



COFFEE INDUSTRY CORPORATION LTD

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Make coffee the mainstay for rural sustenance: Bando

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MISSION STATEMENT

To provide enabling regulatory environment and facilitate the industry's development through research, extension, information sharing and market development services to bring better financial returns to the coffee value chain actors.

COVER PHOTO:

Coffee nursery set up at a village in Jiwaka Province by the Extension team.

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Make coffee mainstay for rural sustenance: Bando

Newly appointed Coffee Minister Honourable William Bando announced this week that his immediate task is to ensure all players in the coffee industry are given the opportunity to become active participants as well creating a platform for their concerns to be heard.

“That would be my focus so that all concerned participants in the industry can work towards increasing production, increase acreage of land under coffee and to increase processing and exports. Let’s make coffee the business for the forgotten and underprivileged especially the growing youth in our country.”

Mr Bando said this in a brief meeting with Program Managers and senior staff of the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) in Goroka on Monday, 29th January, 2024.

He said the Marape Government has put up massive funds into promoting SMEs through successive development budgets and coffee must be seen as the mainstay of our economy and must be fully supported.

“Farmers’ price support, policy interventions and freight subsidy schemes are fundamental to support my ministry. It would also look at upscaling our engagement to work with the other ministries, Department of Agriculture and Livestock, CIC and others for coordinated and targeted interventions to deliver outcomes including Prime Ministers vision for downstream processing of all our natural resources. We will seriously support manufacturing of roast, ground and instant coffee,” he said.

Minister Bando said his other focus would be on the Legislative and Policy Alignments including extension services and review of the Coffee Regulatory Functions Act and the Constitution of the Coffee Industry Corporation Ltd.

He added that there is a need to review the export license

regulations where processors and exporters must grow or have supply contracts with growers (blocks and plantations) with over 100-200 hectares of coffee trees.

Among the discussions highlighted in the meeting, Mr Bando has directed that the Ministry of Coffee be established in Goroka to be closer to where the action is.

“People are fighting and killing in the resource rich areas. We need to get to them and focus their attention to coffee and make coffee the Peace Redeemer. The challenges you face in Eastern Highlands and I call it a brown field is different to the resource filled provinces, which are what I call green fields as coffee is concerned. I am inviting other DDAs to emulate Unggai Bena District in EHP, Nipa Kutubu and Koroba Kopiago by aligning with CIC through MOUs to grow coffee.”

Mr Bando thanked Joe Hapokaya of Ilu Coffee Limited who has over 3 million seedlings under an MOU with his DDA and he is supplying the seedlings.

He said a total of 100,000 seedlings that were

bought are now being transported to their transit beds at Koroba Station for distribution. “Coffee will not be grown by the well-to-do people but will be grown by the unwanted and marginalized groups, and that is my target.”

“As part of the incentive to keeping the growers working on coffee, K2 per tree will be paid as an incentive as soon as the seedlings go into the ground. We will get the government’s full support only when we have plans and strategies in place. This industry can touch the lives of our under-utilized mass labour in the villages and this will be our part to be the truly Take Back PNG agenda of our Prime Minister.”

Mr Bando thanked the former Coffee Minister, Joe Kuli, for his contribution and hopes to continue the good work he started and the foundations upon which to build on.

“I am passionate in working with the small people and this Ministry will take me closer to rural PNG, and I thank the Prime Minister for returning me back to the land and our people in the business of coffee.”



Senior management team with the Coffee Minister Hon. William Bando and CIC Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui and Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumaë (seated in front).

Project to benefit thousands of households

By the end of this week Friday, January 19th, 2024, a total of 24 partnerships would be completed and signed between the Coffee Industry Corporation's PNG Agriculture Commercialization & Diversification (CIC-PACD) Project and the successful lead partners in five provinces. Provinces who will be benefiting from these partnership agreement signing include Eastern Highlands, Simbu, Jiwaka, Western Highlands and Morobe.

The CIC-PACD Project commenced the signing of partnership agreements with successful lead partners in December 2023 and will be completing the rest of the grant signing this week. The 24 successful lead partners were selected through a stringent and lengthy process which went through a number of technical evaluation committees to screen and verify the groups who applied for funding assistance. From the 24 successful lead partners, five are from Morobe, three from Simbu, three from Jiwaka, five from Western Highlands and eight from Eastern Highlands.

CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka explained that the whole process of finally having the successful lead partners to formally sign their agreements with CIC-PACD was not an easy task. He said it took almost a year to complete all the processes to ensure those selected were genuine partners to implement the project.

"It has taken the Project Management Unit (PMU) of coffee 12 months to come down to 24 productive partnerships now completed signing all agreements to the tune of K20 million. We went through a tedious process in the last 12 months to identify the potential lead partners from the 63 proponents who had initially applied and we have come down to 24 lead partners," he said.

Hombunaka, who is a long-time professional, 38 years and counting in the coffee industry, envisages that in the near future, more nationals would take part in the exporting end. He said under CIC-PPAP, four nationally owned companies have proven it and he hopes that under PACD, few more groups can go to that level to export. He stressed that previous groups who have received assistance under CIC-PPAP have not stopped coffee work but are continuing the good work in bringing coffee to the local market and participating in group marketing initiatives and selling their coffee as green bean.

He encouraged cooperative groups in all the participating provinces that as long as they remained as a group, they would reap the benefits of all their hard work. "We are not doing this now for ourselves but for our children and grandchildren's future," he said.

Productive Partnerships Coordinator Alphy Semy said with all the signing nearing completion this week, the project will be reaching out to over 10, 000 households at the tune of K20 million. Semy said the funds drawn down by the lead partners will be under three components; Goods, Services and Operations. The project beneficiaries are mostly from rural marginalized areas such as Finshhafen, Kabwum, Watut, Waria in Morobe Province; Obura, Keremu (Daulo), Oliguti, Huwa (Lufa), Henangaru (West Okapa), Nimanalo including a plantation (Goroka) and Henganofi in Eastern Highlands Province; Siane & Chuave, Sina Sina Yogomugl, Kerowaghi in Simbu Province; Jimi, Anglim South Waghi in Jiwaka Province; Tambul Nembilyer, Mul Baiyer including two plantations in Western Highlands Province.

"The amount you see on the banners now will come in three different support categories. Do not think you will receive a brown envelope (cash) from the lead partners, but this will be translated to goods and services to assist you (coffee farmers) in the respective partnerships. The full amount you see on the banners now will not be fully deposited into your project account, however it will come as tranche payments to carry out particular activities as per your work plans and funds would be acquitted both financially and physically and then move to the next activities until the full amount is exhausted," Semy explained.

Under the goods category, farmers under these partnerships will be receiving coffee pulpers, bow saws, secateurs, bush knives, coffee film rolls, and mesh wire for coffee drying on raised beds. The beneficiary farmers will contribute a five-percent cash equity under the Goods Component as a guarantee for farmers to take ownership and good care of the items received. Coffee wet mills and mini hullers will also be provided. Resource centers and storage sheds will be constructed for aggregation of parchment coffee for group marketing.

On Monday, January 15th, 2024, the CIC-PACD team was in Kompri Valley to sign a partnership agreement with local NGO- Touching the Untouchables Inc (TTU),



CIC-PACD team led by Mr. Potaisa Hombunaka during the partnership signing with Touching the Untouchables Inc. in Komperi Valley, Eastern Highlands on Monday, January 15th, 2024.

for the Krevanofi Women Coffee Farmers.

“After 13 months and over 300 enquiries or expressions of interests which flooded our office, I want to congratulate TTU together with all the other successful groups for making it this far,” Semy said.

Representing Ward 1 in Kafetina LLG, Henganofi Dis-

trict in Eastern Highlands, Annette Nakambi has been a village birth attendant volunteer under TTU Inc for the last 10 years and also a coffee farmer. She expressed her gratitude for the project and thanked CIC-PACD and TTU for bringing this project into her village in Krevanofi. “I am very happy that this will really help and change my community. This project will help me and others to change our lives in the village.”

The PACD Project is funded through GoPNG loan funding from the World Bank. The Department of Agriculture & Livestock is responsible for the project with Coffee Industry Corporation Ltd (Coffee Component) and Cocoa Board (Cocoa Component) as implementing agencies.



CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka with his officers, Jiwaka Provincial Government representatives and lead partners in Jiwaka: Narak Organic Coffee Growers Association Inc, Wuna Coffee Ltd and Kore Mani Organic Coffee Ltd who signed their agreements in December 2023.

Rigo inland farmers set up nurseries

In the hinterlands of East Rigo LLG in Gomavo in Central Province, a new interest for setting up coffee nurseries and distributing seedlings to farmers is picking up momentum with the support from a former president of East Rigo LLG and local community Chief Mr Biari Ubuna.

Ubuna who worked as a public servant for 36 years, after retiring saw the plight of his people in East Rigo LLG particularly in Gomavo village. He said after leaving formal employment, he thought of how he could assist his people in the village who did not have a steady source of income generating activity to help themselves.

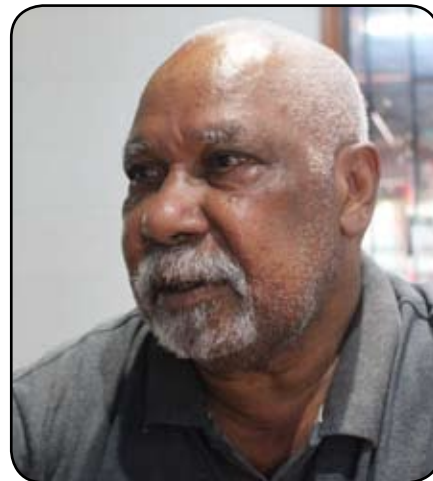
“To be honest, I did not know anything about coffee until I got in touch with the Coffee Industry Corporation Ltd (CICL) Central based extension officer, Jorine Hetora who willingly took his time to educate us on the crop and how to go about in the initial stages of setting up the nursery in our village,” he said.

Ubuna acknowledged support from former Central Governor Robert Agarobe as well, who supplied nursery materials to start the whole process of this initiative. He said that with the 42,000 initial seedlings planted in the Makana-Rabua nursery in 2022, it could not cater for the high interests of the farmers in the area who wanted more seedlings to be planted in their farms. “We are supplying these seedlings free of charge to our farmers not only in Gomavo, but we are reaching out to farmers in the Abau District, in Bukuku, Geuwa, Begau, Lako and Upulima Station. There’s no road, supermarkets, nothing in the bush. I feel strongly that by going through this coffee nursery program, they will have something. I am happy for CICL to come in as it is a new initiative for us. I am calling on our leaders to concentrate on our little farmers by assisting them. There are some coffee trees also growing in Mt. Brown area and our farmers need assistance from the government.”

Ubuna said one way of taking PNG back was by helping in these small ways. He appealed to elected leaders, both in Central Province and PNG as a whole to go back to the villages, talk to people and find out what they were interested in and assist them. He thanked CICL for stepping in and assisting his people with hands on training in the initial stages.

CICL Central/Gulf Provincial Coffee Coordinator, Jorine Hetora said that there was high

interest amongst the Rigo Inland coffee farmers to go into coffee production and as the only officer in the province, the challenges are there, however, he tries his very best to visit farmers in the interested communities to provide technical support and guidance. Hetora said after the distribution of the 22,000 seedlings



Chief Biari Ubuna

to 87 farmers in the Rigo East LLG from the first nursery in 2022, another 6,000 seedlings have been replanted, 4,000 of Typica variety and 2,000 of the Cartimor variety.

As it is now, Chief Biari is the person behind encouraging and funding coffee activity from his own pocket without any government support. He added that when logging activity in the area came to a halt in 2022, he invited CICL to introduce coffee as the first cash crop for his community to benefit from. “We strongly emphasize that a farmer must own a hectare of coffee as we want



Coffee nursery seedlings yet to be distributed to farmers in East Rigo LLG put aside in a farmer’s garden.

the program to continue.”

Under a mutual understanding with Chief Biari, 120 hectares of land has been given for coffee work in Gomavo village. With more work and interest building up, a call is being made to Central provincial government and its leaders to come in their respective capacities to assist farmers in Rigo East LLG to revive coffee work in the area.

Meanwhile, the CICL will be providing support in terms of training and nursery materials under the National Coffee Replanting Program (NCRP) of the National Government.

