



**INTERNATIONAL  
COFFEE  
ORGANIZATION**

**WG** 17/16

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English only

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**Report of the meetings of the  
Working Group on the Strategic Review  
of the ICO held on 19 and  
20 September 2016**

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1. The Working Group on the Strategic Review of the ICO met in London, United Kingdom on 19 and 20 September 2016 for its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The following Members were present during the meeting: Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, European Union (European Commission, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Slovak Republic, Spain and Sweden) Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United States of America, Vietnam and Yemen.

**Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda**

2. The Working Group adopted the draft agenda contained in document [WG-16/16 Rev. 1](#).

**Item 2: Report of the meeting of the Working Group on the Strategic Review of the ICO held on 7 September 2016**

3. The Committee approved the report of the meeting held on 7 September 2016 contained in document [WG-15/16](#).

**Item 3: Draft Report on the Strategic Review of the ICO**

4. The Chairman of the Working group presented Document [WP-Council 269/16 Rev. 1](#) that contains the Draft Report on the Strategic Review of the ICO developed by the Secretariat and Sustainability. The document established that in order to encourage the development of a sustainable and inclusive global coffee sector and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the ICO should focus on:

- (a) Delivering world-class data, analysis and information to inform both policy makers and the industry.
- (b) Using its convening power to provide a forum for dialogue between and within the public/private sectors.

5. In addition, the ICO could facilitate development projects and programmes through public-private partnerships provided that funds for their implementation should be secured from external sources.

6. Furthermore the Chairman pointed out that the Secretariat had incorporated in document [WP-Council 269/16 Rev. 1](#) a number of comments made by Members and asked the Head of Operations (i) to provide a brief overview of those comments and how the Secretariat had addressed them, and (ii) to elaborate on the next steps in the process.

7. In response, the Head of Operations explained that following the Working Group's guidance, on 7 September the Secretariat had released document [WP-Council 269/16](#) and asked Members to provide comments by 12 September. The Secretariat received comments in writing from: Brazil, El Salvador, Japan, Papua New Guinea and the United States. Those comments fell broadly into three categories: (i) comments regarding the scope of the Strategic Review, (ii) suggestions to include additional information to clarify various points, and (iii) requests to outline the next steps, especially with respect to the implementation of the recommendations. The Head of Operations explained that the Secretariat had addressed the comments where possible and circulated a revised version contained in document [WP-Council 269/16 Rev. 1](#) on 14 September 2017. Furthermore, separately the Secretariat had provided point-by-point responses in writing to each of those Members who submitted comments.

8. In order to clarify the next steps in the process, the Head of Operations presented a diagram contained in the attached Annex. The Head of Operations also explained that to implement the recommendations of the Strategic Review a Programme of Activities ([WP-Council 265/16 Rev. 1](#)) had been prepared by the Secretariat taking into account that coffee year 2016/17 should be regarded as a transitional period. The Programme of Activities for coffee year 2016/17 includes specific actions that will enable the Secretariat to carry on the groundwork needed prior to the implementation of the recommendations, e.g. developing costed five-year strategies for data and analytics, Member and third party engagement, and projects.

9. In the subsequent discussion, Members thanked the Secretariat and the Chairman of the Working Group for their work and expressed their support for the recommendations as well as the next steps as lined out by the Head of Operations. Some Members suggested that the Working Group should continue to provide guidance to the Secretariat in implementing the recommendations during coffee year 2016/17.

10. A consensus was established among Members to endorse document [WP-Council 269/16 Rev. 1](#)<sup>1</sup> and to continue overseeing the Secretariat's activities related to the Strategic Review.

**Item 4: Other business**

11. There was no other business.

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<sup>1</sup> Subsequently circulated as [ICC-117-15](#).



### *Background*

#### September 2015

- Council adopts Resolution 457 at the 115<sup>th</sup> Session in Milan
- The Resolution calls for:  
*“...a strategic assessment [...] with the goal of sharpening the strategic focus and defining better the priorities of the Organization and its Members, in order to provide adequate guidance to the Secretariat.”*





