

WOMEN IN COFFEE NEWS

A quarterly newsletter of the International Women’s Coffee Alliance (IWCA)—UGANDA CHAPTER



FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Hon. Victoria Sekitoleko, IWCA Uganda Chapter President

I have the pleasure to welcome you to Volume I, Issue I of Women in Coffee News, a quarterly newsletter of the International Women’s Coffee Alliance (IWCA) Uganda Chapter. We are utilizing this newsletter as one of our mouthpieces in lobbying and advocating for active and meaningful women involvement in the coffee value chains in Uganda.

Over the last few months, most specifically since the election of a new board for the IWCA Uganda Chapter, we have seen several positive developments in the coffee sector not only in Uganda or east Africa, but at a global scale. Key among these was the Fourth International Coffee Day, which graced this year’s celebration by selecting the theme “Women in Coffee”. This theme identified well with the mission of the International Women’s Coffee Alliance and provided an excellent opportunity to augment the message of women participation and involvement in coffee activities within the coffee value chains, from far to cup.

The women of Uganda have for a long time faced several impediments to the full utilization of their potential in agribusiness and most specifically within the coffee sub-sector. Gender stereotypes, unfavorable norms and archaic cultural and traditional gender expectations are also an impediment to women’s economic empowerment.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our supporters, you our readers and all our stakeholders who dedicate resources to enable IWCA Uganda Chapter effectively advocate for women in coffee. I would specifically like to single out the Uganda Coffee Development Authority, the USAID Uganda Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity and UTZ Rainforest Alliance in this regard.

Once again, I welcome you to our first issue of the Uganda Women in Coffee Newsletter, and I hope you’ll be inspired by our stories.

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IWCA Uganda Chapter Board Member Mrs. Ann Mayanja (second from left) with some of the participants at the 122nd Session of the International Coffee Council and Associated Meetings at the International Maritime Organization Headquarters, London, September 2018. See full story on Page 4.

Uganda Joins the World to Celebrate Fourth International Coffee Day, October 2018.

Theme of the Coffee Day celebrations puts women in coffee in the limelight

Every first day of October, the Member States of the International Coffee Organization (ICO) and dozens of coffee associations from around the globe join in celebration of the annual International Coffee Day. International Coffee Day (ICD) is a global celebration of coffee's journey from the farm to your local shop — an opportunity to honor the women and men who grow and harvest the coffee we love.

In Uganda, the International Coffee Day was celebrated on Thursday 4 October 2018 at Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MUZARDI). The theme of the 2018 International Coffee Day was 'Women in Coffee'. The theme was not only favorable, but also timely. It was provided the long-awaited opportunity not only recognize and appreciate the women of Uganda that play a great role in coffee productivity along the coffee value chains, but also the need to create an environment that supports and sustains their meaningful engagement along the value chains—from farm to cup.

The guest of honor was the Hon. Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Sempijja. Other participants included Members of Parliament, representatives from government ministries, departments and agencies, members of parliament, development in agriculture, researchers, representatives from agricultural research institu-

tions and private sector actors in the coffee value chain. More than 200 coffee farmers participated at the event.

Speaking at the event, IWCA Uganda Chapter President expressed her appreciation of the ICD for selecting Women in Coffee as the theme of the 2018 International Coffee Day celebrations. The occasion also provided a platform to appeal to the different actors to join hands with the IWCA Uganda Chapter to lobby and advocate for women involvement in coffee activities. "In Uganda, gender stereotypes, norms and expectations constitute a significant factor impeding women from getting actively and meaningfully engaged and participating in activities that promote and help to sustain their economic empowerment," said Hon. Victoria Sekitooleko, IWCA Uganda Chapter President.

