



## In the limelight

### