee before any final decision of the Council.

**Item 13.3: Programme of Activities for coffee year 2021/22**

171. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee informed that the Head of Operations had presented the key elements of the proposed Programme for Activities (PoA) for coffee year 2021/22 and allocations of funds to the FAC, as contained in document [FA-303/21](#).

172. The primary objectives and activities of the PoA in coffee year 2021/22 would be to carry out the mandatory functions of the ICO, as defined in the International Coffee Agreement 2007 and in the Five-Year Action Plan. These activities included statistics and economics, engagement with partners and the promotion and market development of coffee, as well as the support to regular/special sessions of the Council and regular/intersessional meetings of Committees. However, the Head of Operations stressed that the reduction of staff in the Operations division from 15 in 2016/17 to 4 in 2021/22 had dramatically affected the capacity of the ICO to carry out the PoA and a number of activities had to be reduced or discontinued. Some Members had expressed the wish to expand the budget in the coming years to overcome these problems.

173. The Council approved the proposed Programme of Activities for coffee year 2021/22 as contained in document [FA-303/21](#)<sup>9</sup>.

**Item 13.4: Draft Administrative budget for the financial year 2021/22**

174. The Head of Finance and Administration presented a revised draft Administrative Budget, contained in document [FA-282/21 Rev. 2](#). The key changes in the two revisions of the draft budget were the following:

- Revision 1 contained increases in travel costs of £11,000 and the personal representation allowance of £5,000.
- Revision 2 contained an increase in Computer-Related Costs of £10,000. This was to remedy the impact of a ransomware attack on the ICO's office server and various office PCs in July 2021. Costs for the replacement of desk-top PCs by laptops had been budgeted for more secure remote access.

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<sup>9</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-10](#).

175. The Council adopted the proposed Draft Administrative budget for the financial year 2021/22 by consensus, as contained in document [FA-282/21 Rev. 2](#)<sup>10</sup>, while taking note of the objection raised by Viet Nam to the approval of the document.

**Item 14: Office holders and committees**

**Item 14.1: Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of committees**

176. The Chair of the Council asked the Council to consider and, if appropriate, approve the following composition of the committees for 2021/22: the Core Group for the Consultative Forum composed of six exporting and four importing Members; the Finance and Administration Committee composed of six exporting and five importing Members; the Private Sector Consultative Board for 2021/22 and 2022/23 composed of 8 producing and 8 consuming associations; the Projects Committee composed of eight exporting and three importing Members; the Promotion and Market Development Committee consisting of eight exporting and three importing Members; the Statistics Committee composed of eight exporting and three importing Members.

177. The Chair invited the spokesperson for exporting countries and the spokesperson for the importing countries to comment.

178. The spokesperson for the exporting countries and delegate of Brazil informed that due to limited participation in the coordination meeting of exporting Members not all the vacancies available had been filled.

179. The spokesperson for the importing countries and delegate of the European Union informed he did not have the full list of nominations for the Committees.

180. In light of the continuing need for consultations, the Council delegated to the Finance and Administration Committee, which was scheduled to meet at the end of September, responsibility for approving the composition of Committees and appointment of office holders.

**Item 14.1: Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of committees**

**Item 14.2: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council**

181. The Chair of the Council invited the spokespersons for exporting and importing countries to present nominations.

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<sup>10</sup> Subsequently published as [ICC-130-9](#).

182. The spokesperson for the exporting Members informed that the delegate of Honduras, Ambassador Iván Romero Martínez, was proposed as Chair of the Council.

183. The nomination of H.E. Ambassador Iván Romero Martínez as Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2021/22 was approved by acclamation.

184. The spokesperson for the importing countries informed they had not yet identified a candidate and therefore the appointment of the Vice-Chair of Council was postponed until the next Council session.

**Item 14.2: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Consultative Forum**

185. The Council delegated the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Consultative Forum to the Finance and Administration Committee, which was scheduled to meet at the end of September.

**Item 14.3: Vice-Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the ICA**

186. The Council appointed the delegate of Papua New Guinea, Mr Mick Wheeler, as Vice-Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the International Coffee Agreement.

