



Organización Internacional del Café
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Organisation Internationale du Café

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**ICO headquarters – communication from
the European Commission**

1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and wishes to remind Members that at the Special Session of the International Coffee Council on 28 January 2005, the European Community indicated that it would “present its definitive position on the relocation of the headquarters of the Organization by the 4th of March 2005, bearing in mind the financial interest of the Organization.” Furthermore it considered “that the legal formalities for the signature of a new lease in respect of 22 Berners Street should not start before the 5th of March 2005 in order to allow the EC to present its proposal in respect of the headquarters” (see paragraphs 4 and 5 of document EB-3883/05).
2. At the Special Council Session, the Council supported, in the absence of any alternative option, remaining at the premises at 22 Berners Street, and signing a new lease commencing 1 April 2005, which is financially viable and secures a balanced budget without the need for additional contributions from Members (see paragraphs 10 and 11 of document ICC-92-3).
3. A copy of a communication dated 2 March 2005 on the headquarters from the EC is attached. In this letter the EC states that it has decided not to present a proposal on relocation.
4. The Executive Director will therefore proceed as mandated by the Council and ensure that Members are informed of relevant developments.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate General
DÉVELOPPEMENT

The Director General

Brussels, 02-03-2005
B4* 3 D (05) 1455

Subject : ICO Headquarters

Dear M. Osorio,

I write to inform you that the European Community has decided not to present a proposal regarding the relocation of the headquarters of the International Coffee Organisation. This decision follows the statement made by the European Community at the conclusion of the International Coffee Council on 28 January 2005, where we made a commitment to present a final position by the 4th March 2005.

The European Community notes the reasons for the Organisation remaining in its current London premises, as expressed by other members of the ICO, notably the improvements in the terms of the new lease.

Nevertheless, the European Community believes that it would be desirable to reconsider the location of the Organisation when the International Coffee Agreement of 2001 comes up for renegotiation.

Yours sincerely,


Stefano MANSERVISI

H.E. Ambassador
Nestor L. OSORIO
Executive Director of ICO
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