



**INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION**

ICC 134-11

24 October 2022
Original: English

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**Decisions and Resolutions adopted
at the 134th Session of the
International Coffee Council**

6 and 7 October 2022

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Opening Session

1. H. E. Ambassador Iván Romero-Martínez of Honduras chaired the 134th Session of the International Coffee Council held in Bogotá, Colombia, on 6 and 7 October 2022, as decided by the Council during its 132nd session held in April 2022.
2. The Chair of the Council opened the Council by welcoming and thanking all Members for attending the 134th Session of the Council, the first session to be held in person following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. He also thanked the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation for hosting the Council and the ICO Secretariat for organizing the meetings in collaboration with the Host Country.
3. Following the opening speech of the Chair of the Council, the Vice-Chair of the Council, Mr Massimiliano Fabian; the President of the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation, Mr Roberto Vélez Vallejo; and the Executive Director of the ICO, Ms Vanusia Nogueira, gave their speeches, as did the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply of Brazil, H.E. Marcos Montes Cordeiro, through a recorded video-message.
4. The Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia, Mr José Antonio Ocampo Gaviria, gave his speech at the opening of the second day of the Council (Friday 7 October 2022). Minister Ocampo stressed how the International Coffee Agreement 2022 marked the start of a new era for the Organization, one where exporters and importers would work together and more closely with the private sector and civil society to address the challenges facing the coffee industry, including sustainability, inclusion and adaptation to climate change, in order to improve the social and economic conditions of coffee growers and ensure the prosperity of their families.

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 134th Session of the International Coffee Council had been reached.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. The Council adopted the draft Agenda contained in document ICC-134-0 Rev. 2. |
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Item 2: Votes**Item 2.1: Redistribution of votes for coffee year 2021/22****Item 2.2: Initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2022/23**

7. The Head of Operations reported on document [ICC-134-4](#) containing the redistribution of votes for coffee year 2021/22 as of 15 September 2022, which was calculated on the basis of the initial distribution of votes as per document [ICC-133-1](#) and in accordance with Article 12 of the International Coffee Agreement (2007). He explained Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 and reminded those present that only Members of the International Coffee Agreement 2007 who had paid their contributions were eligible to vote during the Council. He also reported on the initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2022/23 contained in document [ICC-134-3](#).

8. The Council approved document [ICC-134-4](#) on the redistribution of votes for coffee year 2021/22 and document [ICC-134-3](#) on the initial distribution of votes for coffee year 2022/23.

Item 3: International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2022

9. The Chair of the Council introduced the proposed resolution on the signature of the ICA 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia, as contained in document [WP-Council 326/22](#)¹.

10. The Council approved the resolution which was required in order to provide the necessary legal framework for the signature ceremony of the ICA 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia.

11. The Chair invited the representatives of ICO Members to present their instruments of full powers and proceed with the signature of the International Coffee Agreement 2022. The following ICO countries signed the ICA 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia: Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Togo and Venezuela.

¹ Subsequently published as [ICC-Resolution 478](#) (also attached to these Decisions).

12. The delegate of Costa Rica expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to sign the ICA 2022, as well as Costa Rica's support for the renewed mandate of the International Coffee Organization as it reflected the genuine interests of both producers and consumers.

13. The delegate of Colombia encouraged countries to sign the ICA 2022 promptly in order to provide the Organization with the necessary tools to put words into action.

14. In his statement, the delegate of Nicaragua expressed great satisfaction on being one of the first countries to sign the ICA 2022 and underlined how the new Agreement would help to strengthen the Organization while ensuring increased sustainable livelihoods for smallholder producers.

15. The delegate of Panama thanked the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation for its hospitality and stressed how the ICA 2022 represented a milestone for the whole coffee value chain by creating a real space for dialogue between the public and private sectors, including civil society. Referring to coffee production in Panama, she underlined the key role played by indigenous communities and committed to contributing to all ICO initiatives that provide prosperity for the sector, in particular to the most vulnerable producers.

16. The delegate of Peru conveyed his gratitude to all delegates who played an active role in the revision process of the Agreement, as well as to the ICO Secretariat. He stressed how the new ICA 2022 would make the work of the Organization more efficient and effective thanks to greater links with the private sector and a consolidated Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF).

17. The delegate of Togo thanked ICO Members on behalf of the President of Togo and congratulated the Executive Director. He expressed his confidence in the Organization's ability to enhance a sustainable coffee production dynamic and called on the ICO to devote its best efforts to the benefit of small growers and producers.

18. The delegate of Venezuela thanked all delegations present on behalf of the President of Venezuela and pointed out several improvements achieved in their national coffee production in terms of climate change mitigation, provision of training programmes, gender inclusion and partnerships between the public and private sectors.

