

DISSEMINATION OF THE INTEGRATED DATA BASE (IDB) AND THE CONSOLIDATED TARIFF SCHEDULES (CTS) DATABASE

Communication from the International Coffee Organization (ICO) on Dissemination of the Integrated Database (IDB) and the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) Database

The following communication, dated 3 May 2007, is being circulated at the request of the International Coffee Organization (ICO).

I refer to paragraph 5 of document G/MA/115, containing the dissemination policy for the WTO Integrated Database (IDB) and the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) database, and would like to request access for the International Coffee Organization (ICO) to both. The ICO undertakes to use the information contained there in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in document G/MA/115.

The ICO is the main intergovernmental organization for coffee, bringing together producing and consuming countries to tackle the challenges facing the world coffee sector through international cooperation. Its 77 Members include 45 coffee exporting and 32 importing countries, all of whom are also either Members of or are negotiating their accession to the WTO. Relevant background information about the ICO follows by post. Please note that the ICO is invited as an observer to meetings of the Committee on Trade and Development dealing with commodities issues.

In accordance with Section D, paragraph 9 of document G/MA/115, the ICO would designate Mr. Denis Seudieu, Chief Economist, as the focal point for the distribution of the IDB and CTS user-identification code and passwords.

The ICO is aware of the comprehensive information contained in the databases and is convinced that access will strengthen its capacity to adequately respond to requests of Member countries and to better contribute to their effective participation in the ongoing WTO negotiations. I would therefore be grateful if you could place this request before the Committee on Market Access for consideration and approval.