CICL Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui said that the NCRP received the first funding allocation of PGK 2.5 million in 2023 under the current government’s development budget component. “The CICL in 2023 has begun the process for partnerships with both government and private sector agencies to share resources to address the national issue of ‘The decline in coffee production volume and volume base’ in the country through this direct investment program (DIP) of the CICL which fittingly addresses the very first strategic priority area (SPA) - “strategic economic investment” as a documented in the MTDP 4 (2023-2027),” he said.

Dambui added that this DIP is a national program which addresses SPA 1 one of the CICL’s main programs and will be ongoing as long as all good leaders and partner agencies support the national governments economic development initiative.

2023 production hits one million bags

The Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) has announced in a statement that coffee production output for the year 2023 has reached one million bags, an increase of 13 percent from the previous year (2022).

CIC Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui in thanking the outgoing coffee minister Joe Kuli during the hand-over, take-over ceremony on Tuesday, March 5th, 2023 in Port Moresby made this announcement.

“Minister for CIS, let me give an output of the performance of the industry last year under your leadership as coffee minister. Last year the coffee production in PNG reached 1, 002,855 bags (60,171 tonnes), an increase of almost 13%. This increase comes as a result of various government interventions such as Freight Surety Scheme (FSS) and Coffee Access Roads apart from ongoing nursery programs. Out of that the total exports increase by 14% and generated K803.4m, 35% higher than 2021 export earnings,” Dambui said.

Dambui highlighted that coffee exported in 2023 totalled 963, 074 bags (50, 048 tonnes) 14% more than what was exported in 2022 (848, 360 bags) and 29% high on 2021 export volume. He said total coffee export earnings declined by a trivial 6% from K854.84m to K803.4m in 2023, however, 35% high on 2021 export earnings, attributable to the favourable world market prices that improved from mid- 2020 onwards.

“Apart from targets set by the government of the day, we all have one objective and that is to economically empower our farmers and improve their living standards.”

Coffee is currently grown in 18 of the 22 provinces. The key provinces are Eastern Highlands Province (41%), Western Highlands (21%), Jiwaka (18%), Morobe (12%), Simbu (6%) and Enga (1%), which account for 99% of the national crop. While the mentioned provinces are credited with being the main producers, there is potential to develop coffee in these new growth areas which include; Southern Highlands, Hela, East Sepik, Madang, Oro, Central, East New Britain, New Ireland and Autonomous Region of Bougainville.



CEO Mr. Charles Dambui

CIC and Enveritas sign agreement on EU deforestation Act

The Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC), JDE Peet's and Enveritas have entered into an agreement to implement a scheme that will enable Enveritas to verify that the coffee industry in Papua New Guinea (PNG) does



L-R: CICL CEO Charles Dambui, CEO of Enveritas David Browning and Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae after the signing at Hilton Hotel in Port Moresby on Friday, February 2, 2024.

not export coffee grown on land deforested after the year 2020, as required by the new European Union Regulation on Deforestation (EUDR).

Enveritas CEO David Browning said this regulation, which impacts this year's coffee harvests in PNG, is designed to ensure that European citizens are not contributing to deforestation and biodiversity loss through the products that they buy and consume. "As a result of signing this agreement and taking action to remove the limited amount of coffee which infringes the regulation, Papua New Guinea will be the first coffee producing nation in the world to have its entire coffee lands assessed as being deforestation-free using Enveritas' territorial approach," Browning said.

Browning explained that Enveritas' territorial approach involves a technologically sophisticated process to monitor all of PNG's coffee lands through a combination of high resolution satellite imagery and teams on the ground. A protocol developed by CIC will ensure that any coffee which is found to be in contravention of the new regulation is removed from the supply chain. CIC will further amend the Coffee Industry Regulations in order to ensure that going forward, no coffee is grown on land that is deforested, as required by the EU.

CIC CEO Charles Dambui said the EU is an important market for PNG coffee producers as 60 percent of total exports go to the EU market.

He said to comply with the EU Deforestation Act that our coffee is grown on land that is not deforested, they have engaged Enveritas to map out all our coffee grown in PNG to ensure we have not cultivated coffee on deforested land. "If everything works out well, we might be the first in the world to be declared as a country that does not grow coffee on deforested land," Dambui said.

CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae, added that this approach is simply to ensure that forests and wildlife habitats are preserved for future generations.

He said a workshop is being planned to be hosted in Goroka to meet all the exporters so that their questions and concerns could be heard and to briefly understand how Enveritas has built the system and how it intends to carry out this task for the PNG coffee industry.

Enveritas is a non-profit organization that works worldwide to support the livelihoods of small holder coffee farmers through encouraging the responsible sourcing of coffee, and JDE Peets is the largest coffee roaster in the European Union, serving millions of consumers annually.

Coffee Minister pledges to work with all industry stakeholders

Coffee Minister William Bando has pledged to engage more fully and work closely with all players in the coffee industry. Bando said this during the recent hand-over, take-over ceremony with former coffee minister Joe Kuli in Port Moresby on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024.

Mr Bando said under his leadership, he will ensure that government funds and interventions effectively reach farmers, processors and small businesses at the grassroots level.

“We will prioritize monitoring and distribution of these resources through MOAs and MOUs with the various partners that we will work with. He said that with the support of all stakeholders and in alignment with the government’s broader development agenda, he is committed to ensuring its vision for a thriving and sustainable coffee industry.

“I extend my deepest gratitude to the outgoing Minister Joe Kuli for his exemplary leadership and dedicated service in the last 17 months. Coffee was our past and it will be our future. Today marks a significant milestone in the nation’s coffee industry and I am honoured to take on the job as the second minister for this ministry entrusted with a lot of responsibilities and expectations that can only be met if all of us work together.”



Former Coffee Minister and current Correctional Service Minister Joe Kuli and newly appointed Coffee Minister William Bando during the hand-over, take-over ceremony in Port Moresby on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024.

Freight program commended

The Coffee Freight Surety Scheme (FSS) Program of the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) has been commended on its objectives to serve farmers in very remote areas of PNG.

Deputy Chief of Staff from the Prime Minister’s office, Dr Alphonse Hayabe said this when paying a courtesy visit to the CIC headquarters in Goroka last Wednesday.

Dr. Hayabe said he was pleased to learn from this visit that impact projects such as FSS was touching the lives of our people living in the most remote parts of the country.

CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae said the program is a flagship program of CIC, and has been in operation for almost 25 years, and remains a people-level impact project to date.

He further highlighted that in 2023, a total volume of 2,768 tons of parchment were freighted in from remote areas, which generated K13,838,970 that went straight to the farmers pockets. “The volume freighted is equivalent to 2,216 tons of green bean (GB) or 36,991 GB bags. The freighted coffee contributed only 5% of the total exports, but there is a huge potential to increase the volume of quality coffee freighted in from the remote locations,” he said.

Tumae added that an estimated average of 2,928,000 kg (2,928 tons) of parchment coffees are yet to be air freighted from the operational 67 airstrips. He said most of these coffees have not been freighted.

“Almost all airstrips are poorly maintained and planes often do difficult landing. Out of the 67 coffee growing airstrips, only 28 airstrips are operational while 39 are closed for operation,” Tumae said.

He acknowledged the existing third level airlines and shipping agencies who have been assisting over the years to move coffees out from these very remote areas.



L: CIC team with the visiting team from the Prime Minister's office at the CIC headquarters in Goroka. R: Farmers from a remote airstrip loading their coffee bags onto a CIC chartered flight under the Freight Program.

International Women's Day observed

In celebrating and commemorating the International Women's Day on Friday, March 8th, 2024, the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) in partnership with APEP (Australia-PNG Economic Partnership) and PHAMA Plus Program (Pacific Horticultural & market Access Plus) hosted a luncheon meeting in Goroka for women in the coffee industry.

With the theme, "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress, the event was held at the Bird of Paradise Hotel in Goroka which saw more than 50 women attend and observe the day's celebration.

Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae congratulated all women present and thanked them for their commitment and hard work in their respective capacities performed in the coffee industry.

