



**INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION**

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**Communication from the
Government of Brazil**

1. The Executive Director attaches a communication from the Government of Brazil on the publication of documents of an administrative and financial nature.

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The Permanent Representation of Brazil to International Organisations in London presents its compliments to the International Coffee Organization (ICO), and has the honour to refer to document ICC-137-7, dated 3 April 2024, on the decisions and resolutions adopted during the 137th Session of the International Coffee Council, held in a hybrid format on 19 March 2024 and make reference, in particular, to item 12, entitled "Other business", paragraphs 134 to 136, on the Council's decision that the question of the removal of passwords from documents of an administrative and financial nature be considered by the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC).

2. In this regard, the Representation of Brazil to the ICO would like to point out that the principles of transparency and publicity of administrative acts and budgetary and financial management are standards followed by governments and international organizations for the dissemination of their actions, decisions and dossiers, in particular with regard to documentation on programmes, expenditures and expenses made with funds of public or private origin, such as proposals, recommendations and working files of an administrative and financial nature, regardless of specific requests for their dissemination.

3. Several international organizations, some of them based in London, such as the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Sugar Organization (ISO), give their members full access to available administrative and financial documents without password protection. Similarly, in these organizations, the advanced circulation of documents by electronic mail to the list of registered recipients, including those of an administrative and financial nature to be discussed and analysed by the delegations, is not subjected to additional protection by means of keys either. In this regard, it should be noted that some of these international organizations request sign-in registration in their Internet portal ("*login*") for delegations and registered entities, but do not restrict the reading of working documents by means of authentication. Other international bodies, on the other hand, provide delegates and the public with unlimited access to the full management dossiers.

4. With regard to the documents examined by the various committees and deliberative bodies of the International Coffee Organization, it should be noted that only the dossiers dealt with by the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) are subject to restricted dissemination through the use of access passwords, including for the representations and chancelleries of the Member countries. Even when these documents are sent by electronic message to the delegations of the Member States, their reading is classified as reserved and access is only permitted through authentication.

5. As per clarifications provided by the ICO Secretariat the practice that has been adopted does not result from compliance with any decision made by the Organization as it was not possible to find any resolution in this regard or to identify any document on the adoption of procedures for classification of dossiers.

6. In order to update the practices followed by the Secretariat for the dissemination of documents used by the Finance and Administration Committee, the Representation of Brazil to the ICO suggests the consideration of a proposal to grant the administrative and financial documents identical treatment, exempt from secrecy or password requirements, as all other files prepared by the Organization.

The Permanent Representation of Brazil to International Organisations based in London takes this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Coffee Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 2 July 2024

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