

THE FEDERATION OF COMMODITY ASSOCIATIONS

(Founded in 1943)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I/We

Name:

Address:

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Country:

Tel No: Fax No: E-mail:

Hereby apply to become a Member of the Federation of Commodity Associations and if elected I/we agree to conform to the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

Signature:

Date:

Name of Officers, Chief Executive

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Category of Membership : Full Member – trade/commodity association
: Associate Member

I/we wish to have our membership registered in the following category:

Date Company Registered:

VAT Registration No. (EC Member countries only):

For Official use only

Date Elected:

FCA, 9 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP
Telephone: 020 7814 9666 Fax: 020 7814 8383

The Federation of Commodity Associations (“FCA”) was formed in 1943. The FCA established and continues to provide a forum for dialogue and exchange of ideas and experiences between UK based international commodity associations as ‘a not for profit’ organisation.

Despite all the changes in the commodity markets over the years and particularly those experienced in more recent times, the UK and indeed world markets can be proud of the services to the international commodity sector that the FCA associations continue to deliver in a uniquely independent and transparent manner.

The foundation of the services to members provided by the FCA associations is the commodity contracts, arbitration services and English law upon which markets prefer to rely for international business but today they are challenged on an array of new issues.

Some of these issues represent evolving trends in well trodden commercial matters such as insurance, shipping, superintending, container transport, fumigation. However, we are now increasingly engaged in new areas of activity and which is often driven by the EC and the EU, Examples of these evolving areas of interest are: corporate social responsibility and ethical issues, sustainability, human rights, competition law compliance, health and safety and food safety regulation which will increasingly make demands upon the FCA members in very different ways and in this respect and through the FCA it is intended that we endeavour to ensure that we all derive a real benefit from combined association strengths and, drawing upon the words of the FCA constitution, **“act together in a common cause”**.

The membership of FCA today is the British Coffee Association, the Federation of Cocoa Commerce, the Grain and Feed Trade Association, the International Cotton Association, the Refined Sugar Association and the Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Association.

An open meeting of UK commodity associations was arranged by the International General Produce Association in April 2008 in relation to **“Prospects for contracts and arbitrations in the containerised trade of commodities”**.

It was clear from this meeting that here in the UK not only do we have a wide diversity in the range of services to members but also the

capacity of some of the smaller organisations to deliver services to their members may benefit from collaboration with the larger associations. The following is a list of just some of the areas where the FCA Council considers that there is scope for further interaction between associations:

Strategic and Key and Evolving Issues:

- Trade Barriers, Distortion and Over Regulation
- Sustainability of markets and their links with Sustainable Development and other Global development issues
- Fuel v food debate
- Food labelling
- Pesticide Residues
- Contamination
- Nutritional claims
- Natural resources and conflict
- Corporate social responsibility and ethical issues, Human Rights, Health & Safety, Corporate Manslaughter legislation, Insurance, Companies Act 2006 and directors' duties
- Competition law compliance
- Transportation and logistics

Traditional Association Issues:

- Common contract issues
- Insurance including cargo clauses
- Sampling procedures, supervision and analysis
- Quality assurance systems
- Commercial Court Issues
- Training, accreditation, qualifications, loss of knowledge and expertise in our markets
- Problem solving – exchange of experiences and legal advice common to all, e.g. for arbitration award enforcement, sanctity of contracts and Competition Act
- Sharing expertise on common issues, e.g. dinners, conferences, contracts, arbitration
- Membership processes, election procedures and appeals.

Accordingly we now invite all UK based international commodity associations to join the Federation. Membership of the FCA will entitle each member association to have one representative on the FCA Council. The Rules of the FCA can be found on our website <http://www.fcassoc.co.uk/>

We are fully aware of the need to take into account the time constraints which the association secretariats are under and accordingly a timetable of meetings for the year will be agreed. We propose to have Council meetings in June and December and a seminar at least once a year on legal/contractual issues of relevance to all of the commodity associations.

We would welcome your views on the above outline of what we think will be of common interest and beneficial to all of us. The membership fee is a nominal £100 pa.