

ICC 138-10

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Decisions and Resolutions adopted at the 138th Session of the International Coffee Council F

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Opening	of the 138 th Session of the Council	2
ltem 1:	Draft agenda	3
ltem 2:	Votes	3
ltem 3:	National coffee policies	3
ltem 4:	International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2022	7
ltem 5:	Report on the work of the ICO and market situation	10
ltem 6:	Financial and administrative matters	13
ltem 7:	Sustainability and partnerships	18
ltem 8:	Report of meetings of committees and other bodies	23
ltem 9:	Office holders and committees	24
ltem 10:	Credentials	27
ltem 11:	Future meetings	27
ltem 12:	Other business	29
Closing session		

Opening of the 138th Session of the Council

1. Dr Enselme Gouthon of Togo chaired the 138th Session of the International Coffee Council held in London, United Kingdom, on 12 September 2024.

2. The Chair of the Council opened the 138th Session by welcoming and thanking all Members for their availability to join the meetings in person. While reflecting on the progress made during coffee year 2023/24, the Chair of the Council noted with appreciation the increasingly important role of the International Coffee Organization (ICO) given that high-level institutions and fora, such as the African Union and the G7, recognized coffee as a strategic key sector, and that new countries, such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, joined the International Coffee Agreement 2022. Among the challenges that needed to continue being addressed, the Chair mentioned the enhancement of sustainable production and consumption systems through the implementation of circular economy practices, as well as the need to continue adopting strategies aimed at reducing the income gap and ensuring a living and prosperous income for coffee farmers. He then thanked the Executive Director and her team, congratulating them on the effective coordination of meetings, as well as all the partners and coffee stakeholders involved in the sustainable developments of coffee value chains.

3. The Vice-Chair of the Council delivered his opening remarks, focusing on the importance of collaboration and highlighting the development of connections as the main way to continue tackling challenges related to the sustainability of the industry in the coffee year to start.

4. Following the Chair and Vice-Chairs's opening speeches, the Executive Director of the ICO, Dr Vanúsia Nogueira, delivered her opening remarks.

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 138th Session of the International Coffee Council had been reached.

Item 1: Draft agenda

6. Following a suggestion put forward by the Chair of the Council, Members agreed to address agenda items in a different order for practical reasons without affecting the content of topics to be discussed.

7. The Council adopted the draft Agenda contained in document <u>ICC-138-0 Rev. 2</u>.

Item 2:VotesItem 2.1:Redistribution of votes for the 138th Session of the Council for
coffee year 2023/24

8. The Head of Operations reported on document <u>ICC-138-1</u> containing the redistribution of votes in the Council for coffee year 2023/24 as of 11 September 2024, which was calculated on the basis of the statistical data contained in document <u>ED-2439/23 Rev. 1</u> and in accordance with Article 12 and 21 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.

9. The Council approved document <u>ICC-138-1</u> on the redistribution of votes in the Council for coffee year 2023/24.

ltem 3:	National coffee policies
ltem 3.1:	Intervention of the Government of Italy
ltem 3.2:	Intervention of the Government of Brazil
ltem 3.3:	Intervention of the Government of El Salvador

10. Amb Stefano Gatti of the EU-Italy reported on the actions taken by its government to strengthen the global coffee sector and address its main challenges. He noted that food security and sustainable food systems were among the priorities of Italian foreign policy, with resources allocated to tackle climate change also being made available for the coffee sector and any food-related action with a potential impact on the environment following the decisions made at the COP 28 in Dubai. As part of the Italian Government's strategy for

the sector, Amb Gatti highlighted a continent-wide programme for Africa focusing on climate-resilient coffee value chains and the creation of value addition to be implemented at first in five pilot countries – Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Malawi – in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Bank Group. In this sense, he also noted that discussions to transform the programme into a Team Europe Initiative to be led by Italy were being held within the European Commission. Additionally, he emphasized the recognition given to coffee within the G7 agenda under the Italian Presidency, corroborated by the planned creation of a Global Private-Public Coffee Fund and the unprecedented inclusion of coffee as a key commodity in a G7 Communiqué. Lastly, Amb Gatti thanked the ICO for facilitating consultations between the Italian Presidency of the G7 and key coffee public and private sector stakeholders, as well as for the support provided to the abovementioned initiatives.

11. After thanking and congratulating the Italian Government on the continent-wide programme for Africa, the delegate of Côte d'Ivoire asked for further details on the local partners involved as well as on the process to identify the set priorities in light of the fact that his country, as several others, were not part of the G7 group. He stressed the laudable nature of the initiative, while also emphasizing the importance of consulting with African countries to give them the chance to share their concerns and priorities. Lastly, he asked for clarifications on the criteria to select the five pilot countries, noting that they all belonged to the same geographical region.

12. The delegate of EU-Italy clarified that the governments and coffee authorities of the countries involved in the programme, including Côte d'Ivoire, had been deeply engaged also through consultations and field missions by the Italian Government and private sector representatives. In this sense, he further noted that the special envoy for Food Security of the African Union had been invited to sit and actively participate in the meetings of the G7's Working Group for Food Security in charge of discussing the proposal to establish a fund for the coffee sector. Regarding the identification of the first five pilot countries, the delegate of EU-Italy noted that the Italian Government had decided to prioritize either the largest producers in the continent or those producing countries who had expressly asked to be among the first beneficiaries.

13. A video on the initiative "*Café Produtor de Água*" ("WATER-PRODUCING COFFEE Program") by Brazil's *Conselho Nacional do Café – CNC* (National Coffee Council) was shown. The initiative in question focused on a strategy to enhance sustainability in the

coffee production chain through the protection of natural springs and the preservation of water basins in coffee-producing regions, showing examples and testimonials from small producers supported by government institutions and a cooperative, including the first awards for the achievements of the project, that had the presence of the ICO Executive Director.