19. The Chair of the Council thanked all the countries that signed the Agreement and reminded Members that the ICA 2022 would remain open for signature until 30 April 2023,

and open for ratification until 31 July 2023 at the Depositary headquarters in London. He encouraged the delegations present to promptly mobilize their local authorities and obtain the necessary credentials for signature if they had not yet done so.

20. The Chair of the Council, in his capacity as the representative of Honduras, informed Members that, due to an environmental emergency in Central America, the President of Honduras had to cancel her trip to Colombia and, therefore, he had to postpone the signature of the Agreement.

21. The delegate of the European Union reported that their procedures for signature were well underway and would be complete in a few months.

22. The delegate of Mexico thanked Members and the Secretariat for the work carried out during the drafting process of the new ICA and informed Members that the country's procedures for signature of the Agreement were already underway.

23. The delegate of Switzerland welcomed the new Agreement as a step towards improved sustainability and governance for the whole coffee sector and value chain and reported that the ICA 2022 had been approved by the Swiss Federal Council at the end of September 2022. She informed the Council that the signature of the Agreement was expected to take place before the end of 2022.

24. The delegate of Norway stressed how the ICA 2022 represented an important milestone, as well as an instrument to sustain the coffee sector in a new and innovative way. She informed Members that Norway's procedures for signature were expected to be finalized at the beginning of 2023.

25. The delegate of Kenya reiterated the country's support for the ICA 2022 as a tool to promote more robust engagement among stakeholders and to address the challenges faced by the coffee sector. He informed the Council that the Government of Kenya would relay its approval of the ICA 2022 within the next three months as national elections in September 2022 had slightly delayed the signing process.

26. The delegate of Papua New Guinea reported on the appointment of the new Minister for Coffee, while stressing the importance of the coffee industry and the whole sector for the Government of Papua New Guinea. He also informed the Chair of the Council that the Minister for Coffee had been granted full powers to sign the Agreement and had vowed to do so in London in the near future.

27. The delegate of Nepal informed Members that Nepal would sign the ICA 2022 at the Headquarters of the Organization.

28. The delegate of the Russian Federation referred to the ICA 2022 as a clear sign of progress for the world coffee sector and informed Members that the Government of the Russian Federation was in the midst of its internal procedures for the signature of the ICA 2022.

29. The delegate of Japan stressed the importance of enhancing collaboration with the private sector as a way to increase consumption and to benefit both consuming and producing countries. He also informed Members that internal procedures for the signature of the ICA 2022 were underway.

30. The delegate of Indonesia pointed out that the ICA 2022 reaffirmed the Organization's role as a forum for intergovernmental consultation to facilitate international trade and increase transparency and access to relevant information while promoting a sustainable coffee economy and the resilience of local communities and coffee farmers. She informed the Council that their internal procedures were being finalized with a view to signing the ICA 2022 in London in the near future.

31. The delegate of India congratulated all Members who signed the Agreement and informed the Council that the ICA 2022 was under active consultation at the high level of the Government of India. He confirmed that India's signature of the Agreement was expected to be take place before the next session of the Council.

32. The delegate of the Philippines highlighted the important work of the Organization and its essential role in assisting the coffee sector not only in mitigating the effects of the pandemic, but also in finding ways to promote sustainable projects and market development for the benefit the entire global coffee community. She recalled the adoption of a resolution in the June Session of the Council, requesting that the Secretariat formulate a proposal for transitional mechanisms for exporting members like the Philippines, who would be affected by a significant increase in membership contributions under the new Agreement. She further expressed her hope that all ICO Members would benefit from the new ICA 2022.

Item 4: Report on the work of the ICO and market situation**Item 4.1: Proposal for the ICO theme for coffee year 2022/23**

33. The Executive Director reported on the work of the Organization and started by outlining her engagement with Members and her advocacy of the coffee sector, providing an overview of the official visits and trips she had made, following invitations by governments and partners, since taking office in May 2022. These included meetings with several ICO Members in London and participation in events and conferences in Europe and Africa organized in partnership with and largely funded by Member governments, international development agencies and NGOs, as well as the private sector.

34. After reporting on the market situation and trends for coffee year 2021/22, the Executive Director reported on the implementation of the Programme of Activities for 2021/22, focusing mainly on the achievements and results obtained in terms of advocacy and knowledge, partnership and project development, fund mobilization and promotion of coffee consumption (including the International Coffee Day campaign for 2022).

35. Lastly, the Executive Director shared with Members a set of priorities that she had identified for coffee year 2022/23, focusing on even greater engagement with ICO Members and other coffee stakeholders, fund mobilization, building concrete partnerships with donors and international financial institutions, and expanding membership.

36. The Head of Operations reported on the proposed ICO theme for coffee year 2022/23, the "Circular Coffee Economy", stressing the importance of sharing technologies, good practices and solutions that would create new opportunities for job creation and income generation.

