



Organización Internacional del Café  
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Organisation Internationale du Café

WP Statistics 111/07

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Report

**Report of the Statistics Committee  
on the meeting of 23 May 2007**

1. The 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Statistics Committee took place on 23 May 2007. The meeting was chaired by Mr. David Hallam of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

**Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda**

2. The Committee adopted the draft Agenda contained in document WP-Statistics 107/07 Rev. 1.

**Item 2: Election of the Chairperson**

3. Mr. Neil Rosser (NKG) was elected Vice-Chairman for 2006/07 and 2007/08. The Chairman, Mr David Hallam of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), regretted to inform those present that, due to his new position as Chief of Trade Policy Services with the FAO, he could not continue to chair the Committee. The Committee expressed its great appreciation to Mr. Hallan who had chaired the Committee since 2001/02. It noted that the position would be left open until the next meeting in September 2007. In the meantime, the Executive Director would consult exporting and importing Members about a suitable candidate.

**Item 3: Report of the Statistics Committee  
on the meeting of 27 September 2006**

4. The Committee approved the report on the meeting of 27 September 2006 contained in document WP-Statistics 106/06.

**Item 4: Compliance with statistical rules**

5. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 110/07 containing information on the latest status of compliance by Members with the Rules on Statistics during the life of the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2001: coffee years 2001/02 to 2005/06 and from October 2006 to March 2007. Based on average trade data for the last four coffee years (2002/03 to 2005/06), full and satisfactory compliance by exporting Members was just over 83% while that of importing Members was just under 99%.

6. The Committee took note of this information and further noted that Exporting Members with poor compliance represented only 13% of total average exports of the last four coffee years and exports by non-complying Members represented just 1%. Three Importing Members (Bulgaria, Hungary and Malta) were not complying with the provision of statistical data. Contacts would continue with the relevant authorities to ensure that they complied with their obligations.

**Item 5: Technical assistance**

7. The Committee noted that four exporting countries (Brazil, Guatemala, Honduras and India) were still working on the preparation of a manual of best practice as suggested by the USA at the last meeting. The manual would form the basis for regional workshops to improve the performance of countries with poor compliance. The Organization had also initiated discussions with the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC) on the possibility of assistance in the collection of statistics

**Item 6: Inventories and stocks**

8. The Committee noted that the European Coffee Federation (ECF) continued to post stocks and inventories data on its website. The site was last updated in January 2007 and would be updated again shortly. The Organization would continue to monitor this site regularly.

**Item 7: Organic coffee**

9. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 108/07 containing a table showing exports of organic coffee based on information extracted from Certificates of Origin and monthly reports in calendar years 2005 and 2006.

10. The Committee noted that data on this specific segment of the market were still missing from monthly returns as the information on organic coffee exports extracted from Certificates of Origin continued to show a higher volume. The Organization should continue to encourage countries to send complete monthly reports in accordance with format set out in

document EB-3830/02 containing the Rules on Statistics. The Committee further noted that, as requested at the meeting in September 2006, Germany, France and the USA had been contacted to provide information on retail prices of organic coffee. The replies received indicated that it was not possible to collect the data in Germany; the ICO's contact in the USA had requested that the matter be deferred until September 2007 as he would like to ensure that reliable information could be collected; and no reply had yet been received from the ICO's contact in France. The Committee recommended that the Organization should concentrate its efforts on obtaining this information before expanding further into fair trade, sustainable or other niche markets

**Item 8: Exports to exporting countries**

11. The Statistician introduced document WP-Statistics 109/07 containing data on exports of all forms of coffee from all origins to exporting countries.

12. The Committee took note of the data presented and requested the Organization to urge exporting countries to report on their imports of coffee as data from exports and re-exports to exporting countries were much higher than reports on imports by exporting countries.

**Item 9: Future statistical priorities for the Organization**

13. The Chairman requested Committee members to send the Executive Director by 15 June 2007 their comments on the implications of increasing the range of time series as proposed in the draft new Agreement (see Articles 33 – 35 of document WP-WGFA 3/07 Rev. 4). This would enable the Organization to prepare a proposal for financial resources for statistical activities to be presented to the Council in September 2007. The Committee took note of this request.

**Item 10: New statistical software at the ICO**

14. The Statistician reported that the final module of the statistical software was being tested and the last batch of historical data transfer and output reports would take place during June. The Committee took note of this information and requested the Statistician to demonstrate the new system at the September meeting.

**Item 11: Report to the International Coffee Council  
and**

**Item 12: Other Business**

15 The Committee noted that the Chairman would make a summary report to the Council of discussions at this meeting.

16. The Committee noted that it would review market shares and group weightings in September 2007 and submit its recommendations to the Council for approval, with any changes to take effect from 1 October 2007. In addition, once the text of the new Agreement was approved, the Committee would review conversion factors of roasted and soluble coffee which were currently 1.19 and 2.6, respectively.

17. The Committee stressed that exporting Members should enforce their commitment to issue Certificates of Origin for all shipments of coffee, as it appeared from press reports that exports by some countries were considerably higher than data reported to the Organization

**Item 12: Future meetings**

18. The Committee noted that its next meeting would take place in September 2007, at the time of meetings of the Council and Executive Board, and the Secretariat would confirm the exact date after this meeting.