



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

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Communication from VICOFA

Background

This document contains a communication from the Vietnam Coffee and Cocoa Association (VICOFA) in its capacity as a private sector representative on the ICO Quality Committee. A copy of the Green Coffee Specification TCVN 4193: 2005 is available on request from the Secretariat.

Action

The Executive Board is requested to take note of this document.



VIETNAM COFFEE & COCOA ASSOCIATION

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Attn: Mr. Nestor Osorio

Executive Director of ICO, Chairman of Quality Committee

Date: 22nd May 2006

Dear Mr. Nestor Osorio

On behalf of VICOFAMA, a member of Private Sector in the Quality Committee, I would like to present some brief remarks on the Vietnamese coffee sector related to the improvement of coffee quality.

1. We have completed the project TCP/VIE/2903(A) on "Improvement of Coffee Quality and Prevention of Mould Formation and Ochratoxin A (OTA) Contamination of Coffee in Vietnam" sponsored by FAO. At the present, mycotoxin analysis laboratories of CAFECONTROL and WASI are working well. We have trained such knowledge to coffee producers, processors and traders.

2. In 2005, we have examined and re-formed the Coffee Standard Code, "Quality Specification" section and the TCVN 4193:2005 was approved and promulgated by the Vietnamese Government. The TCVN 4193:2005 is more convenient for the application than the TCVN 4193:2001. Only one matter remains and should be studied further is the method of counting defects: counting number of defects or weighting defected beans as shown in the latest document of ISO 10470.

3. We have attended meetings of Steering Committee of the project 4C (Common Code for the Coffee Community). A workshop on 4C was held to introduce to managers of branches in the central government and some coffee traders in April 2006 in Hanoi. At the present time, the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development are considering VICOFAMA's proposals on setting up the program to apply 4C in Vietnam.

Best regards

Doan Trieu Nhan
Vice Chairman

P/S. The TCVN 4193:2005 will be enclosed.