



**INTERNATIONAL  
COFFEE  
ORGANIZATION**

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International Coffee Council  
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London, United Kingdom

**Terms of Reference of the Economics  
Committee**

**Background**

1. The International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2022 establishes two committees: the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) and the Economics Committee (EC). The EC will integrate all technical and strategic objectives and activities currently dealt with by the Joint Committee and previously dealt with by the three technical committees existing under the ICA 2007 (Statistics; Promotion and Market Development; and Projects), including those that were related to the Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance.
2. The Working Group for the Entry into Force of the International Coffee Agreement 2022 (WGEF) considered the draft terms of reference of the future EC and agreed on its format and composition at the 7<sup>th</sup> WGEF meeting held on 3 June 2024.
3. In light of the above, the Chair of the WGEF submits a proposal that reflects the consensus that has been reached.

**Action**

The Council is requested to consider the draft Terms of Reference of the Economics Committee as presented in Annex I.

## **ECONOMICS COMMITTEE**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **SCOPE**

1. The Economics Committee shall consider all matters previously dealt with by the Projects Committee, the Statistics Committee and the Promotion and Market Development Committee, as well as those inherent to the Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance.

2. The Economics Committee shall be responsible for carrying out activities and making recommendations to the Council on all matters concerning, but not limited to, the following areas:

#### 2.1 Projects:

- (a) Establishment of priority thematic areas for support through projects, taking into account the Organization's mandate, strategic plans and programme of activities;
- (b) Procedures for submitting and approving projects proposed by Members or by the Secretariat;
- (c) Monitoring and evaluation of projects; and
- (d) Identifying sources of funding for projects and forms of cooperation with relevant agencies and assisting in fund mobilization;

#### 2.2 Statistics:

- (a) Certificates of Origin;
- (b) Statistical information on world production, prices, exports, imports and re-exports, and distribution and consumption of coffee, including information on different market categories, coffee-based products, geographical areas, market structures, niche markets, customs duties, taxes, tariffs, and non-tariff barriers;
- (c) Indicator prices (I-CIP);
- (d) Stocks and inventories;
- (e) Management and maintenance of the ICO World Coffee Statistics Database (WCSD);
- (f) Compliance by Members in providing statistical information;
- (g) Assessment and resolution of discrepancies between ICO data and Members' data;
- (h) Technical assistance and training for ICO Members and their statistical focal points;

- (i) Evaluation of technical definitions;
- (j) Publications and sales of ICO data; and
- (k) Liaison with other organizations, with a view to improving the statistical coverage of the ICO.

2.3 Promotion and market development:

- (a) Coffee trade development;
- (b) Market development plans, promotion of consumption and activities including information campaigns, research, quality improvement, capacity-building and studies related to coffee production and consumption, sustainable coffee consumption and regulations affecting production, transformation, trade, consumption and disposal of coffee;
- (c) Market access and analysis of the regulatory framework and barriers to trade;
- (d) Review of scientific information on coffee and health;
- (e) Analysis of new proposals; and
- (f) Arrangements for financing promotion and market development activities through voluntary contributions from Members, non-members, other organizations, and the private sector.

2.4 Coffee sector finance:

- (a) Facilitating consultations on topics related to finance and risk management in the coffee sector, with a particular emphasis on the needs of small- and medium-scale producers and local communities in coffee producing areas, including the following:
  - (i) Risk management;
  - (ii) Access to credit;
  - (iii) Financial tools and services; and
  - (iv) Sources of finance and partnerships for coffee development;
- (b) Promoting coordination among governments, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on topics and activities related to coffee sector finance and risk management; and
- (c) Assisting the Council with the assessment of financial conditions in coffee markets, including sharing information on relevant commodity and futures exchanges.

## **GOVERNANCE AND PROCEDURES**

1. For each coffee year, the Council shall designate ten (10) representatives from among the ICO's exporting Members and three (3) representatives from its importing Members to serve on the Committee. Of the ten (10) exporting Members, two (2) shall be from Mesoamerica; two (2) from South America; two (2) from West Africa; two (2) from East Africa; and two (2) from Asia and the Pacific.
2. Other Members whose rights to attend the meetings of specialized Committees have not been suspended shall also be allowed to participate.
3. The quorum required for a Committee meeting shall be two (2) representatives from the exporting Members and two (2) representatives from the importing Members from those designated in paragraph 1.
4. The Committee shall select a Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee shall be from different categories of member. Generally, these offices shall alternate each coffee year between the two categories of member, unless Members decide otherwise.
5. Meetings of the Committee shall be held whenever deemed necessary by Members. The Chair of the Committee shall liaise with the ICO Secretariat to determine the agenda and time of its meetings. The Chair shall report to the Council on the deliberations of the Committee and submit recommendations for its consideration and approval at least three weeks prior to the Session.
6. The Committee has the authority to set up ad-hoc working groups to deal with identified matters when required.
7. The Committee has the authority to invite observers to attend its sessions.