



INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION



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16 October 2023
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International Coffee Council
136th Session
28 and 29 September 2023
Bengaluru, India

**Joint Communiqué – the Bengaluru
Best Coffee Commitment**

Background

The International Coffee Council at its 136th Session considered and approved the attached Joint Communiqué, “the Bengaluru Best Coffee Commitment”, which was submitted by the Coffee Public-Private Task Force.



5th meeting of the CEOs and Global Leaders Forum (CGLF)

136th Session of the International Coffee Council (ICC)

26 September 2023 – 29 September 2023

Bengaluru, India

COMMUNIQUÉ

THE BENGALURU BEST COFFEE COMMITMENT:

WORKING TOGETHER TO MOBILIZE MORE RESOURCES TO PRODUCE AND DELIVER THE BEST COFFEE TO CONSUMERS IN A SUSTAINABLE, REGENERATIVE, CIRCULAR AND INCLUSIVE MANNER.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THE COFFEE INDUSTRY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION, BOTH COFFEE EXPORTING AND IMPORTING COUNTRIES, MET IN BENGALURU, INDIA,

AND AFFIRM THAT:

WE RESTATE the outcomes of all major UN conferences and summits which have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and helped to shape the new agenda. These include the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; the World Summit on Sustainable Development; the World Summit for Social Development; and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+ 20), in particular the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

WE REITERATE, once again, our commitment and endorse the progress on our joint agenda and Roadmap adopted by the 2nd CGLF and the 129th ICC in 2020 which aims to ensure prosperity for coffee producers and the sector as a whole, and WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION that the outputs and contributions of the Technical Workstreams are coming together and strengthen one another;

WE RECOGNIZE the importance of transparency around sustainability efforts and tracking progress against those efforts;

WE WELCOME the work of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force, alongside all ICO Members and stakeholders, in providing knowledge and in identifying shared solutions to deal with the long-term sustainability of the coffee sector. We reiterate the central role of the International Coffee Council in dealing with potential trade barriers to the commerce of coffee;

WE FURTHER RECOGNIZE the Task Force's support of the International Coffee Council, the International Coffee Organization, and to all coffee stakeholders, in dealing with the opportunities and the challenges facing the coffee sector in enabling the discussion on the viable implementation of upcoming regulations and the successful achievement of sustainability objectives without unnecessary trade barriers, thereby ensuring a prosperous future for coffee;

WE AGREE on the need to ensure the diversity of coffee origins and producers and the need to prevent further marginalization of smallholders. International trade must act as motivation for the whole sector to deliver on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and implement environmental and social governance standards and principles, as well as the Task Force Roadmap commitments;

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the work that has recently begun on the Coffee Sustainability and Resilience Fund/Facility (C-SR Fund). We recognize the support from the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for the initial activities;

WE RECOGNIZE that mobilizing more substantial public and private resources is crucial in order to produce and deliver the best coffee to consumers in a sustainable, regenerative, circular and inclusive manner. This is a key action, as already highlighted in the London Declaration and the Task Force Roadmap, to ensure long-lasting, sustained and responsible investment in coffee communities;

WE URGE the entire global coffee community – from ICO Member governments and Task Force members to supporting institutions, the private sector, farmers and farmers' organizations, the international donor community, development partners, and civil society – to intensify their efforts to collaborate on and avoid duplications in actions and initiatives along the supply chain to achieve our joint goal of a sustainable, inclusive and, above all, prosperous coffee sector that provides the best coffee to world consumers.

WE ARE COMMITTED AND PLEDGE:

TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING ICO producing countries and coffee farmers in the understanding and implementation of regulatory requirements, in particular encouraging the initiatives of producing countries through the creation and transfer of knowledge and implementation tools derived from research and discussions supported by ICO Member States, the International Coffee Organization and the Task Force;

TO FURTHER SUPPORT coffee producing countries requesting assistance to assess their living and prosperous income gaps and to benefit from the information collected through the Task Force to mobilize public and private sector to help closing those gaps and to increase sustainability and bring prosperity to coffee farmers;

TO ENGAGE ACTIVELY in the efforts to mobilize additional public and private resources and continue to explore the options and opportunities of establishing a global funding mechanism for the

sustainability and resilience of the coffee sector, which is a cornerstone of the Task Force Roadmap, to enable sustained and impactful sector transformation that benefits all stakeholders, from coffee smallholders to consumers;

TO ACCELERATE the implementation of the Roadmap across all agreed areas of work;

TO CONVENE again in 2024 to reflect on progress and take decisions on any necessary adjustments and modifications.