14. Mr Marco Antonio Matos of Brazil reported on the activities of CeCafé (the Brazilian Coffee Exporters Council), providing details on the success of Brazil – the largest producer and the second largest consumer of coffee in the world. In addition to sharing information on the country's volume of exports – with a record of 47.3 million bags registered in crop year 2023/24 – Mr Matos focused on the correlation between coffee production and social development, showing how the Municipal Human Development Index¹ was higher in Brazilian municipalities located in coffee-producing areas compared to others. With reference to producers' income, he emphasized transparency and logistics efficiency as the distinctive features of the Brazilian production chain, which resulted in a retention of 84.5% and 93.6% of domestic price for producers of Arabica and Conilon (Robusta) coffees, respectively. He further reported on the progress made on environmental sustainability in coffee-producing areas, highlighting key information on land use, in a country where 66.3% of the land had been classified as protected and preserved areas. He mentioned that this portion of the land was similar in size to Europe. Lastly, he shared details on different initiatives for the adoption of best agricultural practices impacting carbon balance, as well as on platforms being employed to ensure the proper monitoring and traceability of coffees as part of a multi-sectoral protocol for compliance with national and international regulatory framework.

15. Mr Mauricio Sansivirini of El Salvador reported on the country's transformation under the presidency of Nayib Bukele, and particularly in the coffee sector, which had benefited from improved security and sustainable development initiatives. He emphasized the importance of coffee to El Salvador's identity, economy, and environmental conservation, while highlighting modernization and research; development and innovation; promotion and commercialization; and knowledge and technology transfer as the four pillars of the approach adopted by the Salvadoran Coffee Institute to ensure the recognition of national coffees at international level. Guaranteeing that coffee cultivation remained profitable for producers was identified as the key mission of the country's policy and the only way to ensure the sustainability of the crop, encourage generational renewal,

¹ IDHM is a Brazilian index that measures life expectancy, education and income.

and enable young people and women to actively participate in the production chain. While acknowledging the laudable intent of the European Union's Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products (EUDR), Mr Sansivirini highlighted how its implementation could pose serious difficulties for developing countries, which lacked the resources of industrialized nations, and its potential negative impact for the Salvadorian coffee sector, especially small producers. He concluded by reaffirming his country's commitment to continue collaborating with the Organization and other partners to build a more prosperous and sustainable future for the global coffee sector.

16. In addition to Members that had already requested to intervene under item 3 ahead of the 138th Session of the Council, the Chair of the Council, upon their request, gave the floor for reports on national coffee policies to Colombia and Nepal.

17. Mr Germán Bahamón of Colombia started by thanking the ICO for facilitating a space for dialogue among producers, consumers, and the industry, stressing how valuable that opportunity was for the interest and the sustainability of the coffee sector. He expressed his concern about the implementation schedule of the EUDR, stressing that, although great efforts had been made to adapt, there was still a risk of market imbalance if exporters were not adequately prepared. While pointing out the great value of the coffee information system of the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation (monitoring more than 600,000 farms), he noted that other countries were not equipped with similar systems and advocated for constructive dialogue with the European Union in this sense. Additionally, he emphasized the collaborative efforts of public and private organizations in Colombia to promote the sustainability of the coffee sector, with a specific focus on programmes for the fertilization and renewal of coffee plantations. He also reported on actions taken to increase domestic coffee consumption, inspired by Brazil's example, and to facilitate direct exports from small coffee producers. Lastly, he called for collective action by ICO Members and industry leaders to enhance productivity and reduce costs by incorporating new technologies and techniques in coffee production, and to stimulate demand through the identification of markets where consumption could be increased, such as China. He concluded by reminding Members that a Session of the Council would be hosted in Colombia in 2027 for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Colombian Coffee Growers Federation, as announced at the 136th Session of the Council.

18. Dr Deepak Khanal of Nepal provided an overview of his national coffee sector, noting that 33,500 small farmers organized in cooperatives were responsible for coffee

production in 43 districts. He acknowledged that while the Nepalese coffee industry was still emerging, the country was trying to enhance its commercial production and learn from other members of the Organization. He then outlined some of the challenges faced by the sector, including climate change, complex geography, and problems like coffee rust and pests, calling for greater international support in researching new varieties and improving seed quality. He also stressed efforts to increase domestic coffee consumption, also using ICO funds, as well as initiatives to involve women and youth. Lastly, the delegate of Nepal expressed his hope for enhanced global support in building climate-resilient farming and knowledge exchange with other coffee-producing countries. He concluded by reiterating his gratitude for the opportunity to speak and extended a warm invitation to his fellow delegates to visit Nepal and experience its coffee culture firsthand.

19. The delegate of Switzerland thanked the delegations that reported on their coffee policies and congratulated them on their laudable initiatives. She then informed Members that earlier that week, Switzerland had hosted an event to present the recently launched Swiss Sustainable Coffee Platform, a multi-stakeholder initiative bringing together the Swiss Government, industry, civil society and representatives of academia to address key issues on sustainability in producing countries through the facilitation of public-private projects. She also noted that the Platform foresaw the existence of a Producing Sounding Board in its structure, a space where producing countries' needs could be better understood and taken into account.

20. The Chair of the Council thanked all the Members for the enriching interventions on their national coffee policies.

21.	The Council took note of the reports on national coffee policies.
ltem 4:	International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2022
Item 4.	1: Signature ceremony of the ICA 2022

22. The Chair of the Council introduced document <u>WP-Council 350/24</u> which contained a draft resolution to allow Members to sign the ICA 2022 at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, United Kingdom.

23. Following the approval of the draft resolution by the Council, H.E. Ismara Mercedes Vargas Wagner, Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, signed the ICA 2022.

24. The Chair of the Council congratulated the Government of Cuba for signing the International Coffee Agreement 2022 and taking a step towards continuing to be part of the ICO family.

25. The Council approved the draft resolution subsequently published as <u>ICC Resolution 484</u>.

Item 4.2: Membership of the ICA 2022

26. The Executive Director reported on the membership of the International Coffee Agreement 2022 as of 12 September 2024, highlighting that until that moment, 17 countries – including Cuba – had signed the ICA 2022, while five had fully completed their membership procedures. She noted that since the last update provided at the 137th Session of the Council, India had also signed the ICA 2022, while the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Mexico had deposited instruments of ratification.

