

50
years



INTERNATIONAL
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Belo Horizonte, Brazil

**Statement by H.E. Mr Iván Romero Martínez,
Ambassador of Honduras to the United Kingdom,
to the 111th Session of the International Coffee
Council on 9 September 2013**

Mr Chairman,
Executive Director,
Distinguished Delegates,

Honduras welcomes the kind invitation of the Government of Brazil, the State of Minas Gerais and the ICO to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ICO in Belo Horizonte.

Honduras, the President and its people join together in this important event.

The four coffee organizations of our country are represented here: AHNAFE, UNIOCOOP, La Central and APROHCAFE, as well as the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE), signalling Honduras' solidarity and fraternity with this important event.

We come from a country which has been hit by coffee rust, and we are making great efforts to overcome this problem. We are confident that with international cooperation and the support of the Organization we will be successful.

Coffee production is a matter that links men and women across all sectors, and is the most productive and important activity in our country, a place where mankind's troubled heart sighs, cries and also laughs.

We congratulate you, Mr President, for your commendable work; the Executive Director for all the support we have received; and hope, just as the Mayans used to predict, that this 50th anniversary will be the beginning of another era of cooperation and solidarity between our peoples.

Congratulations Mr President.