



## Fair Trade Position Statement

The SCAA's mission is to be the recognized authority of specialty coffee, providing a common forum for the development and promotion of coffee excellence and sustainability. We do this through our commitment to quality; spirit of cooperation; dedication to continuing education for our members; sensitivity to the environment; consciousness of social issues; encouragement of sound business practices and ethics; and promotion of the value of specialty coffee to consumers.

The SCAA recognizes the Fair Trade business model as being consistent with our mission and how we accomplish it. We endorse the Fair Trade model as one effective way to:

- *Improve the lives of the coffee producers on whom we rely for our own livelihoods*
- *Encourage a consistent, long-term supply of the high quality Arabica coffees on which our industry depends*
- *Create environmentally and socially sustainable prosperity in the developing world*

Fair Trade Certification has proven to be a valuable tool in providing integrity and transparency to coffee commerce and in building consumer demand for Fair Trade coffee. The SCAA formed a Fair Trade Task Force in 2000 to serve SCAA members in understanding Fair Trade issues and opportunities. In 2001, the SCAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with TransFair USA, a non-profit organization, which affirms our mutual goals and identifies areas of collaboration in our common effort to improve the livelihood of coffee farmers.

SCAA also recognizes that there are other ways for members to promote the concepts of equitable trade, sustainability and transparency. We encourage all members to source their coffees in ways that support these ideals.

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