Alongside the Uganda Coffee Development Authority, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, umbrella organizations including the Private Sector Foundations, farmer organizations and development partners have been championing the development of coffee activities and with

IN THE PHOTO: IWCA Uganda Chapter President, Hon. Victoria Sekitooleko (second-left) with Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Sempijja, Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (third-left) arrive at Mukono ZARDI for the Celebrations on 4 October 2018. They were welcomed by UCDA Board Chairman Mr. Perez Bukumunhe (second-right).





Photo Credits: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

ABOVE: IWCA Uganda Chapter President, Hon. Victoria Sekitoleko (left) and Agriculture Minister, Mr. Vincent Bamulangaki Sempijja (center) join members of a women coffee group from Kapchorwa district in traditional dance and cultural performances during the event.

4th International Coffee Day celebrations put Women in Coffee in the limelight

Through the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, the government of Uganda is at the forefront in proactively advocating for, and supporting the involvement, participation and recognition of the potential role that women can play in augmenting coffee production and coffee trade in Uganda. The Ministry is not only creating an enabling environment for increasing employment opportunities and productivity for improved livelihoods and social security for all but is also working to ensure that issues of inequality and exclusion in access to services across all sectors and at all levels are addressed.



Watch on YouTube: International Coffee Day Celebrations in Uganda
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7_MC9Xg_CM&feature=youtu.be



Learn more about 2018 International Coffee Day Celebrations around the world
<https://www.womenincoffee.org/2018-coffee-day/>

Two-day Training and Orientation Empowers Session IWCA Uganda Chapter Governing Board to Strategically Advocate for Women in the Coffee Sector



IN THE PHOTO:
 Some of the member of the IWCA Uganda Governing Board in a session during the two-day board training and orientation, Collin Hotel, Mukono, August 2018.

Members of the Governing Board of IWCA Uganda Chapter attended a two-day board training and orientation session at Collin Hotel in Mukono, from 10-11 August 2018. The training and orientation was made possible with the generous support of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) Uganda Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture (FtF EEA) Activity.

With the mandate of the IWCA Uganda Chapter General Assembly to serve as stewards in championing women involvement and participation in coffee activities in Uganda, the Board constitutes key players. The training equipped the board members with the essential corporate governance skills to provide effective leadership and direction to the IWCA Uganda Chapter, in decision making and in approaching issues tactfully.

The training did not only result in a targeted, effective transfer and sharing of knowledge, but also culminated in the need to review the pre-existing strategic plan, and preparation of a new five-year plan.

The practical and participatory nature of the training enabled the Board to appreciate their potential in making a difference in IWCA Uganda Chapter's performance, in consideration of the unique nature of IWCA the Chapter's institutional challenges, and the mechanisms to benchmark with some of the world's best performing boards to learn about how such boards have approached and addressed related challenges.

Uganda Effectively Represented at the 122nd Session of the International Coffee Council

IWCA Uganda Chapter Board Member and Managing Director, Coffee World Uganda Limited Mrs. Ann Mayanja delivers a presentation on Gender Equality in the Coffee Value Chains during the 122nd Session of the International Coffee Council and Associated Meetings at the International Maritime Organization Headquarters, London, 17-21 September 2018.



Uganda was successfully represented at the 122nd Session of the International Coffee Council and Associated Meetings that took place from 17-21 September 2018 at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. The Session was formally opened by the Chair, H.E. Mr. Aly Touré of Côte d'Ivoire, with the opening address given by the Secretary-General of the IMO, Mr. Kitack Lim, to welcome ICO Members to the IMO Headquarters.

During the Thematic Workshop on Women in Coffee, IWCA Uganda Chapter Board Member and Managing Director, Coffee World Uganda, Ms. Ann Mayanja made a presentation on Gender Equality in the Coffee Value Chains. Another key presentation was given by the Regional Director of the UN Women for the Americas, Ms. Luiza Carvalho, focusing on the importance of coffee for sustainable development and gender equality, especially in relation to rural women. Gender equality is an exceptionally important issue not only on the national, regional and international coffee agenda, but is also prioritized and reflected as key among Millennium Development Goals ([MDG 3](#): Promote gender equality and empower women; and [SDG 5](#): Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls). Gender equality and gender empowerment in the coffee sector is key considering that 70% of the labor in global coffee production is provided by women, while 20% of all coffee farms are owned and managed by women.

