



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 29 September 2011**

1. The Statistics Committee, chaired by Ms Marcela Urueña of Colombia, met in London on 29 September 2011 for the second time under the International Coffee Agreement 2007.

**Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda**

2. The Committee adopted the draft Agenda contained in document SC-3/11 Rev. 1.

**Item 2: Compliance with statistical rules**

3. The Statistician introduced document SC-4/11 containing information on the status of compliance by Members with the Rules on Statistics. Based on average trade data for the last four calendar years 2007 to 2010, levels of compliance with the provision of statistical data by exporting and importing Members under the ICA 2007 were satisfactory or better at nearly 68% and 98%, respectively. It should be noted that the document now reflects the current membership of the ICA 2007 with 33 exporting countries and 32 importing countries.

4. It was proposed that efforts continue to be made in order to achieve a better performance by Indonesia and Vietnam on compliance with the new Statistical Rules. The Executive Director a.i. noted that the Organization had already taken steps to improve reporting by these two important exporting Members. In 2009, the ICO had organized workshops in both countries on procedures for issue of Certificates of Origin and provision of statistical reports. In both cases, a short-term improvement in performance had been noted, but the situation had subsequently deteriorated. In addition, correspondence on this

matter had been sent to Vietnam in August 2011, but no reply had yet been received. The Secretariat would continue to monitor compliance by these countries and take appropriate steps.

5. The Committee took note of the report.

**Item 3: Exports to exporting countries**

6. The Statistician introduced document SC-5/11 containing data on exports of all forms of coffee from all origins to exporting countries which gives a table showing these exports by origin.

7. The Committee acknowledged the growing trend of exports to exporting countries and was informed that the implementation of the new Rules on Statistics – Monthly Reports – from February 2012 requires exporting Members to provide reports on their monthly imports by origin/form/type of coffee. This information would enable the preparation of more accurate reports on the volumes imported by these countries. The Committee took note of this report.

**Item 4: Exports of organic coffee and certified programmes**

8. The Statistician introduced document SC-6/11 containing data on exports of organic coffee by exporting countries based on Certificates of Origin and on Statistical Reports. It was pointed out to the Committee that an extensive exercise to reconcile data from both sources had taken place in order to achieve a high level of 86% matching performance of the total volumes reported by both sources.

9. The representative of Cuba informed the Committee that his delegation will cooperate with the Organization in order to rectify the information on exports of organic coffee from Cuba in 2005 and 2009.

10. It was pointed out that the data presented in the document do not include exports by an important organic exporter, namely Peru, a non-member of the Organization. Efforts will also be made to contact certification bodies in order to obtain statistical data on their trade. An overall improvement on the reporting of exports of this particular segment of the market is expected given its growing importance in total exports.

**Item 5: Monitoring the inventories and stocks of green coffee**

11. The Statistician introduced document SC-7/11 showing the historical data on the levels of inventories of green coffee extracted from the European Coffee Federation (ECF) website since 2005.

12. The Committee was informed that there appeared to be some discrepancies on the data posted by the ECF on inventories held at German ports. The Organization and the ECF will work together in order to clarify this matter with the appropriate authorities in Germany. The Committee took note of this report. In addition, the Organization will also contact the ECF with a view to resuming the collection of inventories data in the port of Barcelona.

**Item 6: Technical assistance**

13. The Committee was informed on the latest developments on the workshop due to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in partnership with the Inter-African Coffee Organisation (IACO) at its Annual General Assembly which will be held in November 2011. The workshop aims at training staff in those countries where provision of data are not timely available in an effort to improve compliance of the African countries with the Statistical Rules of the Organization (document ED-2120/11 refers). The Committee took note of this information.

**Item 7: Conversion factors for roasted and soluble decaffeinated coffee**

14. The Committee was informed that, as decided by the Committee at its last meeting in March 2011, all members of the Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) were contacted by the Organization and requested to provide their views on the introduction of revised coefficient factors to convert roasted decaffeinated coffee and soluble decaffeinated coffee into green bean equivalent.

15. Document PSCB-128/11 Rev. 1 contains the replies received by the Organization and the topic was further discussed at the meeting of the PSCB on 28 September 2011. The Committee has agreed with the proposal made by the PSCB members to recommend to the Council the introduction of coefficient factors of **1.25** and **2.73** to convert decaffeinated roasted and decaffeinated soluble coffee, respectively, into green bean equivalent.

16. It should be noted that decaffeinated soluble coffee cannot be identified in the Harmonised System (HS) in general use by customs authorities. However, the USA had just introduced HS codes with ten digits that enable this type of coffee product to be identified, whereas other importing Members apply 8 digits only. The Organization will monitor the trade of this segment based on the data available and will prepare reports accordingly.

**Item 8:                   Liaison with other organizations**

17.     The Statistician informed the Committee that the Organization will continue to maintain close cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The importance of the cooperation received from independent experts on the statistical work of the Organization was also recognized.

**Item 9:                   Other business**

18.     The Committee was informed that the Council would elect the Members of the Statistics Committee for coffee year 2011/12 at its next meeting.

**Item 10:                 Future meetings**

19.     The Committee was informed that its next meeting will take place in London at the time of the 108<sup>th</sup> Council Session from 5 to 9 March 2012.