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International Coffee Organization Organización Internacional del Café Organização Internacional do Café Organisation Internationale du Café

> ICO Round Table on Equitable Trading and Coffee

The Executive Director of the International Coffee Organization (ICO), Mr. Néstor Osorio, today announced that a Round Table on Equitable Trading and Coffee will be held at the ICO headquarters in London, on Tuesday, 18 May 2004. The event will be chaired by Mr. Ian Breminer, Managing Director of Complete Coffee Ltd.

The Round Table will bring together producers from developing countries, government officials, fairtrade organizations, and industry representatives to review the current situation of equitable trading in relation to coffee, and above all, to inform ICO Members about developments in this area.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Mr. Ian Breminer (Chairperson of the Round Table), Managing Director, **Complete Coffee Ltd.**
- Dan Rees, Director, Ethical Trading Initiative
- Anne Tallontire, Research Fellow, Natural Resources and Ethical Trade Programme, Natural Resources Institute
- Ian Bretman, Deputy Director, **Fairtrade Foundation**
- Phil King, Finance Director, Cafédirect
- Jack Bigirwa, Chairman, National Union of Coffee Agribusinesses and Farm Enterprises (NUCAFE) and Vice-Chairman, IFAP Tropical Commodities
- Rob Simmons, Analyst, LMC International
- Patrick Leheup, Commodity Sourcing Manager for the Coffee & Beverages Strategic Business Unit, Nestlé Ltd.
- Carsten Schmitz-Hoffmann, Project Secretariat, Common Code for the Coffee Community
- Jason Potts, Coordinator, Sustainable Commodity Initiative, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Néstor Osorio, ICO Executive Director said "This initiative by the Organization is designed to facilitate an objective analysis of the scope, prospects and effects in the coffee market of alternative trading systems, focussing on improving returns to producers".

About the ICO: The International Coffee Organization is an intergovernmental organization created under the auspices of the United Nations to serve the international coffee community. Established in 1963, the ICO is unique in bringing producing and consuming countries together to exchange views and address policy issues. Average world coffee exports amount to some US\$9 billion worth of coffee, and average world imports amount to some US\$10 billion worth of coffee each year. The ICO provides the following services: up-to-date information and statistics; innovative projects to benefit the world coffee economy; country coffee profiles and economic studies; and promotion of coffee consumption in emerging markets.

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