27. She then recalled that at the 137th Session of the Council, it was suggested that she reach out to the diplomatic representations of ICO Members in London in order to obtain updates on the status of their membership procedures. In this sense, she reported that in-person and virtual meetings with 18 Members had been held, and she expressed her gratitude to all the ambassadors and representatives she had met for their availability and support in this sense. She then encouraged Members to complete their internal procedures to allow the prompt entry into force of the ICA 2022.

28. Lastly, the Executive Director informed Members that, as requested by the Brazilian delegation during the 137th Session of the Council, the Secretariat had already begun the process to correct a term in the Portuguese version of the 2022 Agreement, following contact with the United Nations Treaty Section in New York.

29. The Chair of the Council thanked the Executive Director for her report and urged all Members to complete their procedures in due course to maintain momentum in the Organization.

30. The Council took note of the report on the membership of the ICA 2022.

Item 4.2: Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022 (WGEF)

31. The Chair of the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022, Mr Mick Wheeler of Papua New Guinea, reported on the activities of the WGEF, stressing it was an honour for him to chair the Group in question. After recalling that the WGEF had met nine times until then, he noted that progress had not been made as quickly as expected due to the strategic significance of issues discussed and their role in shaping the way the ICA 2022 would operate in the future. In this sense, he warmly thanked all the delegations for actively participating in the complex discussions within the WGEF. Lastly, he informed Members that consensus on the question of the composition of the Economics Committee had been reached² and that it was decided to reduce the frequency of the WGEF meetings – with the next meeting tentatively planned for January 2025 – to allow delegations to consult with their capitals and revert to the WGEF with clear positions on the important topics at hand.

32. The Chair of the Council expressed his gratitude to the Chair of the WGEF for diligently conducting the activities of the Group, noting that building consensus was a very challenging task and thanking him for his time, availability and all the efforts made for the benefit of the Organization and the ICA 2022.

33. The delegate of the European Union echoed the Chair's intervention, thanking the Chair of the WGEF for his capable leadership and patience.

34. The Council took note of the report on the Working Group for the Entry into Force of the ICA 2022.

² The WGEF agreed that the composition of the Economics Committee should be as follows: 10 exporting Members (two from Mesoamerica; two from South America; two from West Africa; two from East Africa; and two from Asia and the Pacific) and 3 exporting Members.

Item 5: Report on the work of the ICO and market situation

35. The Executive Director reported on the work of the Organization and started by outlining her engagement with Members, providing an overview of the trips and visits to ICO countries she had made, as well as the events hosted and/or attended by the ICO since the 137th Session of the Council. In addition to some recurrent industry events attended regularly by the Executive Director, special mention was made of i) a mission to New York in April 2024 to attend the 78th United Nations General Assembly interactive dialogue on commodity markets, at which the ICO was the only commodity board present; ii) a mission to Indonesia in May 2024 consisting of meetings with government representatives and field trips; iii) a mission to Brazil in May 2024 to attend key sector events with local traders and producers, as well as meetings with government representatives; iv) a mission to Mozambique in June 2024 during which she attended meetings with the government and participated in the first coffee festival organized in the country; and v) a mission to the Province of Yunnan, China, following an invitation from the local government and academic institutions, to take part in a forum and field trips. She then provided details about the online meetings, webinars and virtual seminars organized by the Secretariat since the beginning of coffee year 2023/24. Regarding statistics, she noted that all the publications due - a list of which was shared on the screen - had been published on time and emphasized that the work to improve the ICO statistical section and train member countries' statistical focal points would continue in the coffee year to come.

36. She then provided updates on two ongoing processes within the UN system concerning the ICO, namely i) the granting of observer status to the International Coffee Organization at the UN General Assembly, for which remarkable progress had been noted as the item had been added to the next UNGA draft agenda for consideration; and ii) the recognition of an "International Coffee Day" by the United Nations, an ongoing process that was being handled within the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). In this sense, the Executive Director expressed her gratitude towards the government of Brazil for endorsing and initiating the two processes in question.

37. Regarding advocacy and promotional activities, the Executive Director introduced the 2024 campaign for International Coffee Day, whose focus would be on collaboration with the theme "Coffee: your daily ritual, our shared journey". A promotional video on the

topic was streamed. She informed Members that promotional material in the four official languages of the Organization was already available.

38. Lastly, she focused her report on the market situation on the evolution of prices over the last three coffee years, noting how the arabica/robusta differentials were shrinking at unforeseen levels, and on the high volume of exports – about a 10% increase – in the first seven months of 2024 compared to previous years. She concluded her report by informing Members that following a suggestion from the delegate of EU-Italy, the Secretariat would start analysing market trends for decaffeinated coffee.

39. The Chair of the Council thanked the Executive Director for the very detailed report, as well as her team.

40. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire congratulated the Executive Director on the activities carried out within the Programme of Activities, thanking her for her determination as well as all ICO partners, including the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the Specialty Coffee Association (SCA), for the projects benefiting the coffee sector.

41. The delegate of Honduras praised the Executive Director's for the progress made in key areas of activities of the Organization, thanking her also for ensuring the ICO's presence at the international levels and raising the profile of the Organization.

42. The delegate of Colombia expressed its gratitude to the Executive Director, while emphasizing the importance of focusing on improving statistics and the internal dynamics of the coffee market, which would allow increased specialization and value addition for all coffees around the world.

43. The delegates of Switzerland, EU-Italy, and the European Union echoed their fellow delegates' intervention, congratulated the Executive Director and her team on their dedication, thanking them for their hard work.

Item 5.1: Coffee Development Report (CDR) 2022/23

44. The Head of Operations provided a brief overview of the Coffee Development Report 2022-23, focusing on how the coffee economy could transition into a circular

model. He noted that the report, developed over two years, highlighted the untapped potential of the coffee value chain to adopt regenerative practices and make better use of byproducts, from sourcing up to consumption, and disposal. He then emphasized that the publication had been produced by a multidisciplinary team of 44 experts from 36 countries, in collaboration with institutions like the ITC, the Politecnico di Torino (POliTO), and the Lavazza Foundation, and was the first of its kind to explore the circular coffee economy in such detail. Lastly, he stressed the importance of shifting from a linear to a circular economy, aligning with global policies, and encouraged ICO Members and stakeholders to use the report's insights and get involved with the Center for Circular Economy in Coffee (C4CEC).