The thematic workshop on women in coffee was followed by the Donors' Forum on Project Development and Funding and the 8th Consultative Forum on Coffee Sector Finance on 'Harnessing technology and innovation for investments in the coffee sector'. Additional side events and exhibitions in which members and observers participated included the exhibition on innovation in the coffee sector, the partnership fair—a special opportunity for delegations to meet potential donors, international organizations and partners as well as social and other networking opportunities.

Key decisions and resolutions adopted at the 122nd Session of the International Coffee Council included the signing of a [memorandum of understanding](#) between the International Women's Coffee Alliance and the International Coffee Organization to promote women empowerment and

inclusion as a means of achieving sustainable development through social and economic progress in coffee-producing countries while protecting natural resources. At the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, IWCA President, Ms. Kellem Emanuele emphasized key work areas including identifying opportunities to incorporate gender distinctions into data collection, and to foster inclusion and engagement with results-driven leaders. IWCA also signed a memorandum of understanding with the African Fine Coffees Association ([AFCA](#)).

The Council approved the [document containing dates of meetings](#) during the coffee years 2018/19 and 2019/20. These included the 123rd Session of the International Coffee Council to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 25 to 29 March 2019 and the 5th World Coffee Conference, to be held at the Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre in India, 10-12 September 2020.



IWCA Uganda Chapter General Assembly Elects New Governing Board



Hon. Victoria Sekitoleko
BOARD CHAIRPERSON



Ms. Doreen R. Rweihangwe
VICE CHAIRPERSON



Mrs. Consolata Tumwesigye
BOARD SECRETARY



Mrs. Rose Kato
BOARD MEMBER



Ms. Angelita Musimenta
BOARD MEMBER



Mrs. Ruth Isingoma
BOARD MEMBER



Mrs. Ann Mayanja
BOARD MEMBER



Ms. Rebecca Kisolo
BOARD MEMBER



Mr. Richard Baker Sennoga
BOARD MEMBER

During the Stakeholders Meeting and General Assembly that was held on Friday 1st June 2018 at Hotel Africa in Kampala, Uganda, the IWCA Uganda elected a new nine-member Board of Governors, comprising eight women and one man. Chaired by former Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Victoria Sekitoleko, the [New Governing Board](#) comprises renowned personalities with a range of experience and expertise in the different coffee value chains. who have individually, over the years participated in several activities within the coffee value chain in and out of Uganda.

Since then, the Board tabled and maintains an ambitious to-do list, prioritizing lobbying and advocacy for women to stimulate meaningful, sustainable and women-led economic growth in Uganda's coffee sub-sector. A key aim is to ensure unrestricted participation of women throughout the coffee value chains in Uganda and beyond.

The membership of the IWCA Uganda Chapter did not only unanimously resolve to adapt the IWCA global mission of 'empowering women in the international coffee community to achieve meaningful and sustainable lives; and to encourage and recognize the participation of women in all aspects of the coffee industry', but also resolved to adopt the core values.

A key milestone reached was the review and adaptation of the Chapter Constitutional. This is a strategically important milestone for the IWCA Uganda Chapter as it paves way for the long-awaited strategic guidance for the review and implementation of the Chapter's five-year Strategic Plan, toward a shared mission for women in the coffee value chains.

Read more online—<https://www.iwcauganda.org/new-iwca-uganda-chapter-board-tables-transformative-agenda-for-women-involvement-in-coffee-value-chains/>

IWCA Uganda Chapter underway to finalize its five-year Strategic Plan, 2019-2023



IWCA Uganda Chapter Vice President Ms. Doreen Rweihangwe delivers remarks at the closure of the Consultative Workshop for the development of a five-year Strategic Plan (2019-2023) for the IWCA Uganda Chapter. The workshop was held on Wednesday 7 November 2018 at Collin Hotel, Mukono.