37. The delegate of Brazil expressed his full support for the work already carried out and to be implemented by the Executive Director and the Secretariat. He also stressed the need to optimize the work of the Organization, making it less bureaucratic and more efficient and effective. He also suggested that a seminar on topics relevant to the coffee sector be organized within the week of associated meetings in order to make the best use of the time available.

38. With reference to the proposal presented by Brazil, the delegate of Colombia suggested that the seminar could include presentations by coffee research centres and institutes based in ICO Member countries so that all delegations could be made aware of the latest developments in terms of scientific research. He also referred to the need for the

ICO to change the narrative about the concept of "living income" and suggested focusing the dialogue on ensuring "prosperity" for coffee producers instead.

39. The delegate of El Salvador stressed the need to define clear goals for the Organization and any strategies to achieve them, and suggested that these be included in the ICO action plan.

40. The delegate of Costa Rica echoed the statements made by the delegate of Colombia with reference to the concept of "prosperity" and congratulated the Executive Director on her presentation, pointing out that it already contained a very well-outlined strategic plan. She also suggested that a talent pool of human resources and coffee experts from ICO Countries be compiled and shared to support the work of the Organization.

41. The delegate of Kenya thanked the Executive Director for her presentation and praised the effective identification of priority areas for the fulfilment of the Organization's mandate. He also stressed the importance and need to draft a strategic plan in order to achieve the identified goals.

42. The delegate of Colombia supported the proposal made by Costa Rica to create a pool of coffee experts and called on Members to commit to the Organization and support its work also in terms of human resources.

43. The Executive Director clarified that, under the Administrative Budget and the Programme of Activities for coffee year 2022/23, the Secretariat would prepare a concept proposal for developing a new five-year strategic plan to be submitted to Members for approval. She confirmed the Secretariat's enthusiasm and availability to work with experts from ICO Member countries and to further develop a project to receive in-kind contributions from them, as well as to consider the possibility of organizing events to mobilize funds for the work of the Organization.

<p>44. The Council took note of the report presented by the Executive Director and approved "Circular Coffee Economy" as the ICO theme for coffee year 2022/23.</p>

Item 5: Financial and administrative matters**Item 5.1: Finance and Administration Committee**

45. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) reported on the 55th and 56th meetings held on 14 September and 3 October 2022, respectively. The Committee stressed the need for Members to pay their contributions promptly to ensure the economic sustainability of the Organization, to support the Secretariat to utilize and optimize the budget and to undertake activities as planned.

46. The Council took note of the report by the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Item 5.2: Report on collection of contributions from Members in arrears

47. The Chair of the FAC introduced the report given by the Head of Finance and Administration on the collection of contributions from Members in arrears, contained in document [FA-333/22](#). Approximately £399,000 was outstanding from the current financial year and £640,000 from previous years as at 31 August 2022. The Chair noted that since that date, two Members had paid their contributions, namely Nepal for coffee year 2021/22, and Bolivia, partially covering its arrears for previous coffee years.

48. The Chair of the Council reported that Gabon and Mexico had also just paid their outstanding contributions for coffee year 2021/22.

49. The Chair also informed Members about a letter from Bolivia through which the country had requested an instalment plan to pay their outstanding contributions to the Organization ([FA 337/22](#)). Bolivia agreed to the following plan proposed by the Secretariat: an initial instalment of GBP 4676.97 to be paid before 31 March 2023; a second instalment of GBP 4676.97 to be paid before 31 March 2024; and a third instalment of GBP 4676.97 to be paid before 31 March 2025.

50. The Chair of the Council noted that Bolivia should submit a letter committing to the payment of contributions for coffee year 2022/23 and the above-mentioned instalment plan before the date of the next FAC meeting.

51. The delegate of Colombia proposed to hand the Executive Director a very clear mandate to allow her to work actively on increasing membership and reintegrating very important members that had withdrawn from the Organization.

52. The Council noted the report of the Chair of the FAC.

53. The Council approved the instalment plan for Bolivia, subject to: (i) written confirmation from the European Union, Indonesia and Japan following consultations with their capitals; and (ii) receipt of a formal letter of commitment by Bolivia to pay its contributions for coffee year 2022/23 before the next FAC meeting.

Item 5.3: Programme of Activities for coffee year 2022/23

54. The Chair of the FAC informed Members that the Head of Operations had presented a summary of the Programme of Activities for coffee year 2022/23 contained in document [FA-332/22 Rev. 1](#) at the meeting held in September 2022. The FAC noted the importance of the Programme of Activities and stressed the need to have, whenever possible, an even higher level of detail for the allocation of funds for external consultants and services. Members decided that the Programme of Activities should be considered in relation to and form an integral part of the final budget approved for 2022/23.

55. The Council approved the Programme of Activities for coffee year 2022/23 contained in document [FA 332/22 Rev. 1](#)².