45. The Council took note of the report on the Coffee Development Report (CDR) 2022/23.

Item 5.2: Special Fund

46. The Head of Operations introduced document <u>IC-05/24</u> outlining the impact and use of the ICO Special Fund, originally established under the International Coffee Agreements of 1976 and 1983 with contributions from exporting Members. He noted that the residual of this fund was allocated in 2016 to three regions – Latin America, Africa, and Asia-Pacific – and that the implementation of activities was managed at the regional level by organizations such as PROMECAFE in Latin America and the Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO) in Africa, and at the country level in Asia-Pacific. Lastly, he noted that two countries, the Philippines and Timor-Leste, had not yet requested their portion of the funds to develop national programmes for domestic coffee consumption.

47. The delegate of the Philippines confirmed that discussion with the ICO Secretariat had already taken place and informed Members that the country needed to comply with several domestic requirements and processes through different offices. She noted that, while the country had almost completed the procedure to submit a project proposal to access funds, a change in government delayed the process. She then asked the Council for its kind indulgency while her country was continuing to have consultations and informed Members that the designated contact to the ICO would update the Executive Director in this sense in due course. Lastly, she bid farewell to all ICO delegates present as she was completing her tour of duty in the United Kingdom, expressing her appreciation for the positive transformation of the Organization under the Executive Director's leadership.

48. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire indicated that, to his understanding, the Special Fund belonged to producers and that the producers should meet and decide what to do with it, with the Council taking note afterwards. In response, the Head of Operations clarified that the Secretariat was only reporting on the topic and did not have the authority to make a decision in this sense. He also mentioned that what was stressed by the delegate of Côte d'Ivoire was indeed correct.

49. The delegate of Papua New Guinea endorsed Côte d'Ivoire's intervention, stating that only producing countries contributed into the Fund and that these countries were the only ones entitled to decide on the use of the funds.

50. The Chair of the Council thanked delegates for their contributions and instructed the Secretariat to retrieve the relevant document references so that, at the next Session of the Council, the discussion on the topic could be resumed.

51. The Council took note of the report on the Special Fund contained in document $\underline{\text{JC-05/24}}$.

Item 6:Financial and administrative mattersItem 6.1:Finance and Administration Committee

52. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC), Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union, reported on the 61st meeting held on 3 and 6 September, after thanking the Secretariat for the speedy production and circulation of documents.

53. He noted that the draft agenda contained in document <u>FA-372/24 Rev.1</u> had been approved except for item 6 thereof, "Status of non-member countries that have signed the ICA 2022", and informed Members that the Committee would discuss the item in question at a separate FAC meeting. Following a presentation on the financial situation as at the end of July 2024 (FA-373/24) by the Head of Finance and Administration, the Chair noted that some Members had shared comments in this sense and that, as a result, a revision of the document had been circulated after the meeting (<u>FA-373/24 Rev.1</u>).

54. Lastly, the Chair of the FAC informed Members that the Head of Finance and Administration had also presented an updated chart showing the actual cash balances as

of the end of August 2024, reflecting all budgeted expenditures for each month until February 2025. During the meeting, it was noted that even though the cash balance had been deemed sufficient to finance the ICO's operations until the end of the coffee year, Members were encouraged to pay their contributions promptly to ensure the financial sustainability of the Organization.

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

Item 6.2: Report on collection of contributions from Members in arrears

56. 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-374/24, which showed that the outstanding contributions for coffee year 2023/24 and the total assessments had increased by £101,863 following the Russian Federation's payment of its arrears in November 2023.

57. He noted that as of 12 September 2024, the Russian Federation had paid their contributions for coffee year 2023/24 in full – with a small amount of money still owed due to exchange rate differences from the bank transfer. Considering this, it was noted that over 97% of the total contributions for coffee year 2023/24 had been received. This marked the highest collection rate for the past 20 years, given that the average over that period of time had been 87%.

58. The Chair of the FAC noted that, as per the decision of the Council at its 137th Session, the funds from the Russian Federation's contributions would be credited to the Reserve Fund, while its use would be discussed again at a future FAC meeting.

59. The Council took note of the report by the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee on the collection of contributions from Members in arrears.

Item 6.3: Draft Administrative Budget for coffee year 2023/24

60. The Chair of the FAC reported on the Draft Administrative Budget for financial year 2023/24 contained in document FA-364/24 Rev. 3 and explained that the original

document <u>FA-364/24 Rev.1</u> had been revised to reflect comments contained in document FA-378/24 and suggestions put forward during the FAC meeting. The Chair noted that the FAC had agreed to recommend document <u>FA-364/24 Rev. 3</u> for approval by the Council.

61. The Council approved the Draft Administrative Budget subsequently published as document <u>ICC-138-3</u>.

Item 6.4: Distribution of votes for the calculation of contributions for coffee year 2024/25

62. The Chair of the FAC introduced document <u>ICC-138-2 Rev. 2</u> containing the statistical basis for the proposed distribution of votes for exporting and importing Members and the distribution of votes for coffee year 2024/25.

63. The Council approved the distribution of votes for the calculation of contributions for coffee year 2024/25 contained in document <u>ICC-138-2 Rev. 2</u>.

Item 6.5: Salary scales and basis for contributions to the Provident Fund

64. The Chair of the FAC noted that the Committee had recommended for approval of the Council document FA-375/24 containing the salary scales and basis for contributions to the Provident Fund.

65. The Council approved the salary scales and basis for contributions to the Provident Fund contained in document <u>FA-375/24</u>.

