

## Mission report

<b>Subject</b>	Institutional meetings with the high-level authorities of Côte d'Ivoire, Global workshop to enhance conservation and use of coffee genetic resources, ITC training and institutional meetings
<b>Place and dates</b>	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire – 5 to 7 May 2025 Divo, Côte d'Ivoire – 8 May 2025
<b>ICO staff member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vanúsia Nogueira, Executive Director</li> <li>• Ariana Ocampo, Junior Economist</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend institutional meetings with the Ivorian authorities (05-07/05/25)</li> <li>• Participate in the global workshop to enhance conservation and use of coffee genetic resources (05-08/05/25)</li> <li>• Participate in the training on SCA standards and protocols for baristas and cupping/professional coffee tasters (05-08/05/25)</li> </ul>
<b>Five-Year Action Plan/Programme of Activities relevance</b>	<p><b>Five Year Action Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strategic Goal III:</b> Facilitating the development of projects and promotion programmes through public-private partnerships</li> </ul> <p><b>Results and Deliverables from the PoA:</b></p> <p><b>Planned Result III.A: Identification, development and fund mobilization of technical assistance and investment projects for exporting countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• III.A.4 Advocacy and advice for the establishment of partnerships and collaboration with the donor community/mobilization of resources for coffee development projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned Result III.B: Enhancing the promotion of coffee consumption by strengthening cooperation with the private sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• III.B.5 Consultations and advice in support of the monitoring and implementation of regional domestic consumption programmes</li> <li>• III.B.6 Outreach programmes, special events and information/promotional materials</li> </ul>

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Global workshop to enhance conservation and use of coffee genetic resources

The Crop Trust, in collaboration with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Plant Treaty), the International Coffee Organization (ICO), and the Centre National De Recherche Agronomique (CNRA), organized a workshop from 5 to 8 May 2025 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to advance the implementation of the Global Conservation Strategy for Coffee Genetic Resources, which was developed in partnership with the Crop Trust and World Coffee Research. Funded by the German Government and the International Trade Center (ITC), the purpose of the workshop was to strengthen policy frameworks and build stakeholder engagement and partnerships in support of the conservation and use of the coffee genetic resources.

The workshop convened key stakeholders to discuss the challenges and opportunities related to the exchange and use of coffee genetic resources for research and development. It brought together 29 participants from 16 countries, one of which was Ms. Ocampo.

The Executive Director took part in the opening session, delivering welcome remarks alongside H.E. Ambassador Aly Touré, Mr. Yves Brahim Koné, Professor Sangare Abdourahmane, and Dr. Sarada Krishnan. She and Ms. Ocampo also participated in the field visit to the CNRA coffee genebank.

### 2. Training on SCA standards and protocols for baristas and cupping/professional coffee tasters

An immersive four-day training course, held from 5 to 8 May 2025, was co-organized by the Conseil Café Cacao (CCC) in Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with ITC and the Agence du Café Robusta d'Afrique et de Madagascar (ACRAM). The programme aimed to strengthen the skills of young Ivorians in the coffee sector through a combination of theoretical and practical training. It also supported the Ivorian government's efforts to promote local products, expand access to regional markets, and build local expertise in cupping and barista skills, adding value locally.

The Executive Director attended the second day of the training and signed the certificates of participation.

### 3. Institutional meetings

Throughout the week, the Executive Director attended several institutional meetings with high-level Ivorian authorities to discuss the challenges facing the coffee sector, opportunities for new initiatives in the country, as well as the process for ratifying the ICA 2022, organized by H.E. Ambassador Touré. Institutional meetings were held with the following authorities:

- (a) Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E Leon KACOU ADOM;
- (b) Minister of Commerce and Industry, Dr Souleymane DIARRASSOUBA;
- (c) Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Crops, Mr. Kobenan Kouassi ADJOU MANI
- (d) Managing Director of the Conseil Café-Cacao, Mr. KONE Brahim Yves.

In addition, she visited the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) and the Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO), where opportunities for collaboration between the organizations were discussed and planned.

On 7 May, she attended a press conference together with the organizing committees of the global workshop on coffee genetic resources and the training on SCA standards, organized by H.E. Ambassador Aly Touré.

## **CONCLUSIONS/MAIN OUTCOMES**

### 1. Global workshop to enhance conservation and use of coffee genetic resources

At the end of the workshop, participants agreed on five high-priority actions to advance the conservation, exchange and use of coffee genetic resources, namely:

- (a) To form an international working group to provide guidance on coffee genetic resources.
- (b) To develop a practical user guide on ABS in coffee.
- (c) To map a variety of coffee ABS cases to benchmark the coffee sector.
- (d) To engage additional coffee stakeholders in ABS discussions.
- (e) To create enabling, baseline conditions for the effective exchange of genetic material for research and breeding and the sharing of benefits from its utilization.
  - (i) To establish an endowment fund for coffee conservation
  - (ii) To facilitate access to information on conserved germplasm through enhanced genebank information management.

### 2. Training on SCA standards and protocols for baristas and cupping/professional coffee tasters

The applicants successfully concluded the training on basic skills in line with SCA standards.

### 3. Institutional meetings

The Executive Director learned about strategic plans for the Ivoirian coffee sector. As part of the outcomes, it was agreed to schedule an ICO Statistics workshop in Africa in July, in partnership with IACO. After these institutional meetings, the Ivoirian Senate approved the ratification of the International Coffee Agreement 2022.

**AOB**

N.A.