Item 5.4: Draft Administrative Budget for financial year 2022/23

56. The Chair of the FAC reported on the Draft Administrative Budget for financial year 2022/23, contained in document [FA-318/22 Rev. 1](#), stressing that the proposed increase was due to the partial recovery from the emergency budgets of the last two financial years, a partial return to a pre-Covid-19 work regimen, and an adjustment for current inflation. The Chair of the FAC noted that Members of the Committee had recommended the document for approval by the Council.

² Subsequently published as [ICC-134-7](#).

57. The Council approved the Draft Administrative Budget for financial year 2022/23 contained in document [FA-318/22 Rev. 1](#)³.

Item 6: Sustainability and Partnerships

Item 6.1: Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) and CEO & Global Leaders Forum (CGLF)

58. The Head of Operations reported on the CPPTF Sherpas-only meeting held on 4 October and on the 4th CGLF held on 5 October 2022. With reference to the CPPTF Sherpas-only meeting, he noted that, following the signature of the London Declaration by the Louis Dreyfus Company in September 2022, the majority of the largest traders were part of the Task Force. He then highlighted: (i) the enhanced work of the sub-group "Importing Countries of the Technical Workstream TWS3: Market Policies and Institutions" following the active engagement and leadership of the European Union; (ii) the positive feedback provided by several Exporting Members where CPPTF activities in the field were under implementation as reported by ICO Members themselves; and (iii) the strong engagement and collaboration with the German development agency GIZ, and their support extended through the CPPTF to IACO and Promecafe. He also reminded those present that, within the Task Force, two seats for Public Sherpas, one for Exporting and one for Importing ICO Members, were vacant. Lastly, the Head of Operations informed Members that within the 4th CEO & Global Leaders Forum, private sector representatives approved the joint communiqué drafted in collaboration with ICO Members and contained in document [CPPTF-8/22](#).

59. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for Exporting Members, stated that Togo would fill one of the vacant seats and stressed that the Task Force could benefit from reviewing its modus operandi to maintain its dynamism and effectiveness.

60. The delegate of the European Union congratulated the Organization on the very ambitious work being carried out within the Task Force and on the progress made with reference to the CPPTF Roadmap. He thanked the Government of Germany for supporting CPPTF activities, and in his capacity as spokesperson for Importing Members, he informed the Council that no applications for the vacant seat had been put forward.

³ Subsequently published as [ICC-134-6](#).

61. The delegate of Mexico, also speaking in his capacity as CPPTF Public Sector Sherpa, thanked the Organization for the activities being implemented in his country and emphasized that the success of the Task Force would depend not only on the work of the Secretariat, but on efforts made by Members nationally and on the level of collaboration between Exporting and Importing Members.

62. The delegate of Kenya stressed the importance of ensuring that the focus of the CPPTF structure, activities and roadmap remained on the prosperous and living income of farmers.

63. The delegate of Colombia emphasized the key management role of the Executive Director and the Secretariat, stressing that they should both present initiatives and make proposals to the Council, in addition to executing the Council's decisions.

64. The Chair of the Council noted that Members had empowered the Executive Director to put forward proposals, contact potential partners and suggest strategies to increase membership, always in agreement with the Chair.

65. The Council approved the Communiqué contained in document [CPPTF-8/22](#)⁴ and took note that Togo had been named a Public Sherpa for the Exporting Members.

Item 6.2: Report on the implementation of Memorandums of Understanding and new cooperation agreements

66. The Head of Operations reported on the implementation of Memorandums of Understanding and provided updates about ongoing MoUs with the Global Coffee Platform, the Sustainable Coffee Challenge, the International Women's Coffee Alliance and the African Fine Coffee Association. He also informed delegates about the Secretariat's intention and ongoing work to renew a MoU with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and a new MoU with the Global Coffee Platform, as well as to formalize the collaboration with the Inter-African Coffee Association (IACO), the Regional Cooperative Program for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Production (PROMECAFE) and the ASEAN Coffee Federation (ACF).

⁴ Subsequently published as [ICC-134-8](#).

67. The Executive Director of the Global Coffee Platform, Ms Annette Pensel, provided a brief on the renewal process of the above-mentioned MoU. She reaffirmed the Global Coffee Platform's willingness and keenness to continue collaborating with the Organization, and in response to a question asked by the delegate of Brazil on the actual impact of the above-mentioned MoU, she also provided an overview of the outcomes and concrete results obtained under the framework of the MoU with the ICO and within the CPPTF.

68. The Chair of the Council requested that the Executive Director reach out to any organizations and coffee stakeholders with which the Organization had signed an MoU to obtain further details about the activities implemented and the results achieved to date. He also asked that a report on the topic be presented at the next session of the Council.

69. The Council took note of the report on MoUs and cooperation agreements, accepted the Chair's proposal and requested that the Secretariat prepare a report on the main results achieved under the implementation of the Organization's MoUs, to be presented to the Council.

