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INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION

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6 August 2013

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International Coffee Council
111th Session
9 – 12 September 2013
Belo Horizonte, Brazil

**Request for observer status in
September 2013 and future years**

4C Association

Background

1. Rule 5 of the Rules of the Organization (see Annex I) 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 (i.e. by 25 July 2013).
2. The Executive Director has received a request to observe the 111th Council Session from 9 to 12 September 2013 and Council Sessions in future years from the 4C Association (see Annex II).
3. Based on the agenda for the 111th Session (see document ICC-111-0), the representative of the 4C Association would be interested in a number of items including Items 7 (Coffee and climate toolbox), 9 (Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance), 10.1 (Private Sector Consultative Board) and 13 (World Coffee Conference).
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. 24 August 2013). At least 10 days prior to the session (i.e. 29 August 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.

Attention:

Mr. Robério Oliveira Silva
Executive Director
International Coffee Organisation

By email

Bonn, 24th July 2013

Request for admission as observer to the ICO Council meetings

Dear Robério,

Following the conversations with you and Mauricio Galindo, the 4C Association would like to request admission as observer to the ICO Council meetings from the next meeting in Brazil onwards.

The 4C Association, as the unique global multi-stakeholder platform for sustainable coffee, aims to unite all relevant coffee stakeholders in working towards the improvement of the economic, social and environmental conditions of coffee production and processing to build a thriving, sustainable sector for generations to come.

Founded in 2007, the platform has grown to more than 270 members to date from producers, producer organisations, exporters, importers, international trade, roasters, retailers, coffee service providers, sector associations as well as non-governmental organisations like advocacy and implementing NGOs and other leading sustainability standards.

4C Association's mission is to be the leading multi-stakeholder sustainable coffee platform, guiding the mainstream sector toward more sustainable production in a pre-competitive arena where all relevant stakeholders are enabled to participate. It provides a recognized baseline standard as a first step in continuous improvement towards sustainability, promotes and partners with other standards and initiatives in the market, and addresses overarching critical issues of the broader coffee sustainability agenda.

We feel it is vital and relevant to achieve our common goals to strengthen the formal link between the two organisations through such an observer status.

Yours sincerely,



Melanie Rutten-Sülz
Executive Director