Item 6.6: Publication of documents of an administrative and financial nature

66. The Chair of the FAC reported that, at the 61st meeting, the Head of Finance and Administration had reported on document FA-377/24 containing the results of research conducted by the Secretariat on the publication of documents of an administrative and financial nature by other international organizations based in London. He noted that, on that occasion, members of the FAC had decided to submit for the consideration of the

Council two of the three options originally presented by the Secretariat. Document FA-377/24 Rev. 1 was therefore circulated, with the two recommended options being:

- (a) To grant the administrative and financial documents identical treatment, exempt from secrecy or password requirements, as all other files prepared by the Organization.
- (b) To make any Finance and Administration-related documents available to Member countries through sign-in registration on the ICO website ("login") by changing the website to create the login mechanism but without restricting the reading of working documents by means of authentication. Also, documents sent by electronic message to the designated Member Countries would not be password protected.

67. The delegate of the European Union expressed his preference for option (b) as it would make it possible to protect some sensitive documents and information but, at the same time, render access to said material by Members more practical.

68. The delegates of Switzerland, Colombia, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, United Kingdom, Honduras, El Salvador, Indonesia, Mexico, and the Philippines echoed the intervention of the delegate of the European Union, endorsing option (b).

69. The delegate of Japan noted that, as the ICO was an intergovernmental organization maintained by contributions paid by countries, it was important to guarantee its accountability to the public by securing transparency. On the other hand, for those documents that could lead to the identification of individuals, some level of protection was still desirable.

70. The Council approved option (b) contained in document <u>FA-377/24 Rev. 1</u> on the creation of a login mechanism on the Organization's website to allow only Member countries to access ICO restricted documents.

Item 6.7: Premises

71. The Chair of the FAC noted that, at the 61st meeting of the Committee, the Head of Finance and Administration had shared updates on the extension of the lease

agreement, noting that it was taking slightly longer than expected. During the same meeting, the Executive Director reported on the expression of interest to host the headquarters of the Organization put forward by the Government of Italy and the Government of Switzerland (documents ED-2455/24 and ED-2464/24 Rev. 1, respectively).

72. The delegate of Colombia welcomed the interest of other countries in hosting the headquarters of the Organization and expressed his support for the reduction of costs, stressing the importance of transparency during the process.

73. The delegate of India echoed the intervention of Colombia regarding the question of transparency, stressing that expressions of interest from all member countries should be welcomed.

74. The Chair of the Council clarified that the Organization was still at a stage in which expressions of interests were only being considered and no decision between the options put forward was being made. Other Members were therefore free to submit their expression of interest to host the ICO headquarters.

75. For the sake of the delegations that did not attend the 61st meeting of the FAC, the delegate of Switzerland noted that her government had officially submitted at the end of June 2024 an intention to host the ICO headquarters. She stressed that the country would be the best fit to host the Organization for several reasons, including i) enhanced synergies with other international organizations based in the country; ii) easier cooperation with the private sector; iii) the availability of cost-efficient solutions for infrastructure; and iv) the increased participation of Members with representations in Switzerland. She informed Members that a dedicated team in charge of the potential relocation of the Organization was collecting information on the ICO's specific needs to better identify suitable premises – the rent of which the Swiss Government was willing to contribute to financially, with the exact coverage of costs yet to be identified.

76. Echoing the intervention of the Chair of the Council, the delegate of EU-Italy noted that, to his understanding, the Organization was still not at a stage of comparing official candidatures, but only discussing expressions of interest. In respect of the Council, he affirmed that he would illustrate Italy's candidature and its advantages only when the expression of interests would be formalized by the respective countries.

77. The delegate of the United Kingdom expressed his country's continued support for maintaining the headquarters of the Organization in London and reiterated its availability to explore any options that could allow the ICO to stay in the country.

78. The Chair of the Council expressed his gratitude to the Chair of the FAC and the ICO Secretariat team for all the work done in preparation of the 61st FAC meeting and the 138th Session of the Council.

79. The Council took note of the discussion on the question of premises.

Item 7:Sustainability and partnershipsItem 7.1:Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) and CEOs & Global
Leaders Forum (CGLF)

80. The CPPTF Coordinator of the CPPTF reported on its activities, noting that the CPPTF was at a crucial stage after years of work in which data from producing countries had been collected to better understand the living income gap in each one of them. He pointed out that, through trust built with local governments and stakeholders, progress had been made in creating national plans that included initiatives to close the gap in question. He then mentioned as an example the case of Mexico, where the government, in collaboration with partners like Sustainable Food Lab, had developed a plan with initiatives based on models that helped reduce the living income gap. He also noted that in Honduras and Indonesia, similar initiatives were being identified and implemented with the goal of integrating strategic measures into national coffee plans and measuring their impact. He informed Members that all the collected information was available in online knowledge centres such as the websites of PROMECAFE, IACO, and the ASEAN Coffee Federation. He also highlighted the redesign of the coffee sustainability map with support from partners like the ITC and the European Union, providing access to information on global initiatives.

81. Additionally, he noted that the CPPTF was working to provide information on the regulations such as the EUDR through the work of Technical Workstream 3 and initiatives such as the Global Knowledge Hub, making information available on the types of policies developed worldwide with an impact on the coffee sector. In this sense, he mentioned

that the Organization was encouraging and facilitating dialogue among producing countries, providing a space for the sharing practices and measures implemented in their countries as part of the actions taken for compliance with regulations.

The outcome of the 6th CEOs & Global Leaders Forum held on 11 September 2024

82. The Executive Director reported on the 6th CEOs and Global Leaders Forum, noting that a significant number of participants had gathered to discuss relevant topics for the sector such as sustainability, the mobilization of funds, circular economy, regulatory framework and better income for producers, among others. She thanked all speakers and attendees for their participation, expressing her hope to keep collaborating with them.

Recommendations of the CPPTF – Joint Communiqué

83. The Executive Director introduced document <u>CPPTF-12/24</u> containing a proposal regarding a joint Communiqué, noting that the draft text proposed had been discussed and agreed upon by consensus by the Public and Private Sector Sherpas of the CPPTF. As per the standard practice, the document was being submitted to the Council for approval and subsequent publishing.

