April 7th, 2025

Dear Buyers of Brazilian Coffee,

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our greetings and bring to your attention the difficulties Brazilian coffee exporters have been facing in dispatching documents and shipping samples, due to a strike by customs officials of the BRAZILIAN FEDERAL REVENUE SERVICE.

The strike, known as Operação Padrão (“Standard Operation”), began in late 2024 and has now lasted for over 100 days. It is causing major delays in the release of shipping documents and the shipment of coffee samples abroad, creating unnecessary disruptions and tensions in the commercial relationships between exporters and importers.

In addition to the logistical barriers and the customs strike, we have recently been informed of an increase in red and yellow channel inspections — customs clearance procedures used in Brazil’s foreign trade system to classify cargo risk — which are imposing further obstacles to foreign trade, as they require physical inspections of shipments and documentation.

As a result, due to the customs officials’ strike, the processes of distribution, inspection, and cargo clearance are taking significantly longer than usual.

Cecafé has been actively working through the Instituto Pensar Agro (IPA) and the Parliamentary Agricultural Front (FPA), a congressional group representing Brazil’s agribusiness sector, together with other Brazilian agribusiness associations, in an effort to find a prompt solution. However, progress has been slow, bureaucratic, and there is still no projected timeline for resolution.

Nevertheless, we would like to reaffirm our commitment to buyers of Brazilian coffee, emphasizing that exporters and their logistics teams continue to make every effort to consolidate their shipments and serve our clients.

We thank you in advance for your understanding, and Cecafé remains at your disposal for any further information or clarification.

Kind regards,

**Marcos Antonio Matos**
CEO

**Eduardo Heron Santos**
Technical Director