Bengaluru, 26 and 29 September 2023

Signed by the CEO and Global Leaders Forum

Signed by the International Coffee Council

The London Declaration was signed by:

ECOM Trading JDE Peet's N.V. Illycaffè S.p.A. Lavazza S.p.A. Louis Dreyfus Company Mercon Coffee Group Nestlé S.A. Neumann Kaffee Gruppe	Ofi Starbucks Coffee Company Sucafina Sucden Tchibo Volcafe
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And supported by:

Coordinadora Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Pequeños(as) Productores(as) y Trabajadores(as) de Comercio Justo/ (CLAC) European Coffee Federation (ECF) Fairtrade International Global Coffee Platform (GCP) Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung	IDH the Sustainable Trade Initiative National Coffee Association of the USA (NCA) Oikocredit Rainforest Alliance Rusteacoffee Specialty Coffee Association (SCA) Sustainable Coffee Challenge (SCC) - Conservation International (in their capacity to convene and facilitate the SCC)
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About the Coffee Public Private Task Force (CPPTF)

In September 2018, the International Coffee Council (ICC) adopted Resolution 465 on “coffee price levels” during the 122nd Session in London. This led to a Sector Dialogue organized by the ICO, engaging the relevant sector stakeholders and broader international community in the dialogue on coffee price levels. This culminated in the development of a joint Declaration of Intent of stakeholders from both the private and public sector in the form of the “London Declaration” which was signed the next year in September 2019 by 12 private sector companies and welcomed by the 125th ICC Session, which also adopted resolution ICC-125-10 requesting the ICO to set up a Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF).

The CPPTF now consists of 19 private sector ‘Sherpas’ – representatives of the signatory companies, the ICO Private Sector Consultative Board and the coffee sustainability entities Global Coffee Platform (GCP) and Sustainable Coffee Challenge (SCC) – and 17 public sector representatives of ICO Member countries, both importing and exporting. The aim of the CPPTF and its related Technical Workstreams (TW) is to implement the ICC Resolution 465 and the London Declaration, thereby actively advancing the work of the Sector-Wide Dialogue initiated and led by the ICO. The ultimate objective of the Task Force is to build consensus on priority issues and actions to be submitted for consideration to the International Coffee Council (ICC) and the CEOs and Global Leaders Forum (CGLF) and to be implemented to achieve a sustainable and prosperous future for coffee producers and the sector as a whole.

The CPPTF is an innovative and unique model for public-private dialogue to mobilize efforts and resources for all to engage, reach consensus and put into action, but leaves flexibility to elevate existing individual and shared coffee sector sustainability initiatives and crucially fills gaps where no initiatives yet exist. Progress on commitments and targets are reported via the Sustainable Coffee Challenge (SCC) Commitment Hub (<https://www.sustaincoffee.org/hub-report>) and the ICO Task Force website (<https://icocoffee.org/the-coffee-public-private-task-force/>).

About the International Coffee Council (ICC)

The Council is the highest authority of the Organization and is composed of representatives of each Member government. It meets in March and September each year to discuss coffee matters, approve strategic documents and consider the recommendations of advisory bodies and committees.

Council sessions enable delegates to have high-level contacts with major players in the global coffee industry. Representatives come from government ministries, coffee boards and embassies, supported by alternates from the industry and advisers.

Decisions are usually reached on the basis of consensus. This is important so that the measures which can have a major impact on coffee, such as quality and projects, achieve as much support as possible.



About the CEOs and Global Leaders Forum (CGLF)

The CEOs and Global Leaders Forum (CGLF) is a forum of senior executives from private sector entities that are signatories of the 2019 London Declaration on “price levels, price volatility and the long-term sustainability of the coffee sector” and established as the private sector’s response to ICC Resolution 465 issued on 20 September 2018. The CGLF meets annually with ICO Members, relevant coffee stakeholders and development partners to consider the expected outcomes of the Coffee Public-Private Working Party (CPPWP) as defined in Article 35 of the International Coffee Agreement 2022.