Item 6.3: Sustainable coffee production in Brazil

70. A video on sustainable coffee production in Brazil, promoted by the Brazilian National Coffee Council (CNC), was streamed. Following the video, Mr Silas Brasileiro, representative of the CNC, shared an overview of a project implemented to conserve water through coffee production.

71. Mr Otávio Maia, representative of the Brazilian Institute of Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (EMATER) and member of the delegation of Brazil, provided Members with an overview of the work implemented by EMATER in the state of Minas Gerais.

72. The delegate of Brazil additionally informed Members that a training mission (technical study tour) to Brazil would be organized in April 2023 for the benefit of 15 ICO Member delegates and one staff member of the ICO Secretariat.

73. In response to the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire, the delegate of Brazil clarified that the criteria for the selection of the 15 delegates travelling to Brazil would be shared shortly through the Secretariat.

74. The Council took note of the video and intervention by Brazil on sustainable coffee production and welcomed the news of the technical study tour to be organized by Brazil.

Item 7: World Coffee Conference

75. The delegate of India reminded those present that the 5th World Coffee Conference (WCC) had originally been scheduled to take place in Bangalore in 2020 but had to be postponed due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. He also informed Members that India would be assuming the presidency of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023 and that hosting the WCC and ICO meetings in early September 2023, as approved by the Council at its 131st Special Session, would therefore be challenging. As per the communication circulated as document [ED-2417/22](#), the delegate of India proposed holding the WCC during the week from 10 to 15 July 2023, while also highlighting the positive impact of holding the event alongside the G20 in terms of visibility for the coffee sector. A promotional video containing further information about the event was streamed.

76. The Executive Director thanked India for confirming that it would host the World Coffee Conference in 2023 and welcomed the proposal submitted, noting that most of the G20 Countries were also Members of the Organization. With reference to the schedule of meetings, she proposed holding the 135th Session of the Council online, with the 136th Session and the 5th CEO & Global Leaders Forum to take place in Bangalore along with the World Coffee Conference and celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the ICO. She also suggested organizing a one-day virtual resumed session of the Council in September 2023 to approve the Administrative Budget for coffee year 2023/24.

77. The delegate of Colombia expressed his approval of the proposal submitted by India and the Executive Director, and offered Colombia's support in organizing the celebration of the Organization's 60th Anniversary.

78. The delegate of India gave a presentation on the branding and communication strategy developed to promote the World Coffee Conference, as well as an overview of the activities foreseen to take place within the event.

79. The Council approved the proposal to hold the 5th World Coffee Conference, the 136th Session of the Council and the 5th CEO & Global Leaders Forum in July 2023.

Item 8: Coffee sector regulations and due diligence

80. The Chair of the Council introduced the item on coffee sector regulations and due diligence, and informed Members that, on his initiative, the ICO had planned a meeting in Brussels with the EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries on 28 September 2022. However, this had to be postponed due to illness of the Commissioner himself.

81. Dr María Naranjo Barrantes, a researcher from Wageningen University, presented the preliminary results of an independent policy brief on the EU legislative proposal for a regulation on deforestation-free products, financed by the ICO's Coffee Public-Private Task Force. The presentation focused on the concept of deforestation and on the potential key implications, both challenges and opportunities, of the proposed EU regulation for exporting countries and small coffee holders.

82. The Executive Director emphasized that the presentation was only the initial phase of the study being carried out by a team of researchers from Wageningen University, and the starting point for a series of actions that the Organization is planning to undertake in order to achieve consensus among ICO Members on the topic.

83. Referring to the content of the EU proposed regulation on deforestation-free products, the delegate of Costa Rica shared her concern about linking deforestation to commodities and stressed the need to support least developed countries rather than imposing mechanisms.

84. The delegate of Kenya thanked Dr Naranjo for the in-depth presentation and pointed out that most small coffee farmers in developing countries would not be able to afford the costs of measures for compliance with the proposed regulation, thus representing an increase in their costs of doing business and a trade barrier to access the EU markets.

85. The delegates of Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Burundi and the Philippines echoed the sentiments of the delegate of Kenya on the impact that the proposed regulation would have on coffee producers, emphasizing their shared concern about climate change but the negative repercussions that the regulation might have on smallholder coffee growers.

86. The delegate of India pointed out the challenges posed by the proposed EU legislation in terms of additional production costs and stressed how the characteristics and the complexity of the coffee value chain had not been fully taken into account.

87. The delegate of Mexico echoed the sentiments of the delegate of India, emphasizing how exporting and importing countries could join forces and work proactively to identify more effective ways to monitor and address the question of deforestation and climate change in general.

88. The delegate of Papua New Guinea stressed that the entry into force of the EU regulation would signify an abrupt change for many producing countries, subsequently necessitating the complete transformation of the national coffee industry and many challenges in terms of technology.

