

**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON COFFEE BIOTECHNOLOGY  
JOINTLY ORGANISED BY COFFEE BOARD AND DEPARTMENT  
OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, GOVT., OF INDIA  
FROM 27-29 JANUARY 2004 AT BANGALORE, INDIA**

**BANGALORE DECLARATION**

At the International workshop held in Bangalore on 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2004, the scientists from France, Italy and India taking into consideration i) the importance of coffee for the livelihood of millions of producers ii) the need to achieve a sustainable coffee economy worldwide given the ongoing crisis in the coffee producing sector iii) the recent advances made in the field of Biotechnology and the positive impact these technologies might have on genetic improvement of coffee and iv) being aware of the large investments required by such Biotechnologies,

- expressed the need to share genomic tools, namely ESTs, BAC genomic libraries, molecular markers, promoters...etc
- expressed the need to collectively build new projects either on general issue such as physical maps or on specific issues related to specific constraints (quality, abiotic and biotic stress)
- acknowledged the need to accumulate data on genetic transformation and on its impact on environment
- acknowledged the need to collaborate in the medium term on any initiative on coffee genome sequencing.

Consequently, after rich discussions it was proposed to:

- launch an International Coffee Biotechnology Network so as to promote the sharing of experiences and the emergence of new collaborative projects on Genomics and Genetic improvement
- invite teams and institutions working worldwide in Coffee Biotechnology to join the Network
- link this Network to the International Initiative on Coffee Research (Paris, 02/2003),
- take advantage of the experience of existing comparable networks on other plants and animals, so as to define the guidelines ensuring efficient, equitable and transparent collaboration
- request the Coffee Board of India to kindly function as the interim Secretariat of the Network until ASIC 2004 in Bangalore (India) and prepare a working draft detailing the practical modalities of collaboration.

Agreed in Bangalore, on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004