



**Report of the Statistics Committee
on its meeting of 6 March 2013**

1. The Statistics Committee held its fifth meeting under the International Coffee Agreement 2007 in London on 6 March 2013.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Committee adopted the Agenda contained in document SC-23/12 Rev. 1.

Item 2: Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2012/13

3. Mr Jawaid Akhtar of India was elected Chairperson and Ms Mary Ryckman of the USA was elected Vice-Chairperson for coffee year 2012/13.

Item 3: Report on the meeting of 27 September 2012

4. The Committee approved the report of the 4th meeting held in September 2012, which is contained in document SC-22/12.

Item 4: Compliance with statistical rules

5. The Statistician introduced document SC-24/13 containing information on the status of compliance by Members with the Rules on Statistics. Compliance by exporting and importing Members can be classified as full and satisfactory to levels of 74% and 99%, respectively. The Committee expressed concern on the non-compliance by Vietnam with its statistical obligations as no data have been received for about 12 months, despite the efforts made by the Secretariat with the Authorities in that country. The Committee suggested that a formal letter be sent to Vietnam as the 2nd largest producer/exporter (and

the largest Robusta producer/exporter) stressing the importance of the data for enhanced market transparency. In addition, as Vietnam is also producing/exporting some Arabica coffee, the Organization should also request data on production and trade of this coffee. All other exporting Members with poor compliance will also be sent a letter requesting they send their statistical data in accordance with the Rules. The Committee also expressed its appreciation on the improved compliance performance by Indonesia. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 5: Exports to exporting countries

6. The Statistician introduced document SC-25/13. The Rules on Statistics, now in effect for two years, stipulate that exporting Members are now under the obligation to provide statistical data on their imports of coffee by origin (volume and value). Only a few exporting countries have so far complied with this requirement. The electronic working group created in September 2012 will continue to make efforts to obtain information from those exporting countries as the declared destination of a considerable volume of coffee (whether for internal consumption or to supply the local industry). So far, only India has forwarded this information. The Committee took note of this information.

Item 6: Exports of organic and differentiated coffees

7. The Statistician introduced document SC-26/13 containing information obtained on exports of organic coffee. This data may not always be indicated by exporting Members on the Certificates of Origin issued and data on exports of certified coffee is provided on a voluntary basis. The Organization will contact certifying agencies with a view to obtaining some reliable statistics on their certification programmes. It was suggested that data from Peru should be included in future reports, if available. The Committee took note of this document.

Item 7: Monitoring the inventories and stocks of green coffee

8. The Statistician introduced document SC-27/13. Data presented by the European Coffee Federation (ECF) is included in the ICO series. The ECF has been requested to check the possibility of including the ports of Barcelona and Rotterdam in its series. The ECF representative explained that he had made contact with his members and that it is unlikely that data for Barcelona would be included in the near future. However, discussions are still being held with the Rotterdam port authorities in this respect and it is possible that data from this port may become available. The Committee took note of this information.

Item 8: Decaffeinated soluble coffee trade and imports by type of coffee

9. The Statistician introduced document SC-28/13. The USA is the only country using 10-12 digits in the Harmonised System (HS) to identify its coffee. The data on decaffeinated soluble presented indicate that the volume of this market segment is still not significant in the US global trade. Regarding imports of green coffee by type, it has been noted that imports of Robusta green from countries that produce only Arabica have been recorded incorrectly by the US Customs at the time the product is about to be imported. The Committee took note of this information.

Item 9: Rules on Statistics – Indicator Prices

10. The Committee was informed that it has now been two years since the new Agreement came into effect in 2011. The Rules on Statistics – Indicator Prices provide that the weighting of each group of coffee in the calculation of the ICO composite indicator price shall be reviewed every two years. It is proposed that the group weightings and the share of the markets be as follows **from 1 October 2013**¹:

Share of each market in the four groups:

	EU	USA
Colombian Milds:	46%	54%
Other Milds:	62%	38%
Brazilian Naturals:	74%	26%
Robustas:	84%	16%

Group weighting in the calculation of the ICO Composite indicator:

Colombian Milds:	9%
Other Milds:	24%
Brazilian Naturals:	31%
Robustas:	36%

Item 10: Technical assistance

11. The Committee was informed that the production of the educational DVD is nearly complete. The DVD will serve as a permanent ‘manual on compliance’ for exporting Members. The English version has been completed and the Spanish and French versions

¹ It was subsequently approved by the Council, see paragraphs 24 and 25 of ICC-110-16.

should be ready by early May. Exporting Members showing poor compliance will be sent a copy of this DVD and it is expected that this will result in improved compliance by Members. In the meantime, plans for workshops on compliance and the creation of a task force will be put on hold.

12. In addition, the Programme of Activities of the Organization for 2012/13 provides for an update of the spreadsheets that were originally part of a system developed in a project financed by the European Union back in 2004 (*Quantitative tool for assessing the competitiveness of coffee-growing areas*). Progress has been made towards updating the Arabica and Robusta models which will enable the Organization to apply a standard methodology to calculate costs of production in coffee producing countries.

Item 11: Liaison with other organizations

13. The Statistician informed the Committee that the Organization will continue to maintain close cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), among others. It was also suggested that the Organization approaches the World Bank as this institution is developing capacity-building in many countries. In addition, the Organization will also approach the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as the Organization has strong links with high officials in these institutions who may be able to provide assistance in various aspects of ICO activities.

Item 12: Other business

14. There was no other business discussed.

Item 13: Future meetings

15. In view of the full agenda for the Council Session next September, the Committee decided that its next meeting will take place in London at the time of the 112th Council Session in March 2014.