IWCA Uganda Chapter held a two-day Consultative Workshop to develop a five-year Strategic Plan for IWCA Uganda Chapter, for the period 2019-2023. Held from 6-7 November 2018 in Mukono, the workshop was attended by representatives from the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA), National Union of Coffee Agribusinesses and Farm Enterprises (NUCAFE), the Uganda Coffee Federation (UCF) Agro-Inputs Dealers, IWCA Uganda Chapter Board Members, Researchers and other actors from related organizations.

The strategic plan will be an essential tool that will support the IWCA Uganda Board and Management to set priorities, focus energy and resources, strengthen operations, ensure that our stakeholders are working with us toward common goals. It will provide guidance on agreement around intended outcomes, results, and assess and adjust the Chapter's direction in response to a changing environment.

The development of the IWCA Uganda Chapter five-year Strategic Plan is made possible with support from the USAID Uganda Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity (EEA). At the end of the workshop, a comprehensive framework had been developed. As part of the next steps, a validation workshop will be conducted. By the end of 2018, a draft Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board for approval.



—COFFEE EVENTS, 2018—

14 November—123rd Session (Special) of the International Coffee Council (London, UK)

15-18 November—Hainan International Coffee Congress And Beverage Expo, People’s Republic of China

—COFFEE EVENTS, 2019—

24-26 January—Sensory Summit (A Coffee Roasters Event), Specialty Coffee Association of Europe

13-15 February—17th African Fine Coffee Conference and Exhibition—providing opportunities for delegates from African countries to meet with the ICO and explore potential future membership.

25-29 March: 124rd Session of the International Coffee Council and other ICO bodies (Nairobi, Kenya)

11-14 April—Global Specialty Coffee (former SCAA) Expo, Boston, United States of America

6-8 June—World of Coffee, Berlin, Germany

23-27 September—125th Session of the International Coffee Council and other ICO bodies (London, UK)

1 October—International Coffee Day (ICD) Celebrations (Observed Worldwide. Actual date in October may could from country to country)

—COFFEE EVENTS, 2020—

20-24 April—126th Session of the International Coffee Council and other ICO bodies (London, The United Kingdom)

10-12 September—5th World Coffee Conference (to be held in Bengaluru, India)

14-18 September—127th Session of the International Coffee Council and other ICO bodies (Bengaluru, India)

1 October—International Coffee Day (ICD) Celebrations (Observed Worldwide. Actual date in October may could from country to country)

ABOUT THE IWCA UGANDA CHAPTER

The International Women’s Coffee Alliance (IWCA) Uganda Chapter is part of a global network of self-organized, self-governing women in coffee lobby and advocacy organizations.

Our vision, mission and core values are in alignment with those of the IWCA at the global level. We envision a society where women are empowered to equitably get involved in decision-making at all levels within the coffee value chain in Uganda.

Our mission is to empower women in the coffee community to achieve meaningful and sustainable lives; and to encourage and recognize the participation of women in all aspects of the coffee industry in Uganda.

Learn more at <https://www.iwcauganda.org/who-we-are/>

BECOME A MEMBER

Becoming part of the Uganda women in coffee community brings added benefits, such as access to our newsletters, directories of actors in the the different coffee value chains, attendance of coffee and other membership events at free or concessional rates as well as local events and activities organized and supported by our partners.

Learn more at <https://www.iwcauganda.org/benefits/>

CONTACT US

IWCA Uganda Chapter Secretariat
 Second Floor, Suite 2.8, Coffee House
 Plot 35 Jinja Road - Kampala, Uganda
 Email info@iwcauganda.org or iwcawomen@gmail.com
 Visit us: <https://www.iwcauganda.org>