



MINISTRE DE L'AGRICULTURE



World Cocoa  
Foundation



Le Conseil du Café-Cacao  
Le Conseil de Régulation, de Stabilisation et de Développement de la Filière Café-Cacao



MUTUAL DECLARATION OF INTENTION  
CONCERNING  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF  
COCOA  
IN THE IVORY COAST



**The State of Ivory Coast**, represented by **Mister Mamadou Sangafowa COULIBALY**, Minister of Agriculture, with the head office located at the CAISTAB building in Abidjan Plateau, B.P. V82, Tel. 20.21.43.03 / 20.21.38.58

Named below «**THE STATE**»

**AND**

**WORLD COCOA FOUNDATION («WCF»)**, non-profit organization, incorporated under and governed by the laws of the state of Virginia, with its headquarter in the District of Columbia, at 1411 K St. NW. Suite 1300 Washington, DC 20005, represented by his **President Mister Bill GUYTON**.

Named below «**WCF**»

Referred collectively as «The parties» in the hereby declaration.

**1. PREAMBLE**

- The cocoa industry is a fundamental pillar of the Ivorian economy (15% of the GDP and 40% generating export revenue). The national production represents 35% of the world's cocoa supply and makes this country the world's leading producer of the cocoa bean.
- The cocoa industry in the Ivory Coast is facing several challenges at the production and commercialization level as well as the transformation / upgrading of the products.  
Those obstacles should be removed with innovative solutions, to ensure the sustainability of this industry in the long run.
- To face these constraints, The government of Ivory Coast implemented a National Program for sustainable Development of the Coffee and Cocoa industry called «Quality-Quantity –growth (2QG) ( 2QC in French) » which main objective is to secure the incomes of the all the actors in coffee and cocoa value chain and particularly contribute, to the promotion of the socio-economic well-being of the producers and their communities through actions that will improve productivity of the orchards, and community development.
- WCF member companies, with the goal of ensuring a regular and sustainable supply of cocoa beans, decided to joint their efforts in the support of the production system development, particularly threatened by:

- Poor application of good agricultural practices and post-harvesting techniques.
  - Strong parasite pressure from diseases and pests (black pod disease due to *Phytophthora megakarya*, mirid bugs, borers(CBB), orange rust disease, trunk driller, etc.;
  - Escalation and threat of the cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus ;
  - Aging of producers and disinterest of the youth for farming profession.
  - Aging of the farms;
  - Decrease in soil fertility;
  - Precarious living conditions of cocoa and coffee producing communities, primary cause of the child labor.
- A coordinated collaboration with Le Conseil du Café-Cacao, will be more efficient in improving the livelihood of cocoa's producers, and to encourage the youth to pursue a career in cocoa farming. The revitalization of the cocoa industry will be done over several years, and thus requires a long term engagement.
  - The leaders of the industry have for this reason, developed a strategy called CocoaAction («Action for Cocoa») which objective is to contribute to the sustainable development of cocoa production notably through an improved access to high performing planting material, the fight against the Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus ,community development and innovation in agricultural extension.

## **2. JOINT DECLARATION**

- The government of the Republic of Ivory Coast, and the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), represented by its board of directors , composed of executives from leading chocolate companies, as well as the president of WCF, jointly approved the alignment and the integration of CocoaAction to the Ivorian National Program for sustainable development of the Coffee and Cocoa industry called Quantity, Quality and Growth Program abbreviated «2QG», in order to support development activities in the Cocoa industry, implemented by the Conseil du Café Cacao.
- A sound Public-Private partnership will be established between Le Conseil du Café-Cacao and the members companies of the WCF's initiative, CocoaAction, in order to promote cocoa sustainability through a coordination of investments and activities.

- The working groups created in the framework of WCF's CocoaAction initiative will be integrated in the corresponding thematic groups of the Private-Public Partnership of the Ivorian cocoa sector.
- The members companies of the CocoaAction Initiative will contribute to the implementation of the action plan derived from 2QG Program in order to improve the means of subsistence and the economic opportunities of the cocoa producer's community through modernization, professionalization, and diversification of cocoa farming. The emphasis will be placed on a holistic approach combining increase of productivity and development of communities by including basic education and gender.
- Le Conseil du Café-Cacao, WCF and WCF's member companies will work in a transparent manner as it relates to sharing technical and no confidential information within the framework of collaboration, monitoring and evaluation of activities based on indicators defined by both parties, in order to facilitate continuing education and enhance strategies and implementing approaches.

### **3. WCF'S DECLARATION OF INTENTION**

WCF, representing the industry member's signers of CocoaAction:

- Will coordinate actions put in place to align to the objectives and actions defined in the national development program of the Ivorian cocoa industry, as requested by the Ivorian government.
- Will contribute to the conception and elaboration of innovative approaches regarding agricultural extension;
- Will co-invest in, activities jointly defined by both parties in accordance with CocoaAction strategic axes and the 2QG Program, In particular in the area of productivity and community development;
- Will participate in the mobilization of the actors of the cocoa value chain as well as the donor's community, in order to broaden the scope and impact of actions implemented as part of the 2QG Program.

### **4. IVORY COAST'S DECLARATION OF INTENTION**

The Ministry of Agriculture through Le Conseil du Café-Cacao:

- Will strengthen the capacities of national institutions, mobilize its institutions and locals authorities with the objective of contributing to the implementation of identified activities through the «CocoaAction» initiative;
- Will encourage strategies compliant to the government’s orientations, which will contribute to improve access to excellent quality planting material for cocoa producers and their communities, as well as access to inputs and to good agricultural practices;
- Will co-invest in, activities jointly defined by both parties in accordance with CocoaAction strategic axes and the 2QG Program, In particular in the area of productivity and community development;
- Will consolidate implementing efforts for the sustainability of the cocoa sector through the PPPP;
- Will capitalize and widely share the knowledge’s and experiences’ on a national scale, in accordance with the objectives of the cocoa sector national development Program shared with all stakeholders involved in the PPPP.

### **3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF INTENTION**

WCF, The industry members involved with WCF and Le Conseil du Café-Cacao will translate the hereby declaration of intention, by contracts or agreement protocols in accordance with the joint declaration.

### **4. TAKING EFFECT**

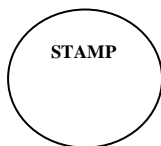
The hereby declaration of intention become effective to the date of signature of both parties.

### **5. FINAL DISPOSITIONS**

This joint declaration of intent, is freely signed by both parties.

Date: **MAY 20<sup>th</sup> 20114**

For the Republic of the Ivory Coast  
**Mamadou SANGAFOWA COULIBALY**  
 Minister of Agriculture



**SIGNATURE**

Date: **MAY 20<sup>th</sup> 2014**

For the World Cocoa Foundation

**Mr. Bill GUYTON,**  
World Cocoa Foundation's President

**SIGNATURE**