Nomination of the Public Sector Sherpas of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) 2024-26

84. The Head of Operations introduced document <u>WP-Council 348/24</u> containing background information on the nomination of the Public Sector Sherpas of the CPPTF for 2024-26. He noted that Members had the opportunity to appoint or confirm the list of countries representing the public sector within the CPPTF. He concluded by pointing out that for each producing sub-region³ two to four members could be appointed.

85. The delegate of El Salvador reiterated that his country's wished to become an active member of the CPPTF within the Central American region group and that El Salvador was committed to this, as already expressed during the coordination meeting of exporting

³ As per the Terms of Reference of the CPPTF, 2 to 4 countries can be appointed for each of the following producing subregions: i) Africa, ii) Asia and the Pacific, iii) Central America, Caribbean & Mexico, iv) and South America.

Members held at the beginning of that week. He noted that their application was being put forward as Nicaragua had been absent from the activities of the group.

86. The delegate of Honduras endorsed the application of El Salvador and reaffirmed his country's readiness to continue as a member of the CPPTF.

87. The delegate of Brazil questioned whether it was appropriate to address the nomination of Public Sector Sherpas during the Session as a dedicated item did not seem to be present on the approved agenda. He also questioned the *modus operandi* being adopted, as not all the public members of the CPPTF were attending the Session and all the representatives of the private sector were also absent. It was his understanding that running these consultations and making decisions without the presence of all of the CPPTF members would go against its public-private nature and the principle of promoting a dialogue between these two groups. He concluded by confirming Brazil's wish to continue as a public sherpa of CPPTF, while also asking for decisions related to the nomination process to take place in the presence of all current public and private sherpas.

88. The Chair of the Council thanked the delegate of Brazil for his intervention and clarified that item 7.1 of the approved agenda for that Session included a dedicated subpoint, namely "Nomination of the Public Sector Sherpas of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) 2024-26".

89. The delegate of Brazil noted that according to his understanding, the Council was considering increasing the number of public sherpas within the CPPTF. He therefore asked whether this had been agreed with the private sector group, as such decision would entail a need to increase the number of private sector sherpas to maintain the balance between the two groups.

90. The delegate of Honduras was supportive of the intervention of the Chair, pointing out that a dedicated point on the matter at hand had been added to the agenda. He also noted that his country had endorsed the application of El Salvador based on the understanding that another member of the same sub-regional group, Nicaragua, had not been taking part in the meetings and therefore, El Salvador would be replacing it within the CPPTF.

91. The delegate of Brazil thanked the delegate of Honduras for clarifying that no changes to the number of members for each sub-regional group were being made and took note of the fact that a replacement of sherpas belonging to the same sub-region was being considered instead. He then welcomed the application of El Salvador as new public sherpa of the CPPTF, replacing Nicaragua.

92. The delegate of Indonesia expressed her appreciation for the work carried out by the CPPTF and the significant progress made in promoting the sustainable development of the global coffee sector. She then confirmed Indonesia's wish to remain as a member of the CPPTF for the duration of the new two-year term and continue engaging with key coffee stakeholders and benefiting from the CPPTF initiatives.

93. The delegates of Mexico, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, India, and Papua New Guinea openly renewed their commitment as public sector members of the CPPTF for the new term.

94. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire noted that, on the private sector side, there were no African sherpas and suggested that an operator from Tanzania and one from Côte d'Ivoire be nominated.

95. The Head of Operations warmly welcomed the proposal to have an increased African presence on the private sector side within the CPPTF and informed the Council that all the relevant documents with the details on how to submit an application in this sense would be shared.

96. The delegate of Switzerland asked whether all trade associations could potentially become a member of the CPPTF within the private sector group.

97. The Head of Operations clarified that, as per the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the CPPTF, individual companies could become a member within the private sector group by signing the London Declaration. However, he noted that CPPTF members could review its ToRs if they wished to do so.

98. The Head of Operations then pointed out that the Council would be renewing the current composition of the CPPTF for the public sector, with the only change being the

new appointment of El Salvador, replacing Nicaragua as the latter did not request to extend its membership.

99. The Council took note of the CPPTF's Coordinator report on the activities of the Task Force.

100. The Council took note of the report of the Executive Director on the outcome of the 6th CEOs and Global Leaders Forum.

101. The Council approved the Joint Communiqué contained in document <u>CPPTF-12/24</u>, subsequently published as document <u>ICC-138-4</u>.

102. The Council renewed the current list of sherpas of the public sector of the CPPTF except Nicaragua, with El Salvador being appointed as new public sherpa in its place.

Item 7.2: MoU ICO – Agency for Robusta Coffee of Africa and Madagascar (ACRAM)

103. The Head of Operations presented document <u>WP-Council 347/24</u> containing the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Coffee Organization and the Agency for Robusta Coffee of Africa and Madagascar (ACRAM), which consolidated a long lasting and effective collaboration between the two organizations.

104. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire congratulated the Chair of the Council on the signature of the MoU, stressing that the document would certainly benefit all the producers of Robusta coffee in the continent.

105. The Council approved the MoU between the ICO and ACRAM contained in document <u>WP-Council 374/24</u> and subsequently published as document <u>ICC-138-5</u>. Following the approval of the document by the Council, the president of ACRAM, Dr Enselme Gouthon, and the Executive Director of the ICO signed the MoU.

Item 7.3:Coffee sector regulatory frameworkItem 7.4:Funding mechanisms and opportunities for the coffee sector

106. For the sake of time and considering that the topics concerned had already been dealt with within other reports, the Council took note of items 7.3 and 7.4 without further presentations.

ltem 8: ltem 8.1:	Report of meetings of committees and other bodies Joint Committee
ltem 8.1.1:	ICO composite and group indicator prices: Share of markets and group weightings – calendar year averages: 2021 to 2023, effective 1 October 2024 (biannual update)
ltem 8.1.2:	List of Exporting Agencies, Port and ICO Codes – updates on agencies and ICO codes

107. The Chair of the Joint Committee (JC), H.E. Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire, reported on the 1st meeting of the JC held on 5 September 2024. He noted that the Secretariat had presented documents on compliance with Statistical Rules (JC-02/24) and the use of the ICO Special Fund (JC-05/24) and had also reported on the Africa Coffee Facility.

