1. **End of Transition Rules communicated in the framework of introducing the new System Regulations**

The transition rule for the implementation of the new 4C System requirements, as laid down in the 4C System documents v.4.0 and communicated via the 4C System Update 6 on 1st of July 2020 and 4C System Update 7 on the 5th of August 2020, no longer apply.

This means that all 4C System requirements as laid down in the 4C Code of Conduct v.4.0, the 4C System Regulations v.4.0 and the 4C Certification Body Regulations v.4.0 do fully apply. In particular we would like to highlight here that

- for audits with the starting day taking place from 1st of July 2021 onwards, non-conformities to any major check-point are no longer accepted. These must be eliminated in order for the Certification Body to come to a positive certification decision and issue the 4C certificate.
- 4C Units, that have not yet undergone a certification audit using the 4C audit checklist v.4.0, are still allowed to conduct their recertification audit according to compliance level 1.

2. **Sample calculation of BP Service Providers**

For the calculation of the sample size of BP Service Providers, all facilities need to be taken into consideration. This means that the total number of BP Service Providers should not be counted based only on national Identification Numbers, but also based on location. All facilities where 4C coffee is handled or processed must be included in the Business Partner Map (BPM), whether these facilities are owned or outsourced by any business partner listed in the BPM or by the management entity itself.
Example: One company has ten facilities with one same national Identification Number and at ten different locations, which should be included in the BPM in ten different lines. The total number for the sample calculation in this case would be ten and not just one. This applies in addition to the sampling rules as laid down in the 4C System Regulations v.4.0 chapter 7.

3. Clarification: Geographical scope not required for Chain of Custody (CoC) certification

Certification Bodies (CBs) cooperating with 4C that have participated in a 4C training on Chain of Custody (CoC) certification are allowed to conduct 4C CoC certification audits anywhere, irrespective of the geographical scope they have been approved for by 4C. Information on which CBs are approved by 4C to conduct 4C CoC audits can be found on the 4C website here.

IMPORTANT: This only applies for 4C CoC certification. For 4C Unit certification, the respective geographical scope approved by 4C must be adhered to.

4. Replacement of Terms of Use for Intermediary Buyers (ToU IBs) through the Terms of Use for Intermediary Buyers and Buyers of Processed Coffee (ToU IBs and BPCs)

The Terms of Use for Intermediary Buyers (ToU IBs) has been replaced by the Terms of Use for Intermediary Buyers and Buyers of Processed Coffee (ToU IBs and BPCs).

A BPC is a company that handles processed coffee (e.g. purchases, sells, repackages, and/or re-processes processed coffee). Processed coffee refers to any product that is produced out of green coffee beans (e.g. roasted, roast & ground, soluble, caffeine free, caffeine or products containing caffeine (drinks, energy bars, etc.)). BPCs that would like to handle coffee as 4C certified are required to register in the 4C portal and to accept the ToU IBs and BPCs, just as the IBs.

Please note that the only adjustment done in the ToU is the inclusion of requirements for Buyers of Processed Coffee (BPCs). Content-wise, nothing has changed for Intermediary Buyers (IBs). The new ToU IBs and BPCs can be found on the 4C website here and are required to be accepted by IBs and BPCs once registering with 4C on the 4C portal.