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International Coffee Organization Talks Break Down

by John Neagle

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On June 13, at talks in London coffee producer and consumer nations members of the International Coffee Organization failed to agree on new export quotas. As a result, prices dropped from 1,187 pounds sterling per ton on June 12 to 1,086 pounds the next day. ICO spokespersons said a new round of talks was scheduled to begin in London on July 3. The major difference is reportedly between the US and Brazil. The US demands larger export quotas for Arabica grades of coffee. Brazil, the world's largest coffee exporter, rejects the US demand, fearing that an increase in Arabica grade quotas would be implemented at its expense. (Basic data from DPA, 06/13/89)

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