



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

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**Draft strategic action plan for the
International Coffee Organization**

Comments by the United States

Background

This document contains comments received from the USA on the draft strategic action plan for the Organization contained in document WP-Council 173/08 Rev. 4 and taking into consideration document WP-Council 173/08 Rev. 4 Add. 1 (Comments by Brazil).

**DRAFT STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION
COMMENTS BY THE UNITED STATES**

With reference to document WP-Council 173/08 Rev. 4 (Draft strategic action plan) and taking into consideration document WP-Council 173/08 Rev. 4 Add. 1 (Comments by Brazil).

Executive Summary, paragraph 4, first bullet (to replace existing text):

Assisting Members in understanding and improving market structures and performance, in order to provide wider access to credit and risk management instruments for producers, especially smallholders, that will enable them to better organize their supplies and to participate more actively in the international market price formation process and, in this way, promote an increase in the share of producing countries in the coffee value chain.

Section I, paragraph 15(a) (to replace existing text):

Economic pressures that are both external and internal to the coffee sector, such as unfavourable and volatile exchange rates, global and regional economic crises, increasing cost of essential factors of coffee production (such as fertilizer and energy), shortages in supply and higher costs of labour needed for coffee production and harvesting, and decreasing availability of land for new coffee plantations.

Section I, paragraph 15(c) (to replace existing text):

Certification and verification schemes that may provide access to fast-growing market segments and disseminate good business, environmental and social practices, but which also may require significant effort and investments that may not be possible for some producers, particularly smallholders.

Section I, paragraph 15(j) (to replace existing text):

Economic and institutional difficulties facing producers who wish to improve their efficiency and effectiveness in organizing supply to the international market, including management of stocks, and thereby participate more actively in the coffee price formation process.

Section II, Goal 4, priority action 21:

The USA agrees with the proposal to include the wording ‘economic, environmental and social’ in this action.

Section II, Goal 4, priority action 23:

The USA prefers to retain this action.

Section II, Goal 4, priority action 24, as amended by Brazil (to replace existing text):

To improve understanding of market structures, including methods of financing stocks and providing wider access to credit and risk management instruments in producer countries and appropriate for smallholders.