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**Communication from
H.E. Mr Álvaro Cólom Caballeros,
President of Guatemala and Chairman
of the World Coffee Conference 2010**

Background

The attached communication from H.E. Mr Álvaro Cólom Caballeros, President of Guatemala and Chairman of the World Coffee Conference 2010, was presented to the Council at its opening Session on Tuesday, 21 September 2010.

Action

The Council is requested to take note of this document.

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

Guatemala, 17 September 2010

Esteemed Members of the International Coffee Organization:

I hereby send you my cordial greetings and wish to thank you, on behalf of the People of Guatemala, for having honoured our country by choosing to hold the World Coffee Conference 2010 in Guatemala.

This event was of special significance for our country since, throughout our history, coffee has played a fundamental role in the economy particularly by generating employment in our rural areas.

It is gratifying to Guatemala, to the National Coffee Association (Anacafé) and to the Government I represent that the Conference was such a great success, as reflected in the large number of participants, thanks largely to coordination efforts with the International Coffee Organization (ICO) and its Executive Director and staff.

As Guatemalans we are proud to have lived up to the expectations of the International Coffee Organization to which I wish to reiterate our total commitment and support.

With the assurances of my consideration and esteem.

(signed) Álvaro Cólom Caballeros
President of the Republic of Guatemala