INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION

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Report of the 18th meeting of the Projects Committee held on 25 September 2019

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1. The Projects Committee chaired by H.E. Ambassador Aly Touré held its 18th meeting in London on Wednesday 25 September 2019.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Committee approved the draft Agenda contained in document PJ-137/19 Rev. 1 .

Item 2: Report of the meeting held on 27 March 2019

3. The Committee approved the report of the meeting held on 27 March 2019 contained in document PJ-136/19.

Item 3: Monitoring and evaluation of projects

Item 3.1: Current coffee development projects and implementation of Resolution 465

4. The Head of Operations provided a brief report on following project brief within the framework of the implementation of Resolution 465:

Structured sector-wide dialogue to address the coffee price crisis (document PJ-131/19)

- This started with a seminar on "*Coffee: how sustainable is our future*?", organized jointly with the Global Coffee Platform and the Government of Kenya during the 124th session of the International Coffee Council, on 25 March 2019 in Nairobi.
- A Café Conversation took place on 16 April 2019 at the UN Headquarters Express Bar, New York, on the theme: 'Financing sustainable and inclusive investment in agricultural value chains: The case of the coffee sector' This side event was jointly organized by the Smallholder and Agri-SME Finance and Investment Network (SAFIN) led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Coffee Organization, in partnership with the National Coffee Association of USA (NCA).
- Another related event took place the same day in New York on the theme 'Addressing risk and mobilizing investment in the coffee sector: policy, coordination, and financing solutions'. This side event was conjointly organized by the ICO in partnership with SAFIN.
- An interactive workshop on 'Price volatility and sustainability: development challenges and solutions for smallholder farmers in the coffee value chain', was organized as a side event of the international Cooperation Expo (Exco 2019) on 16 May 2019 in Rome, Italy. This event was jointly organized with the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, IFAD, FAO and UNIDO.

- Another event took place on 6 June 2019 in Brussels, on the theme 'Meeting the SDGs: Challenges for the Coffee Value Chain. Shared solutions to coffee price levels, volatility and long-term sustainability'. This event was in partnership with the European Coffee Federation (ECF) and hosted by the European Commission.
- All these events were concluded by the CEO and Global Leaders Forum, which took place in London on 24 September 2019.

Item 3.2: IACO – Africa Coffee Facility (ACF)

5. The Chief Economist presented the background of the Africa Coffee Facility, a fund expected to finance a sustainable coffee sector in Africa through addressing challenges along the entire value chain. In order to mobilize financial resources to create this Africa Coffee Facility, the Government of Kenya and the Inter-African Coffee Organisation were organizing a donors and partners forum on 5 November 2019 in Nairobi. The Committee took note of this report.

Item 3.3: Delta Project: Bridging the Gap in Measuring Real-Time Sustainability Performance

6. The Head of Operations made a brief progress report of the Delta Project which aims to measure real-time sustainability performance**.** This includes a set of outcomes and output indicators that would help measure sustainability and track the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals commitments by the public and private sectors. This multicommodity project will be implemented in two pilot countries, namely Vietnam (coffee) and South Africa (cotton). The inception phase of the project took place in November 2018 and a consultant has been selected to conduct the implementation of the project. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 3.4: SatCafé Project: Satellite remote sensing for improved and sustainable coffee production – Colombia

7. The representative of SatCafé presented an overview on the progress report on the implementation of this project funded by Innovate UK. The project was designed to improve the visibility of coffee farming activities in producing countries. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 3.5: AgDevCo – impact investment in African agribusiness

8. The representative of AgDevCo provided an outline of the investments programme designed to support smallholder farmers in Africa through addressing their financial needs. The Committee took note of the presentation and invited Members to contact AgDevCo for further details.

Item 3.6: Technical assistance to Gabon

9. The Committee noted that, at the request of the Coffee Authority of Gabon (CAISTAB), the Chief Economist would visit Gabon in October 2019 to provide technical support to local experts working on designing a programme to promote a sustainable coffee sector

Item 4: Other business

10. There was no other business

Item 5: Date of next meeting

11. The Committee noted that the next meeting would take place in London, at the time of the 126th Council session in April 2020.

12. The Chairman thanked the members of the Committee, the presenters, the Secretariat and interpreters for their fruitful contributions.