**Item 15: Credentials**

187. The Head of Operations stated that the credentials received were found to be in good order, he noted that the Secretariat would issue a list of delegates attending at a future date.

**Item 16: Future meetings**

188. After discussion, the Chair of the Council suggested 9 February 2022 for the Special Session of the Council on the election of the Executive Director. The Council noted and approved the date.

189. The Executive Director informed that the regular Sessions of the Council in 2022 would take place from 28 March to 1 April and from 12 to 16 September 2022.

**Item 17: Other business**

190. The delegate of Colombia invited the Council to meet in his country in September 2023.

191. The delegate of Germany informed she would no longer participate in the meetings of the ICO after being moved to a new post. She thanked the Organization and all the Members for this great experience.

192. The delegate of Viet Nam asked for clarifications on the procedure approved by the Council to discuss the question of payment of contributions and reiterated he did not agree with the budget approved for the coffee year 2021/22. He requested for the recording of the 130<sup>th</sup> Council Session to be sent by the Secretariat.

193. The Executive Director provided further clarifications on the three-step procedure approved by the Council and reported under Item 2.2 above and informed he expected a solution to the question of contributions to be found before the end of September 2021. He also confirmed that recordings of the Session of the Council would be made available to the Member.

**Item 18: Closing session**

194. The Chair of the Council thanked all Members for their presence. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Chairs and the Members of the Committees, the Executive Director, and the staff of the ICO.

195. The Executive Director thanked the Chair of the Council for his availability and for the work carried out during his chairmanship. He also expressed his best wishes in her future endeavours to the delegate of Germany.

196. The Executive Director congratulated the delegate of Honduras for his new position as Chair of the Council and confirmed his support to his chairmanship. He also thanked all the Members that attended the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council and the staff of the ICO Secretariat for the challenging work carried out.

197. The Chair of the Council declared the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council closed.





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COFFEE  
ORGANIZATION**

**ICC Resolution 473**

10 September 2021  
Original: English

**E**

International Coffee Council  
130<sup>th</sup> Session  
Virtual Session  
9 and 10 September 2021  
London, United Kingdom

**Resolution Number 473**

APPROVED AT THE SECOND PLENARY MEETING,  
10 SEPTEMBER 2021

### **Extension of the International Coffee Agreement 2007**

WHEREAS:

The International Coffee Agreement 2007 is due to expire on 1 February 2022;

Sufficient time is needed for countries to negotiate a new ICA and to complete the procedures for the entry into force of a new Agreement; and

Under the provisions of paragraph (3) of Article 48, the Council may decide to extend this Agreement beyond its expiry date for one or more successive periods not to exceed eight years in total. Any Member which does not accept any such extension of this Agreement shall so inform the Council and the Depositary in writing before the commencement of the period of extension and shall cease to be a Party to this Agreement from the beginning of the period of extension.

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

To extend the International Coffee Agreement 2007 for a period of two years from 2 February 2022 to 1 February 2024, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (3) of Article 48 and of Resolution 471.



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International Coffee Council  
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**Resolution Number 474**

APPROVED AT THE SECOND PLENARY MEETING,  
10 SEPTEMBER 2021

### **International Coffee Agreement 2007**

#### **Extension of the time limit for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession**

WHEREAS:

Paragraph (3) of Article 40 of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 stipulates that the Council may decide to grant extensions of time to signatory Governments that are unable to deposit their instruments by 30 September 2008;

Under the terms of paragraph 1 of Resolution 472 the period for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 is further extended to 1 February 2022;

Under the terms of paragraph 2 of Resolution 472, Governments eligible for membership in accordance with Article 43 of the Agreement may accede by depositing an instrument of accession with the Organization no later than 1 February 2022 or such other time as the Council may decide; and

A number of Governments have indicated that they require additional time to deposit the required instruments,

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

1. To extend the period for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 with the Depositary under the provisions of Article 40 of the Agreement and of Resolution 472 from 2 February 2022 to 1 February 2024.
  
2. To extend the period for the deposit of instruments of accession to the International Coffee Agreement 2007 with the Depositary under the provisions of Article 43 of the Agreement and of Resolution 472 from 2 February 2022 to 1 February 2024.