



PRESS RELEASE FOR THE FAIRTRADE COFFEE QUALITY CONTEST IN RWANDA 2020/21 CROP SEASON

Fairtrade Africa in collaboration with Rwanda Fairtrade coffee product network carried out the first Fairtrade coffee quality contest in Kigali, Rwanda from September 15 - 17, 2021. The contest was carried out with the brand name “Kombe la Dhahabu”; a direct translation of ‘Golden Cup’ in the Swahili language. Kombe la Dhahabu takes a country edition format where it is carried out in main coffee origin countries in Eastern and Central Africa, one month after their main coffee harvest season. The event is managed by an Organizing Committee which constitutes of a representative of the Country Coffee Producers Product Networks and members of the Fairtrade Africa coffee team.

The main objective of the contest is to contribute to the promotion of Fairtrade coffees nationally and internationally, fostering the expansion of markets for the product, and; encourage value addition and income distribution through the production and commercialization of quality coffees, derived from sustainable production processes.

In the Rwanda Fairtrade coffee quality contest, 18 certified coffee cooperatives participated with 28 specialty coffee sample lots from Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The contest category was a full container with the following sample specifications: Arabica both washed and sundried/natural, minimum humidity of 9.5 and a maximum of 12, and screen size 14 and above.

TOP 3 WINNER LOTS

Rank	FLOID	Producer Name	Variety	Sub Variety	Process Type	Category	Organic	Ave. Cup score	Taste Note
1	32238	Abateraninkunga ba Sholi Lot -1	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Yes	92.00	Fruity, Juicy, Spicy, Smooth, Sweet
2	32238	Abateraninkunga ba Sholi Lot -2	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Not	91.00	Very smooth, Rose, Fruity, Dark chocolate, Honey
3	41649	COCANKO	Arabica	Bourbon	Natural	Full Container	Not	89.83	Sweet, Lemmon, Apricot, Vanilla

ADDITIONAL TOP 11 WINNER LOTS

Rank	FLOID	Producer Name	Variety	Sub-Variety	Process Type	Category	Organic	Ave. Cup score	Taste Note
4	31596	COOCAMU	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Not	89.50	Smooth, sweet, Apricot, Toffy, good acidity
5	41649	COCANKO	Arabica	Bourbon	Honey	Full Container	Not	88.83	Caramel, Honey, Fruity, Milk chocolate
6	42933	Terimberekawa ya musasa 21/382	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Not	88.17	Clean, Caramel, Apricot, Malic acidity, chocolate,
7	3193	Dukundekawa	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Yes	88.17	Orange, Apricot, Chocolate, Clean, Fruity
8	39673	Bwishaza	Arabica	Bourbon	Natural	Full Container	Not	88.17	Banana, Toffy, Orange, Juicy
9	3194	COCAGI Lot 1	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Not	88.00	Sweet, Clean, Fruity, Citrus
10	5490	MISOZI KOPAKAMA	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Yes	87.67	Sweet, Lemon, Vanilla, Malic Acidity, Berry Flavor
11	5490	MISOZI Abakundakawa	Arabica	Bourbon	Fully Washed	Full Container	Yes	85.83	Dry, good acidity

The coffees will be available for a total of 30 days, following the announcement of the winning lots. Negotiations should take place directly between producer organizations and interested buyers.

The samples will be available as of October 05, 2021, and can be requested up until September 30th, 2021. Following this, all coffee samples will be sent via postal mail. For more information, or to receive samples, please contact your National Fairtrade Organization (NFO) or send an email to the Regional Programme Manager – Coffee & Tea at Fairtrade Africa, Getahun Gebrekidan: g.gebrekidan@fairtradeafrica.net.

Detailed sample information, producer profile, and producer organization contact will be shared with all samples.

PRODUCERS TESTIMONY 1



Figure 1 Nshimiye Aimable – Managing director of Abateraninkunga ba Sholi

“I am happy that we won this year's contest and it is the price for our investment in quality. Cooperatives need to invest in capacity building in order to be able to consistently produce coffees with a clean cup, and that they can apply a simple quality assurance system and good processing practices ”

PRODUCERS TESTIMONY 2



Figure 2 Kagenza Antoine Abakundakawa Managing Director

“I am happy that our coffee is among the top eleven specialty lots. We will give focus for quality and will win the coming year contest”

PRODUCERS TESTIMONY 3



Figure 3 Josphet COCAGI Managing Director

“It is encouraging that our coffee ranked top ten, we will work on quality initiatives intensively.”



ABOUT FAIRTRADE AFRICA (FTA) WWW.FAIRTRADEAFRICA.NET

Fairtrade Africa (FTA) is an independent, non-profit, multi-stakeholder member-based organization with the goal of alleviating poverty through the application of fair-trading specifications and certification based on the Fairtrade Standards. Representing over 1 million farmers and workers across 33 countries in Africa and the Middle East. Aligned to the Fairtrade Global Strategy 2021 - 2025, Fairtrade Africa's strategic plan promises to invest in transformation and resilience to impact farmers' and workers' livelihoods. This promise is anchored in four mutually inclusive strategic pillars namely: Product and Market Development, Policy & Advocacy, Sustainable Farming Systems, and Transformed & Strengthened Producer Organizations.



ABOUT FAIRTRADE INTERNATIONAL (FI) WWW.FAIRTRADE.NET

Fairtrade International is a non-profit, multi-stakeholder association of 22 member organizations – three producer networks and 19 national Fairtrade organizations. Fairtrade's approach enables farmers and workers to have more control over their lives and decide how to invest in their future. As a leader in the global movement to make trade fair, Fairtrade supports and challenges businesses and governments, and connects farmers and workers with the people who buy their products. Fairtrade is a movement that seeks commercial relationships based on dialogue, transparency, and respect.

THE JUDGES PROFILE

JUDGE 1: ARSENE MUSTAFALI



- Nationality - Rwandese
- Q-Grader
- Has more than 16 years cupping experience
- Q-grader quality controller in Starbucks Rwanda East Africa Office

JUDGE 2: LAETITIA MUKANDAIHIRO



- Nationality - Rwandese
- Q-Grader
- Has more than 18 years cupping experience
- Coffee quality consultant, trader and co-founder of Ikawa House

JUDGE 3: HABIMANA UZZIEL



- Nationality - Rwandese
- Q-Grader
- Has more than 18 years cupping experience
- Coffee quality consultant, trader and co-founder of Ikawa House

PARTICIPANTS GROUP PHOTO – FAIRTRDE COFFEE QUALITY CONTEST – RWANDA EDITION 2021

