

CFA FAIR TRADE COFFEE AND TEA RESOLUTION

Adopted by the CFA Assembly April 22, 2007

WHEREAS, coffee and tea—like many commodities grown mostly in the Global South—originate from either large plantations traditionally run by wealthy landowners who often prohibit workers from unionizing, or small-scale operations owned by impoverished farmers operated at the mercy of large corporations;

WHEREAS, the world market price for coffee and tea currently is far less than the cost of production and small farmers receive only half the market price due to exploitative middle men;

WHEREAS, the Fair Trade Certified system uses independent monitoring and direct long-term contracts to correct these injustices by ensuring that participants pay farm workers a living wage; prohibit child labor; and protect workers rights to organize unions;

WHEREAS, the Fair Trade Certified system uses independent monitoring and direct long-term contracts to provide small farmers with access to credit, technical assistance, and fair prices; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association will purchase and serve only Fair Trade Certified coffee and tea when such products are available; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association communicate this resolution to all its Chapters, urging them to do the same; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association notify all hotels where it regularly holds meetings its preference for Fair Trade Certified coffee and tea.