



**INTERNATIONAL  
COFFEE  
ORGANIZATION**

**PR** 321/21

1 December 2021  
English only

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The ICO and its newest Member, Nigeria**

*Nigeria officially joins the International Coffee Organization*

**London, 1 December 2021** - The International Coffee Organization (ICO) is glad to enter the final stretch of 2021 with the happy news of welcoming Nigeria as a new Member to the Organization.

On 30 November 2021, the ICO welcomed the Minister/Deputy Head of Industry, Trade and Investment (ITI), Mr Bukar Abdu Isah, and the First Secretary to the Head of ITI, Mrs Agwase Deborah from Nigeria's High Commission to the UK to the ICO headquarters to present Nigeria's Instrument of Ratification to the International Coffee Agreement (ICA) 2007. The ratification process involved preparation from Nigeria's Attorney-General and Minister of Justice Abubakar Malami, approval from the Federal Executive Council, and confirmation and ratification by Nigeria's President H.E. Mr Muhammadu Buhari.

Both Nigeria and the ICO will benefit through the sharing of best practices to produce, trade and increase consumption of coffee. Nigeria since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century has been a major coffee producer, as a major cash crop for farmers in the country for decades. This will be an opportunity for Nigeria to regain a predominant role in the international coffee market.

During discussions Nigeria stated that they were happy to join the ICO coffee family as an opportunity to grow coffee and with it income and jobs opportunities. ICO Executive Director José Sette discussed Nigeria's areas for engagement with the ICO including the Coffee Public-Private Taskforce (CPPTF), and the innovative reform of the International Coffee Agreement (ICA).

Nigeria has now completed the process of accession to the ICO and became a Member of the ICO under the ICA 2007. There are 76 countries that are part of the ICO which currently account for 97% of world coffee production and exports and over two-thirds of coffee imports.

**END**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **International Coffee Organization (ICO)**

The International Coffee Organization (ICO) is a multilateral organization supporting exporting and importing countries to improve the sustainability of the coffee sector. It provides a high-level forum for all public and private stakeholders in the sector; official statistics on coffee production, trade and consumption; and support for the development and funding of technical cooperation projects and public-private partnerships.

### **More information**

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