



PRESS RELEASE

The International Coffee Organization and ASEAN Coffee Federation sign joint declaration to reinforce collaboration towards a sustainable and prosperous coffee sector

11 December 2022, Hanoi, Vietnam - The ASEAN Coffee Federation (ACF) represented by its President, Victor Mah, and the International Coffee Organization (ICO), represented by its Executive Director, Vanúsia Nogueira, signed a Joint Declaration to reinforce the cooperation between the federation and the organization towards a sustainable and prosperous coffee sector in the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

This cooperation will take place under the sign of a strengthened participation of all key regional actors in the sector transformation process to ensure the inclusivity and the sustainability of the coffee value chain within the coming years. One of the key objectives will consist to build a ASEAN Regional Knowledge Hub aimed at supporting programs and investments at the national, regional and international level.

During the signature ceremony, Mr Victor Mah stressed: “This Joint Declaration relies on a stepwise approach that will enable the federation and the organisation to collaborate openly and constructively to mutually support each other, fostering information and resources sharing and facilitating the communication between all ACF Members.”

The Joint Declaration also establishes a constructive basis upon which to promote the ICO Coffee Private Public Task Force (CPPTF) methodologies, activities and goals in the region, enabling later on the development of activities to advance the CPPTF’s objectives, including to close the income gaps and achieve prosperity for smallholder producers.

Vanúsia Nogueira, ICO Executive director stated: “The climate and geographical position of Southeast Asia is an ideal condition for coffee cultivation, and the coffee culture and

expertise in coffee production have contributed to a flourishing coffee industry in the region. Therefore, our work with the ASEAN Coffee Federation will represent a major step forward to develop ASEAN coffee branding at the regional level and beyond, as well as foster the cooperation including with the private sector through the ICO Task Force to empower the Coffee Cooperatives in sustainable and inclusive coffee Value Chain development.”

Coffee is becoming a key commodity for South-East Asian countries where Coffee is a growing market including in specialty coffee. The cooperation with the ICO and its Coffee Task Force will enable to leverage knowledges and resources that will benefit local growers and all coffee actors in the road ahead to reinforce the ASEAN position as leading producer and trader of quality coffee at regional and global level.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

International Coffee Organization (ICO)

The ICO, established under the International Coffee Agreement 2007, is the only intergovernmental organization for coffee, bringing together exporting and importing governments to tackle the challenges facing the world coffee sector through international cooperation. It provides a unique forum for dialogue among governments, the private sector, development partners, civil society and all coffee stakeholders to tackle challenges and nurture opportunities for the world coffee sector. The ICO's mission is to strengthen the global coffee sector and promote its sustainable expansion in a market-based environment for the betterment of all participants in the coffee sector.

More information

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