



**Report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Working  
Group for the Entry into force of the  
International Coffee Agreement 2022**

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1. The Working Group for the Entry into Force of the International Coffee Agreement 2022 met for the second time on 15 January 2024. The Chair of the Group, Mr Mick Wheeler of Papua New Guinea, welcomed all participants and thanked delegates for their presence.

2. Representatives of the following Members were present online using the Zoom software: Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, European Union (including EU-France and EU-Italy), Ghana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Peru and Togo.

**Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda**

3. The agenda contained in document [WGEF-04/23 Rev. 1](#) was adopted.

**Item 2: Report of the 1st meeting of the Working Group held on 8 December 2023**

4. The Chair presented the report of the previous meeting, contained in document [WGEF-03/23](#).

5. The WGEF took note of the report.

**Item 3: Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Economics Committee**

6. The Head of Operations recalled that the ToRs of the Joint Committee – a recently created body whose structure and functions are similar to those of the Economics Committee – had been approved by the International Coffee Council (ICC) at its 136<sup>th</sup> Session to allow a smoother transition to the new structure of the Organization under the ICA 2022. He noted that, in addition to the merging of the existing technical committees<sup>1</sup> into one, the Council had also agreed that a greater number of exporting Members should feature on the Committee from predefined geographical regions.

7. In response to a question from the delegate of Brazil, the Head of Operations clarified that all the functions and activities listed in the ToRs of the Joint Committee would also be included in the draft Terms of Reference of the Economics Committee. The suggestion to split long paragraphs dealing with different topics into several paragraphs for clarity was also welcomed.

8. The Chair of the WGEF invited Members to reconsider the need to nominate specific Members for the Committee, suggesting that voluntary participation of interested Members (open membership) might be more effective for its activities.

9. The delegate of Brazil clarified that the number of exporting Members on the Joint Committee was originally increased to 15 at the 136<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICC to encourage

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics Committee, Promotion and Market Development Committee and Projects Committee.

participation and reflect the interests of different coffee producing regions. While stating Brazil's willingness to re-discuss the composition of the Committee, he stressed that the priority should be to allow any Member wishing to contribute to the activities of the Committee to do so.

10. The delegate of the European Union noted that the Council had agreed to temporarily change the composition of the Committee to ensure the timely continuation of its activities and, echoing the delegate of Brazil, pointed out that several seats of the exporting Members were still vacant.

11. The delegate of India suggested that the ToRs of the Economics Committee should not be a mere duplication of those of the Joint Committee as there was still room for improvement, especially with reference to mobilizing funds for the development of projects. While stating that he was in favour of retaining sub-regional representation, he noted that a rotational, restricted membership would make the decision-making process within the group easier and more effective.

12. The delegate of the EU-Italy voiced support for open membership, emphasizing the importance of welcoming contributions from all Members before submitting any matter to the Council for final approval.

13. The delegate of El Salvador echoed the intervention of EU-Italy, noting that everyone should be allowed to attend and participate in the meetings.

14. The delegate of India suggested that a few spare seats be made available for those Members wishing to participate in the activities of the Committee, regardless of their geographical region or category.

15. The Head of Operations provided clarifications on the role of the Committee members, stressing that a higher level of commitment and engagement was expected from them compared to normal attendees only joining the meetings occasionally.

16. With respect to the composition of the Committee, the delegate of Japan stressed her concern about maintaining a balance between exporting and importing Members.

17. The Chair encouraged Members to carefully consider the proposals shared as the Group would resume discussions at the following meeting, while summarizing the three options put forward, namely:

- To maintain the current composition of the Committee, with 15 representatives for exporting countries and three representatives for importing countries;
- To open membership to all countries wishing to participate in the meetings of the Committee and contribute to its activities; and
- To designate a Core Group that would be required to participate in all meetings, while leaving membership open to all countries.

18. The Head of Operations informed Members that the Secretariat would prepare and circulate the draft Terms of Reference of the Economics Committee reflecting the key outcomes of the discussion.

**Item 4: ToRs of the Coffee Public-Private Working Party (CPPWP)**

19. The Head of Operations presented background information on the establishment of the Coffee Public-Private Task Force (CPPTF) in 2019, highlighting its key objectives and activities, and providing details about the transformation of the CPPTF into a permanent body under the 2022 Agreement. After explaining the future structure of the Organization as per the ICA 2022, he underlined the need to also consider the role and functions of the Board of Affiliate Members (BAM) when drafting the ToRs of the CPPWP, due to the fact that both bodies foresaw the membership of non-governmental stakeholders (private sector and civil society) and thus a duplication of their mandates should be avoided.

20. Lastly, the Head of Operations shared a number of pending questions to be considered and discussed by Members concerning the composition of the CPPWP and its relationship with the BAM, namely:

- Potentially setting a maximum number of members of the CPPWP, especially taking into account that the current CPPTF has an equal number of representatives from the public and private sectors;
- Regulating the participation of the CPPWP's private sector members within the activities of the BAM;
- Regulating the participation of civil society and international organizations within the activities of the CPPWP's Technical Workstreams;
- Developing a system for contributions of the CPPWP, taking into account the payment of fees/contributions also within the BAM.

21. The delegate of India pointed out that, in order to proceed with the discussion on the membership of the CPPWP, Members should first define the eligibility criteria for affiliate membership. He also shared his initial thoughts about the relationship between members of the two bodies, suggesting that the private sector members of the Task Force, i.e. the signatories of the London Declaration, should also become members of the BAM.

22. The delegate of Brazil stressed the need for clarity and consistency regarding the terminology used throughout all the documents being drafted by the WGEF, also emphasizing that clear definitions of concepts such as "private sector" could avoid misunderstandings regarding the eligibility of stakeholders for affiliation.

23. The Chair noted that the new permanent nature of the CPPWP entailed a much deeper revision of its role and relation to the London Declaration, which was drafted and signed by companies to address a specific and temporary situation (i.e. price volatility in 2019).

24. He also requested that the Secretariat expand the set of questions to be considered by the WGEF and encouraged Members to submit their suggestions regarding membership of the CPPWP and BAM in writing in order to allow a more structured and effective discussion about these elements at the following meeting.

**Item 5: Date of next meeting**

25. The dates of future meetings for the first semester of 2024 were shared on screen for Members' reference, with the following meeting having been scheduled for 12 February 2024.

**Item 6: Other business**

26. The delegates of Brazil and India congratulated the Secretariat on the quality of the report circulated following the first meeting of the Group.

27. With no further topics to address, the Chair thanked Members for their active participation.

**SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT MEETING:**

- Whether a maximum number of members of the CPPWP should be set, especially taking into account that the current CPPTF had an equal number of representatives from the public sector and the private sector;
- Whether and how private sector members of the CPPWP should participate in the activities of the BAM;
- Suggestions on the modalities for civil society and international organizations to participate in the activities of the CPPWP's Technical Workstreams;
- Suggestions on the eligibility criteria for applications for the BAM;
- Suggestions to develop a system for contributions to the CPPWP budget;
- Suggestions to develop a system for contributions to the BAM budget; and
- Whether paying members of the CPPWP who are also members of the BAM should pay contributions to the latter.