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years



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9 – 12 September 2013  
Belo Horizonte, Brazil

**Statement by Mr Farid Ahmed Mogawar,  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of  
Yemen, to the 111<sup>th</sup> Session of  
the International Coffee Council  
on 9 September 2013**

Firstly, I would like to thank the ICO for inviting the Government of Yemen to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the ICO, and extend our congratulations and best wishes to our co-Members in this Organization for this event.

As you may know, Yemen is renowned for being the first nation to cultivate coffee and produces one of the best coffees in the world.

We urge all concerned parties to help our nation to enhance the production of this precious and specialty product.

Yemen is now entering a new phase where the outcome of the 'National Dialogue' is focussing on the development of the country's economy.

The concentration of the value-chain development is a vital factor to help the rural poor to alleviate their poverty.

I seize this opportunity, as the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of Yemen, to convey the greetings of our President to the Government of Brazil and convey his emphasis to lead our country to develop its economy, of which, the coffee sector is a vital factor.

I once again thank the Chairman and the Executive Director of the ICO for this opportunity.