



**INTERNATIONAL
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ORGANIZATION**

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National coffee policy

**Statement by the Secretary General of the African
and Malagasy Robusta Coffee Agency (ACRAM),
Mr Léon Paul N’Goulakia, to the 113th Session of
the International Coffee Council on
26 September 2014**

OBJECTIVES AND MOTIVATIONS IN A CHANGING COFFEE ECONOMY

1. What is ACRAM?

ACRAM is a non-profit making International Association, comprising private and public sector operators involved in the African and Malagasy Robusta coffee chain, established in 2007 in Cameroon.

2. Who are the members of ACRAM?

- Public and private sector bodies in the following Robusta producing countries: Cameroon, Gabon, Liberia, Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Madagascar, Angola, Togo and Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Private African and non-African operators and bodies involved in the coffee chain.

3. What are the ACRAM objectives?

- To promote African and Malagasy Robusta coffee.
- To encourage improvements in producer incomes and living conditions.
- To research and formulate endogenous development models.
- To provide concrete support for African and Malagasy operators.
- To promote domestic coffee processing and consumption.

4. How is ACRAM organised?

- A sovereign General Assembly.
- An Administrative Council of 10 members, chaired by Mr Anselme Gouthon (SG-CCFCC/TOGO).
- A General Secretariat, headed by Mr Léon-Paul N’Goulakia (DG-CAISTAB/GABON).

Four Technical Committees:

- Production Technology Transfer.
- Promotion and Marketing.
- Promotion of Gender Equality.
- Administration and Finance.

5. What is the scope of action for ACRAM?

- **Promoting the establishment of national development plans for the Robusta coffee chain:**

In this context Gabon received the support of an ACRAM expert for the preparation of a national strategy for a revival of the coffee chain.

- **Participation in coffee promotion activities:**

Since 2012, ACRAM has participated actively in ‘Festicoffee’, the first African coffee promotion festival, and in May 2014, it co-organized a ‘coffee tasting day’, which provided for simultaneous coffee tastings in five African countries.

- **Promoting a ‘Gender-based approach’ in the Robusta value chain:**

In November 2014, ACRAM will organize in Gabon a forum on gender in coffee farming, targeting women and young people.

- **Mutualisation of member resources for the benefit of coffee farmers:**

In May 2014, during the 3rd ACRAM General Assembly, the Technology Transfer Committee, in collaboration with the Agriculture and Development Institute (IRAD) and the Cocoa and Coffee Interprofessional Council (*Conseil Interprofessionnel du Cacao Café*), organized in Cameroon an international colloquium on varietal improvement for a wide distribution of resistant and high-yielding plants. Four ACRAM coffee chain bodies undertook to allocate US\$4,000 to support meetings of coffee researchers.

6. What are the ACRAM means of action?

- International meetings (conferences, forums, meetings).
- Strengthening member capacities.
- Developing partnerships (IACO, AFCA).

On this point, we wish to express our sincere thanks to the International Coffee Council for having invited us to attend these meetings in the capacity of Observer.

Thank you.