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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Join the ICO in Milan for the 1st Global Coffee Forum

**London, 24 July 2015** – Join coffee lovers from around the world for two days of engaging presentations and debate at the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Coffee Forum (GCF), to be held in Milan on 30 September and 1 October 2015.

Leading figures in the worlds of culture, research and business will take to the stage at the GCF to present a variety of topics important to the coffee sector. The event will focus on providing the audience with an educational experience. The main themes that will be covered from the angle of their link to coffee are pleasure, health, environmental sustainability and poverty.

Speakers include Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, Maurizio Martina, Italian Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Andrea Illy, Chairman and CEO of illycaffè, Giuseppe Lavazza, Deputy Chairman of Luigi Lavazza S.p.A, Ric Rhinehart, Executive Director of the Specialty Coffee Association of America and Robério Oliveira Silva, Executive Director of the International Coffee Organization among others. Click here to visit the GCF website for the full list of speakers.

GCF is promoted by the International Coffee Organization (ICO), the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Italian Coffee Committee, EXPO Milan 2015, and Fiera Milano Congressi, with the support of illycaffè and Lavazza. The 39<sup>th</sup> International Hospitality Exhibition (HOST) is the Global Coffee Forum's Special Partner.

On 1 October, part of the GCF will be celebrations of the inaugural International Coffee Day (ICD). Both the GCF and the ICD coincide with the 115<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council and other meetings of the ICO being held from 28 September to 2 October, also in Milan.

Members of the press are invited to join the coffee community at the Global Coffee Forum and at the press briefing to be held directly after the Council Sessions on Friday 2 October at 12:30 pm. To request free press access to the GCF and the ICO briefing, email us at <a href="mailto:partida@ico.org">partida@ico.org</a>.

<u>Click here</u> to view the ICO's full schedule of events in Milan. Members of the general public wishing to attend the GCF can do so by registering at the GCF website (<u>www.globalcoffeeforum.com/en</u>).

**About the ICO:** The International Coffee Organization (ICO) is an intergovernmental organization created under the auspices of the United Nations to serve the international coffee community. Established in 1963, the ICO is unique in bringing producing and consuming countries together to exchange views on coffee matters and market conditions. Among the services provided by the ICO are: up-to-date information and statistics; innovative projects to benefit the world coffee economy; coffee market reports and economic studies; consultations on coffee sector finance; as well as conferences and seminars.

## **Contact**

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