108. Regarding item 8.1.1., "ICO composite and group indicator prices: Share of markets and group weightings – calendar year averages: 2021 to 2023, effective 1 October 2024 (biannual update)", the Chair noted that the relevant document had been revised following comments submitted by Members during the 1st JC meeting. The final version of it, contained in document JC-03/24 Rev. 1, was submitted for the consideration and approval of the Council.

109. With reference to item 8.1.2, "List of Exporting Agencies, Port and ICO Codes – updates on agencies and ICO codes", the Chair noted that revisions were issued following the last-minute submission of information by a Member, as well as a request to correct information by another Member. The last version of the document was circulated on 7 September as document JC-04/24 Rev. 2 for the consideration and approval of the Council.

110. The Council took note of the report on the 1st meeting of the Joint Committee.

111. The Council approved document <u>JC-03/24 Rev. 1</u>⁴, "ICO composite and group indicator prices: Share of markets and group weightings – calendar year averages:
2021 to 2023, effective 1 October 2024".

112. The Council approved document <u>JC-04/24 Rev. 2</u>⁵, "List of exporting countries and their country codes, ICO Certifying Agents and registered ports of export".

Item 8.2: Focus Group on Specialty Coffee

113. The Executive Director recalled that the creation of the Focus Group on Specialty Coffee (FGSC) was approved at the 136th Session of the Council in September 2023. She noted that, given its more informal nature, the Group had no Chair or Vice-Chair and was open to any member. She informed the Council that, since its creation, the FGSC had met twice virtually to identify the main needs and priorities of governments in attendance, have a broader dialogue with the heads of the institutions dealing with specialty coffee in each country, and start identifying a shared definition of "specialty coffee".

114. The delegate of Costa Rica thanked the Executive Director for starting the activities of the FGSC and providing a space for discussions.

115. The Council took note of the report by the Executive Director on the Focus Group on Specialty Coffee.

Item 9:Office holders and committeesItem 9.1:Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of committees

116. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, designated Amb Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee. The following countries expressed their interest in becoming members of the Finance and Administration Committee: Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Togo, and Vietnam.

⁴ Subsequently published as <u>ICC-138-6</u>.

⁵ Subsequently published as <u>ICC-138-7</u>.

117. The delegate of the European Union, in his capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, designated Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Vice-Chair of the FAC and confirmed that the current composition of the Committee for importing countries would be maintained for coffee year 2024/25.

118. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, designated Indonesia as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee. The following countries expressed their interest in becoming members of the Joint Committee: Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Togo, and Vietnam.

119. With reference to the appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee, the Head of Operations clarified that nominations for office holders needed to be nominal.

120. The delegate of Indonesia informed the Council that Mr Reza Pahlevi Chairul would act as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee during coffee year 2024/25.

121. The delegate of the European Union, in his capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, designated Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Chair of the Joint Committee. The following countries expressed their interest in becoming members of the Joint Committee: European Union and Switzerland.

122. The Council approved the appointment of Amb Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire as Chair and Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Vice-Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee for coffee year 2024/25.

123. The Council approved the composition of the FAC for coffee year 2024/25 submitted by exporting and importing Members.

124. The Council approved the appointment of Mr Zoltan Agai of the European Union as Chair and Mr Reza Pahlevi Chairul of Indonesia as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee for coffee year 2024/25.

125. The Council approved the composition of the Joint Committee for coffee year 2024/25 submitted by exporting and importing Members.

Item 9.2: Chair and Vice-Chair and composition of the Private Sector Consultative Board for 2023/24 and 2024/25

126. Before giving the floor to the spokespersons of the two groups, the Chair of the Council noted that there were still vacant seats in both the producer and the consumer groups.

127. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, noted that no additional nominations were being put forward from the producers' side.

128. The delegate of the European Union noted that it was his understanding that countries would nominate their associations individually and not through the spokespersons.

129. The Head of Operations clarified that, while nominations were normally put forward by individual ICO Members, they were sometimes submitted directly through the spokesperson of a given group.

130. The delegate of Switzerland put forward the nomination of the Swiss Coffee Trade Association (SCTA) and confirmed the nomination of the National Coffee Association (NCA) of the United States.

131. The delegate of the European Union queried whether he could submit the nominations in writing after the Session of the Council.

132. The Head of Operations clarified that nominations needed to be approved by the Council. As a result, any submission put forward by Members could be considered at the next Session of the Council. In response to a question of the delegate of the EU-Italy, he confirmed that the Rules of the Organization also foresaw a procedure to allow the Council to make decisions in writing without meeting, while stressing that the process could be complex. He concluded by noting that without the necessary quorum, the PSCB could not operate.

133. The Council approved the nomination of the Swiss Coffee Trade Association (SCTA) put forward by Switzerland and postponed the nomination of the remaining vacant seats.

Item 9.3: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council

134. The delegate of Brazil, in his capacity as spokesperson for exporting Members, noted that, in addition to the usual rotation between the groups of exporting and importing Members, there would be a rotation considering regional groups within the producing side, with Asia and Pacific being the region of origin for coffee year 2024/25. He then proposed Mr Michael Wheeler of Papua New Guinea for the position of Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2024/25.

135. The delegate of the European Union, in his capacity as spokesperson for importing Members, proposed Mr Tom Fabozzi of the EU-Ireland for the position of Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2024/25.

136. The Council elected Mr Tom Fabozzi of the EU-Ireland as Chair and Mr Michael Wheeler as Vice-Chair of the International Coffee Council for coffee year 2024/25.

Item 10: Credentials

137. 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 11: Future meetings

138. The delegate of Honduras noted that on 21 August 2024 he had submitted a formal note to the Executive Director to inform the Council that its government expressed interest in hosting the Session of the Council in September 2025. He emphasized Honduras' commitment to the coffee sector and invited all delegates to experience the Honduran hospitality in the year to come.

139. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire endorsed the proposal submitted by Honduras, noting the major role played by the country in the global coffee sector, and recalling that when the Council met in Yamoussoukro, Amb Iván Romero-Martínez travelled to Côte d'Ivoire to attend all ICO meetings, and that the same was done in Colombia during his chairmanship of the Council in 2021/22.

140. The delegates of El Salvador, Colombia, Costa Rica, Brazil, Switzerland, and the European Union warmly thanked Honduras and expressed their satisfaction with the proposal put forward, stressing the country's importance for the sector and the substantial contribution of Amb Iván Romero-Martínez of Honduras to the work of the International Coffee Organization.

141. The Chair of the Council noted that he would be honoured to visit Honduras for the September 2025 Session of the Council, while expressing his gratitude to Amb Iván Romero-Martínez. He also noted that, in order for preparations in this sense to start promptly, a Council decision on the matter could be approved.

142. A staff member of the Secretariat read out a draft decision of the Council to host the September 2025 Session of the Council in Honduras. The text of the draft decision in English was shown on the screen for the consideration of Members.

143. The delegate of Honduras expressed his gratitude to his fellow delegates for their kind words and applause and informed the Council that Honduras was looking forward to welcoming them.

144. In response to a question from the delegate of Côte d'Ivoire, the Executive Director noted that the next Session of the Council would be held virtually in the second half of March 2025 to allow a smooth transition between the current Head of Operations, retiring in the same month, and his successor. She then noted that Members had requested that the September 2025 Session of the Council take place towards the end of the month and confirmed that the precise dates would be shared following consultations with the Honduran government and other commodity boards to avoid scheduling clashes.

145. The Council approved the decision to host the September 2025 Session of the Council in Honduras, subsequently published as document <u>ICC-138-8</u>.

Item 12: Other business

146. The Chair of the Council informed Members that the African Fine Coffees Association (AFCA) would be hosting their annual event in February 2025. A slide with details about the event was shared on the screen.

147. Mr Amir Hamza, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AFCA, warmly invited all delegates present to attend the 21st African Fine Coffees Conference & Exhibition in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 26 to 28 February 2025.

Closing session

148. The Chair of the Council informed Members that, for two senior staff members, this was the last Session of the Council. They were the Head of Operations, Mr Gerardo Patacconi, and the Chief Economist, Dr Denis Seudieu. He acknowledged their valuable contribution to the work of the Organization, praising their achievements during their term.

149. Dr Denis Seudieu was presented with an <u>award</u> by the International Coffee Council in recognition of his exceptional service over three decades as the ICO's Chief Economist. His invaluable leadership, dedication, and deep knowledge of the coffee sector were highlighted, and his legacy acknowledged.

150. Mr Gerardo Patacconi was given an <u>award</u> in recognition of his remarkable contribution to the work of the Organization as Head of Operations. His unwavering dedication, tireless work ethic, and steadfast commitment were highlighted as sources of inspiration to all staff members. The award acknowledged his great efforts, noting that his involvement had enriched and strengthened both the ICO and the global coffee sector.

151. Dr Denis Seudieu and Mr Gerardo Patacconi gave a brief speech, expressing their gratitude to the Organization, the Executive Director and the Secretariat and encouraging

Members to keep working together to make the global coffee sector stronger and more prosperous.

152. The delegates of Brazil and the European Union, in their quality as spokespersons for exporting and importing Members respectively, praised the work and experience of the Head of Operations and the Chief Economist, thanking them for their contribution to the Organization and the coffee sector as a whole and wishing them the best in their future endeavours.

153. A short video summarizing the two days of meetings (6th CGLF on 11 September 2024 and the 138th Session of the Council on 12 September 2024) was streamed on the screen.

154. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire congratulated the Chair of the Council on his chairmanship, thanking him for his leadership.

155. The Executive Director thanked the Chair of the Council for all the support provided throughout the coffee year.

156. The Chair of the Council thanked his Vice-Chair, as well as the spokespersons of exporting and importing Members for the quality of their contributions and the readiness they had shown during the coffee year. He expressed his gratitude to all the Members that had supported him during his term as Chair, to the Executive Director and to all ICO Secretariat staff. After thanking the interpreters for their professionalism and service, he closed the 138th Session of the International Coffee Council.



ICC Resolution 484

26 September 2024 Original: English

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International Coffee Council 138th Session 12 September 2024 London, United Kingdom **Resolution Number 484**

APPROVED AT THE PLENARY MEETING, 12 SEPTEMBER 2024

Signature of the International Coffee Agreement 2022

WHEREAS:

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

- Resolution 476 adopting the text of the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2022;
- Resolution 477, 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.

The International Coffee Council at its 134th Session on 6 and 7 October 2022 approved:

• Resolution 478 on the opening for signature of the ICA 2022 in Bogotá, Colombia.

The International Coffee Council at its 136th Session on 28 and 29 September 2023 approved:

• Resolution 482 on the opening for signature of the ICA 2022 in Bengaluru, India.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT

That the 138th Session of the International Coffee Council will take place in London, United Kingdom, on 12 September 2024.

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

The International Coffee Agreement 2022 shall be open for signature in London, United Kingdom, at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization and away from the seat of the Depositary (222 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8HB), on 12 September 2024 and, thereafter, at the seat of the Depositary. On this same occasion, the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance and approval of the ICA 2022 will also be permitted.



ICC 138-8

26 September 2024 Original: English

International Coffee Council 138th Session 12 September 2024 London, United Kingdom **Decision of the Council**

Decision to hold the September 2025 Session of the International Coffee Council in Honduras

WHEREAS:

The International Coffee Council met in London, United Kingdom, for its 138th Session;

The Government of Honduras has expressed its interest in hosting the session of the International Coffee Council in September 2025, as also mentioned in a communication to the International Coffee Organization (<u>ED-2473/24</u>);

The Government of Honduras has been committed to the global coffee sector and is willing to comply with the commitments and obligations associated with hosting a Council Session;

THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL

Decides that:

1. The session of the International Coffee Council due to take place in September 2025 will be held in Honduras.