



ORGANIZACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DEL CAFÉ
ORGANIZAÇÃO INTERNACIONAL DO CAFÉ
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU CAFÉ

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Report of the Statistics Committee on the meeting of 27 September 2012

1. The Statistics Committee held its 4th meeting under the International Coffee Agreement 2007 on 27 September 2012.

2. The Chairperson, Mr Patrice Moussy of the European Union, sent his apologies for not being able to be present at the meeting. In addition, due to circumstances beyond his control, the Vice-Chairperson, Mr José Cassule Mahinga of Angola, was also unable to attend the meeting. The Committee decided the Head of Operations would chair the meeting and the Council would be consulted for guidance in case similar situations arise in the future¹.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Committee adopted the Agenda contained in document SC-16/12 Rev. 1.

Item 2: Report on the meeting of 7 March 2012

4. The Committee approved the report of the 3rd meeting held in March 2012, which is contained in document SC-15/12.

Item 3: Compliance with statistical rules

5. The Statistician introduced document SC-17/12 containing information on the status of compliance by Members with the Rules on Statistics. Compliance by exporting and importing Members can be classified as full and satisfactory to levels equivalent to 75% and 99%, respectively, of the average volume of their total exports/imports in calendar years 2008 to 2011.

¹ The Council decided to refer this matter to the Finance and Administration Committee to be discussed at its next meeting. See paragraph 47 of document ICC-109-16.

6. The Committee would like to urge all Members to convey to the national authorities the importance of the provision of timely statistics, given that transparency is vital for well-informed decision-making in the world coffee sector. The Committee took note of the report.

Item 4: Exports to exporting countries

7. The Statistician introduced document SC-18/12. The new Rules on Statistics – Statistical Reports (document ICC-102-10) came into effect in February 2011 and exporting Members are now under the obligation to provide statistical data on their imports of coffee by origin (volume and value). As coffee imported into exporting countries can be used in different ways, i.e. for domestic consumption and for re-export, it was suggested that the Secretariat could look into establishing an electronic working group to exchange ideas on this matter. Participation would be open to any interested parties². The Committee took note of this document.

Item 5: Exports of organic and differentiated coffees

8. The Statistician introduced document SC-19/12 containing data on exports of organic and differentiated coffees by exporting countries based on Certificates of Origin and on Statistical Reports. Information obtained on exports of organic coffee may not always be indicated by exporting Members and provision of data on exports of other forms of differentiated coffee is voluntary. The Committee suggested that the Organization contact all exporting Members requesting their cooperation in providing information on their trade of differentiated coffee with a view to enhancing market transparency, reminding them that this would still be on a voluntary basis³.

Item 6: Monitoring the inventories and stocks of green coffee

9. The Statistician introduced document SC-20/12 showing the historical data on the levels of inventories of green coffee extracted from the European Coffee Federation (ECF) website since 2005. The report presented also included data on inventories of coffee in importing countries that report their volumes directly to the Organization, as was requested during the last meeting. Discussions are being held with the ECF regarding the inclusion of data from the ports of Barcelona and Rotterdam.

² The following Members have expressed interest in taking part: Brazil, European Union, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Uganda and the USA.

³ See document ED-2142/12.

Item 7: Data on trade of decaffeinated soluble coffee

10. The Statistician introduced document SC-21/12. As the USA is the only importing Member using Harmonised System (HS) codes with more than 8 digits to identify its coffee products, it is not possible to obtain data on this product from other importing countries. It was also suggested that, in the future, reports could be prepared showing additional disaggregated data on imports of coffee by type, since this information can also be extracted from extended HS codes.

Item 8: Technical assistance

11. Members were informed that, in response to the recommendation made by the Committee in March 2012 (see paragraph 15 of document SC-15/12), the Programme of Activities for 2012/13 was amended to include the preparation of a DVD/video that would be a permanent 'manual on compliance' for exporting Members with the Statistical Rules. This could be a valuable tool in Member countries with poor compliance and also for those that have recently joined the Organization and are not familiar with their reporting obligations.

12. In addition, the Programme of Activities of the Organization for 2012/13 provides for an update of the spreadsheets that were originally part of a system developed in a project financed by the European Union in 2004 (*Quantitative Tool for assessing the Competitiveness of coffee growing areas*). The updated spreadsheets would enable users to apply a standard methodology to calculate costs of production in coffee producing countries. The Committee will be kept informed on any developments on this topic.

Item 9: Liaison with other organizations

13. The Statistician informed the Committee that the Organization continues to maintain close cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), among others.

Item 10: Other business

14. There was no other business discussed.

Item 11: Future meetings

15. The Committee was informed that its next meeting will take place in London at the time of the 110th Council Session in March 2013.