89. The representative of Conservation International seconded the concerns of several ICO delegates on the unintended consequences of the regulation on small producers and recommended that the ICO increase its involvement and dialogue, focusing more on the support the European Union could provide to producing countries with the implementation of the legislation.

90. The delegate of the European Union noted that drafting and discussions on the proposed regulation started several years ago and that consultations with representatives of producing countries had already taken place. He was aware that the proposal might increase coffee production costs and, consequently, costs for the final consumer, but he stressed that the proposed regulation was not intended to have a negative impact on small producers. He emphasized that, as foreseen by the regulation itself, the European Union would support producing countries in implementing the proposed regulation through the development of partnerships and cooperation mechanisms. The delegate of the European Union renewed the EU's commitment to continue engaging at a bilateral and multilateral level with producing countries and encouraged Members to focus on the opportunities the proposed regulation would generate.

91. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire thanked Dr Naranjo for her presentation and asked the Secretariat to share the Terms of Reference of the study assigned to the research team of Wageningen University in order to provide Members with a better understanding of its objectives and main expected outcomes. He also suggested that the Secretariat present

recommendations on how to mitigate the impact of the proposed EU regulation at the next session of the Council.

92. The Council took note of the presentation by Dr Naranjo Barrantes. The Secretariat took note of the suggestion presented by the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire.

- Item 9: Report of meetings of committees and other bodies**
- Item 9.1: Report on compliance with Statistical rules**
- Item 9.2: Certificates of Origin**
- Item 9.3: Statistics Roundtable**
- Item 9.4: Procedure for Addressing Significant Discrepancies in Exports/Imports Monthly Report**

93. The Chair of the Council informed Members that, given the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Statistics Committee, the Head of Operations was requested to be chair ex-officio for the 22nd Statistics Committee meeting held on 4 October 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia.

94. With reference to the Report on Compliance with the provision of statistical data in accordance with Statistical Rules, the Head of Operations noted with satisfaction that an improvement in the submission of data had been registered, and he reported that several delegations had requested that the Secretariat submit a report on data quality to identify issues, particularly for small producing countries, at the next session of the Council. After reporting on the meetings of the Statistical Roundtable, the Head of Operations also informed the Council that Members of the Statistics Committee had recommended the following items for approval by the ICC: (i) Brazil's proposal to streamline the issuing process of Certificates of Origin, as contained in document [SC-118/22](#); and (ii) the Procedure for Addressing Significant Discrepancies in the Exports/Imports Monthly Report proposed by the Secretariat and contained in document [SC-116/22](#).

95. The Council took note of the Report on Compliance with the provision of statistical data in accordance with Statistical Rules and approved the proposed amendments to the issuing process of the Certificates of Origin contained in document [SC-118/22](#), as well as the Procedure for Addressing Significant Discrepancies in the Exports/Imports Monthly report contained in document [SC-116/22](#)).

- Item 9.5: ICO Special Fund**
Item 9.6: ICO Market Development Toolkit
Item 9.7: International Coffee Day (ICD)
Item 9.8: Studies and reports

96. The Vice-Chair of the Promotion and Market Development Committee, Ambassador Aly Touré of Cote d'Ivoire, reported on the 24th meeting held on 4 October 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia. The Vice-Chair informed Members that the Secretariat had reported on: (i) the ICO Special Fund and regional programmes being implemented in Africa (in partnership with IACO), Asia and the Pacific; (ii) the completion of the ICO Market Development Toolkit; (iii) the campaign for the celebration of International Coffee Day 2022; and (iv) the circulation of the mandatory reports on mixtures and substitutes contained in document [ICC-134-1](#) and on Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) contained in document [ICC-134-2 Rev. 1](#).

97. With regard to the utilization of the Special Fund in Asia and the Pacific, the Council was informed of progress and activities by the delegates of Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia.

98. With regard to the situation of unclaimed portions of the Special Fund (Timor-Leste), the Secretariat reported that recent contacts were established with the UN Resident Coordinator in the country to facilitate the country's engagement with the ICO and access to their allocated portion of the Special Fund.

99. The Chair of the Council thanked the Vice-Chair of the Promotion and Market Development for the report and expressed his gratitude for his constant cooperation with the work of the Organization over the years.

100. The Council took note of the report on the 24 th Promotion and Market Development Committee meeting.
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Item 9.9: New projects and funding opportunities

101. The Chair of the Projects Committee, Dr K. G. Jagadeesha of India, reported on the 23rd meeting held on 4 October 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia. The Chair of the Committee informed Members that the Secretariat had reported on: (i) new projects and funding

opportunities, including the finalization of the project on capacity building for youth and women in Africa to provide sustainability services with the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), discussions with the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and the World Bank; and (ii) ongoing and recently-concluded projects and activities carried out in partnership with the Global Coffee Platform (GCP), AFREXIMBANK, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), and the International Trade Centre (ITC). He concluded by mentioning a project proposal on implementing the coffee market development strategy in Kenya through establishing coffee houses in universities, as submitted by the delegation of Kenya, of which the Secretariat had taken note.

