

**Communication from the
Government of the United Kingdom**

1. The Executive Director attaches a communication from the Government of the United Kingdom regarding the premises of the International Coffee Organization (ICO).



Department
for Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs

2nd Floor, Seacole Block,
2 Marsham Street,
London
SW1P 4DF

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Ms Vanúsia Nogueira
Executive Director
International Coffee Organisation
222 Gray's Inn Road
London
WC1X 8HB

Your ref: OL-001/46/2026

Our ref:

Date: September 2026

Dear Ms Nogueira,

ICO Premises – Follow-up on discussions with the UK Government

Thank you for your transparency concerning the future of the International Coffee Organization's headquarters, and for the constructive discussions with UK Government representatives.

The UK values the International Coffee Organization's longstanding presence in London and its important role in bringing together producing and consuming countries, promoting a sustainable coffee sector and supporting international cooperation. We recognise the significance of the decision now being considered by the Working Group and the Council, as well as the practical and financial considerations informing your members' deliberations.

Following discussions across the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, we should be clear that the UK Government is not in a position to make a substantial financial or premises offer comparable to proposals made by other prospective host countries. Nevertheless, the UK places considerable value on the International Coffee Organisation and would welcome its continued presence in London. The existing arrangements and support available to the ICO as a UK-based international organisation will continue to apply for as long as its headquarters remain in the United Kingdom.

This should not be seen as the conclusion of our engagement. The UK remains open to continued dialogue with the ICO and its members about the organisation's future presence in London, including any practical issues on which the Government may be able to offer advice or facilitate engagement. We would welcome continued dialogue as the Working Group's consideration develops and ahead of any decision by the Council.

My colleague, Darren Stretton, will continue to act as the UK Government's lead contact for the ICO on this matter, coordinating with FCDO and Protocol colleagues where appropriate.

We would be grateful if this position could be shared with the Working Group. The UK looks forward to continuing its constructive relationship with the ICO throughout this process and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Heath

Roger.Heath@defra.gov.uk