



International Coffee Council
110th Session
4 – 8 March 2013
London, United Kingdom

**Request for observer status in 2012/13:
Statistics Committee**

Background

1. Rule 5 of the Rules of the Organization (see the Annex) provides that any organization referred to in Article 16 of the Agreement, including private sector coffee associations and bodies, may request observer status at a session of the Council, by submitting such a request in writing to the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the session.
2. The Executive Director has received a request to observe meetings of the Statistics Committee in 2012/13 and future coffee years from Mr Euan Mann of Complete Commodity Solutions who is interested in offering his expertise as an independent coffee market analyst to assist the Statistics Committee in improving the precision of ICO statistics and enhancing market transparency. At previous meetings, the Committee has expressed its interest in engaging with private individuals and organizations involved in statistical analysis of the coffee market, such as with a view to consulting them on official estimates with large discrepancies from those provided by other sources, and inviting them to attend discussions on specific issues (see paragraph 6 of document SC-15/12).
3. Mr Mann has extensive experience in the soft commodity sector, working for a number of years as a coffee and cocoa analyst at ED&F Man. During this time, he established coffee crop forecasting operations in Vietnam and Brazil, in addition to working with field teams based in the cocoa areas of West Africa. Moving to a more commercial role, he helped to set up ED&F Man Derivatives Advisors (MDA), becoming the Senior Trader for MDA London. Seeking further exposure to the commodities chain, he joined Cadbury plc as Head of Global Commodity Analysis, advising on group hedging strategy, before launching

Complete Commodity Solutions Ltd (CCS) in late 2009. CCS provides premium level commodity market analysis and price risk management education. Fully independent, it advises international commodity merchants, multinational food producers, and commodity hedge funds; other clients include the World Bank and the NYSE Euronext (Liffe) Exchange. He is also a partner in a new specialist agri-commodity fund, Holland Capital LLP. Experience particularly relevant to the work of the Committee includes combining the research departments of two major coffee trading companies (ED&F Man Coffee and Volcafe), attending Expert Working Group meetings of the International Cocoa Organization and comparing and crosschecking different statistical series in order to identify the most reliable data for analysis. In addition, as he works independently he has no allegiance to either producers or consumers, merely to enhancing and improving existing statistics.

4. As provided for in Rule 5, comments and/or possible objections by Members to the above requests shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the session (i.e. 16 February 2013). At least 10 days prior to the session (i.e. 21 February 2013), the Executive Director shall distribute to all Members any comments on such requests and provide information to the interested applicants on this.

Action

The Council is requested to consider this request.

RULES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION**RULE 5
Observers**

1. Any organization referred to in Article 16 of the Agreement, including private sector coffee associations and bodies, may request observer status at a session of the Council, by submitting such a request in writing to the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the session.
2. The written request shall indicate the Agenda items of interest. If necessary, the Executive Director will request any additional information needed by the Council in considering such requests. At least 30 days prior to the session, the Executive Director shall circulate to all Members the names of organizations requesting observer status, along with additional information and a proposal for Council action on each request.
3. Comments and/or possible objections by Members to the above requests shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the session. At least 10 days prior to the session, the Executive Director shall distribute to all Members any comments on such requests and provide information to the interested applicants on this. At the start of each Session, the Council shall decide on acceptance of observers and designate the items on the Agenda of the Council open to accepted observers.
4. The Council may also invite organizations and individuals to attend Council Sessions to make presentations or to make a contribution on a specific topic to be considered by the Council. Observers shall have no voice in the proceedings of the Council, its committees and subsidiary bodies, except by invitation of the respective Chairmen.