102. Dr Carlos Moreno, representative of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), identified the Covid-19 pandemic and natural climate disasters as two of the main challenges affecting coffee production in Central America and reiterated CABEI's commitment to supporting and working in cooperation with the ICO for the benefit of a sustainable coffee sector.

103. Mr Pedro Mendoza, President of the Honduran Coffee Institute, shared a brief overview of the key results achieved at a national level, and encouraged all Members to support the work of the Executive Director.

104. Ms Kim Elena Ionescu, Chief Sustainability and Knowledge Development Officer of the Specialty Coffee Association (SCA), gave a presentation on the activities carried out by SCA with a specific focus on education and training programmes, while emphasizing the several partnerships that could be developed with the ICO and its Members.

105. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire thanked Ms Ionescu for her presentation and expressed his interest in further discussing possible partnerships with SCA while stressing that IACO's annual meeting taking place in Togo in November 2022 could be a valuable opportunity to identify synergies with African producing countries.

106. The delegate of Honduras suggested that the ICO organize an international specialty coffee competition to promote and enhance the visibility of specialty coffees.

107. The delegate of Mexico highlighted that promoting greater access to education for producers would be key to helping them understand the real value of their product in order to receive a greater percentage of the final price and increase their income.

108. The Council took note of the report on the 23rd Projects Committee meeting and approved the further development of a project proposal based on the concept submitted by the delegation of Kenya.

Item 9.10: Report on the 53rd meeting of the Private Sector Consultative Board

109. The Chair of the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB), Mr Anil Bhandari of India, reported on the 53rd meeting held on 4 October 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia. The Chair noted that discussions within the meeting focused mainly on two key topics, these being the integration of the private sector in the ICA 2022 and the EU proposed regulation on deforestation-free products.

110. With reference to the integration of the private sector in the ICA 2022, Members of the PSCB urged the Organization to define the modalities for Affiliate Membership and expressed their hope that these would be shared before the 5th World Coffee Conference and the Council in July 2023.

111. In regard to regulations, the Chair of the Council encouraged the Executive Director to establish a dialogue with representatives from relevant organizations, commodity bodies and governments, related to the products affected by the EU and other proposed and potential regulations, in order to develop a common strategy and address potential challenges arising in the course of such processes.

112. The Chair of the Council thanked the Chair of the PSCB for his report, and suggested that he start discussions with the Executive Director on the modalities for integrating the private sector and civil society in the ICA 2022 so that recommendations in relation thereto might be presented at the next session of the Council. The Chair also recommended that the Executive Director be given the mandate to attend meetings with other commodity boards and organizations covering products included in the EU proposed regulation on deforestation free-products.

113. The Council took note of the report on 53rd Private Sector Consultative Board meeting.

Item 10: Office holders and committees**Item 10.1: Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of committee**

114. The Executive Director noted that upon the entry into force of the ICA 2022, the governance structure of the Organization would be streamlined and consist of two committees only, the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) and the new Economics Committee, with the latter incorporating all the existing technical committees as per the provisions of the ICA 2007. In light of this and considering that the technical committees have already been held together under the Joint Committee meetings five times, she shared a proposal to appoint the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Members of the FAC, and then only one Chair and one Vice-Chair for the Joint Committees in order to optimize the workload of the Organization in the transitional period between the ICA 2007 and the ICA 2022.

115. In response to a question from the delegate of Kenya, the Head of Operations provided clarifications on the governance structure of the Organization, noting that the Statistics Committee, the Promotion and Market Development Committee and the Projects Committee had started meeting jointly since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent change in the format of ICO meetings (from in-person to online meetings).

116. The delegates of Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Colombia and the European Union expressed their appreciation for the proposal submitted by the Executive Director and praised the efforts made in order to make the Organization and its work more efficient and effective. Nonetheless, they requested more time to discuss the proposal and to consult with delegations within the Exporting and Importing groups.

117. The delegate of Colombia proposed that the existing composition of all Committees be maintained until the 135th session of the International Coffee Council, to be held in March 2023, in order to give the spokespeople enough time to discuss with Members and agree on any appointments to be made. He also suggested that the Executive Director circulate a formal proposal containing information about the expected structure of the Joint Committees in due time, to be subsequently discussed at the 135th Session of the Council.

118. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for Exporting Members, supported the proposal made by the delegate of Colombia.

119. The delegate of the European Union, in his capacity as spokesperson for Importing Members, also supported the proposal made by the delegate of Colombia. He then informed Members that the participation of the European Union, Japan, Norway, the Russian Federation and Switzerland in the committees was confirmed also for coffee year 2022/23.

120. The Head of Operations noted that the failure to nominate a Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the FAC for coffee year 2022/23 would affect the implementation of the ICA 2007.