PACD (PNG Agriculture Commercialization & Diversification) Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka apologized on behalf all male folks to females who have been abused at home, and at the workplaces. "You have been overlooked, undermined for your contribution to livelihood. Many times we make think we know it all and can do things ourselves but we cannot do things and be successful without you ladies. May this day be a reminder to us males to treat you as equal partners in growing up our homes, and at workplace treat and value you as equal partners," Hombunaka said.

Representing the women folk, CIC's senior socio-economist Matilda Hamago encouraged women to to be strong and resilient in their respective duties. She said women are capable of doing things equal to men. "We should see development in a bigger picture as all men and women contribute equally to development and betterment of our society. Gender equality



Women in coffee celebrate the 2024 IWD in Goroka.

remains the greatest human rights challenge. Therefore, as we commemorate the day, we should reflect on the many challenges we face as women in different roles we play and the decisions we make towards contributing not only to the agriculture sector, but also to the development aspects towards building our families, communities and the nation as a whole."



Left: Women coffee farmers of Unggai-Bena District in Eastern Highlands sharing their experiences. Right: CIC staff presenting gifts to the PHAMA Plus team.

Coffee helping students

Under the Unggai Bena MP, Hon. Kinoka Hotune's tertiary school fee assistance program, students are



required to plant 500 coffee seedlings in order to receive assistance towards their tuition fees. This is a big relief for many parents in the district and they are grateful for this initiative by their local Member.

Pictured is 21 year-old Douglas Gorosahu from Jahaku village in Yabiufa, Unggai-Bena District of Eastern Highlands Province.

Douglas is currently a second year student studying Biomedical Engineering at the University of Technology in Lae, Morobe Province.

While most tertiary students were on holidays during last year's Christmas break, Douglas with the help of his uncles transported 570 coffee seedlings to the village to plant at Wasaro village.

COFFEE PARCHMENT STANDARDS

| | COLOR | SILVER SKIN | GREEN BEAN | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| C L A S S 1 "PREMIUM" |  <p>A VERY PALE & EVEN COLOR</p> |  <p>A CLEAN & TRANSLUCENT SILVER SKIN EASILY REMOVED</p> |  <p>CLEAR JADE TO OLIVE COLORED GREEN BEAN</p> | UP TO 12 DEFECTS PER 100 GRAMS NO FOREIGN MATTER ✓ |
| C L A S S 2 "GOOD" |  <p>AN EVEN COLOR</p> |  <p>A CLEAN & TRANSLUCENT SILVER SKIN EASILY REMOVED</p> |  <p>CLEAR JADE TO OLIVE COLORED GREEN BEAN</p> | UP TO 35 DEFECTS PER 100 GRAMS NO FOREIGN MATTER ✓ |
| C L A S S 3 "FAQ" |  <p>AN EVEN & MIXED COLOR</p> |  <p>A DIRTY & DISCOLORED SILVER SKIN HARD TO REMOVE</p> |  <p>YELLOW / GREEN & BROWNISH GREEN BEAN</p> | UP TO 70 DEFECTS PER 100 GRAMS SUBSTANTIALLY FREE FROM FOREIGN MATTER ✓ |
| C L A S S 4 "REJECT" |  <p>DISCOLORED & DIRTY</p> |  <p>VERY DIRTY & DISCOLORED SILVER SKIN HARD TO REMOVE</p> |  <p>VERY UNEVEN COLORED GREEN BEAN</p> | NO MORE THAN 70 DEFECTS PER 100 GRAMS SOME FOREIGN MATTER PRESENT ✗ |

TAMBU

MOISTURE:

Factories can adjust the price according to the estimated moisture content using the standard teeth and rubbing method.

% MOISTURE

Machine 9 - 11% Very hard, No teeth marks.
 Number 1. 11 - 15% Hard black. Only slight teeth marks.
 Number 2. 15 - 20% Medium black. Easy to put teeth mark.

DEFECTS: DEFINITION

- Coffee parchment which are not normal in physical appearance.
- Beans damaged by nature, by insects or during processing.
- All defects carry same weight equivalent to 1 defect.

Defects include:

- Pods - Nipped beans - Cherry skin or pulp - Husk

FOREIGN MATTER

Substances or materials in the coffee batch other than that derived from coffee cherry. E.g. stones, sticks sand etc.

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