121. Ms Vera Espíndola of Mexico and Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union submitted their application to cover, respectively, the position of Chair and Vice-Chair of the FAC for coffee year 2022/23.

122. The Chair of the Council encouraged Members to reach out to the spokespeople for Exporting and Importing Members in order to discuss the composition of the Committees in due time in preparation for the 135th Session of the Council.

123. The Council approved the nomination of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the FAC for coffee year 2022/23 and the proposal to renew the existing composition of the FAC and all the other ICO Committees until the 135th session of the International Coffee Council.

Item 10.2: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council

124. The Chair of the Council noted that as per the provisions of Article 10 of the ICA 2007, the Chair and the Vice-Chair for coffee year 2022/23 should be elected from among the representatives of importing and exporting Members, respectively.

125. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for Exporting Members, proposed Dr Enselme Gouthon of Togo for the position of Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2022/23.

126. The delegate of the European Union, in his capacity as spokesperson for Importing Members, proposed Mr Massimiliano Fabian of the EU-Italy for the position of Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2022/23.

127. The Council elected Mr Massimiliano Fabian of the EU-Italy as Chair and Dr Enselme Gouthon of Togo as Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2022/23.

128. After brief statements by the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2022/23, the delegates expressed appreciation for their election and wished them success in their office.

Item 11: Credentials

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

Item 12: Future meetings

130. Following the approval of the proposal of India with reference to the World Coffee Conference, the Executive Director submitted to the Council for consideration the following dates for future meetings:

- 135th Session of the Council: 27-31 March 2023, to be held online.
- 136th Session of the Council and 5th World Coffee Conference: 10-15 July 2023, to be held in Bangalore, India.
- Resumed 136th Session of the Council: one-day meeting on a date to be agreed in September 2023 for the approval of the administrative budget for coffee year 2023/24, to be held online.

131. Additionally, the Executive Director stressed again that the 136th Session of the Council would also mark the 60th Anniversary of the Organization and suggested that celebrations take place in Bangalore, India.

132. The delegate of El Salvador expressed the country's interest in hosting a future Session of the Council.

133. The Council approved the dates for future meetings and the proposal of El Salvador of hosting a future Session of the Council.

Item 13: Other business

134. No discussion was held under this agenda item.

Closing session

135. The Executive Director announced that, in order to comply with the provisions of Article 17 (4) of the International Coffee Agreement 2007, she had transferred ownership of all her coffee properties at her family's coffee farm to a family member.

136. The Executive Director presented the outgoing Chair of the Council, Ambassador Iván Romero-Martínez of Honduras, with an award in recognition of his contribution to the work of the International Coffee Organization and to the sustainability of the global coffee sector. On behalf of the Organization, she thanked Ambassador Romero-Martínez for serving as Chair of the International Coffee Council during coffee years 2015/16 and 2021/22, and for the major role he played in the negotiations for the approval of the ICA 2022.

137. Ambassador Romero-Martínez thanked the Secretariat, all previous Executive Directors and ICO Members he had worked with for the support received while fulfilling his functions within the Organization.

138. The delegates of Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the European Union, Mexico and Peru expressed their gratitude to Ambassador Romero for his dedication and capable leadership.

139. The delegate of Colombia expressed his gratitude to all Members for attending the 134th Session of the Council in Colombia, despite all the challenges the Covid-19 pandemic had caused since 2020, and thanked his team for the support provided.

140. The Executive Director thanked the Government and the people of Colombia and the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation for their hospitality and all the efforts made

to ensure that the 134th Session of the Council was successful. She also expressed her gratitude to the team of interpreters and to the ICO Secretariat for their hard work.

141. The Chair of the Council thanked all Members for their presence and closed the 134th Session of the International Coffee Council.



**INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION**

ICC Resolution 478

6 October 2022
Original: English

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International Coffee Council
134th Session
6 and 7 October 2022
Bogotá, Colombia

Resolution Number 478

APPROVED AT THE FIRST PLENARY
MEETING, 6 OCTOBER 2022

**Signature of the
International Coffee Agreement 2022**

WHEREAS:

The International Coffee Council at its 133rd Session on 9 June 2022 has approved:

- Resolution 476 adopting the text of the International Coffee Agreement 2022;
- Resolution 477 Depositary of the International Coffee Agreement which designated the International Coffee Organization as the Depositary for the International Coffee Agreement 2022;
- The opening for signature of the ICA 2022 on 6 October 2022, as contained in document [ICC-133-6](#) - Decisions and Resolutions adopted at the 133rd Session of the International Coffee Council.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT

That the 134th Session of the International Coffee Council will take place in Bogotá, Colombia, from 6 to 7 October 2022.

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

The International Coffee Agreement 2022 shall be open for signature in Bogotá, Colombia, away from the seat of the Depositary (222 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8HB), from 6 to 7 October 2022 and, thereafter, at the seat of the Depositary.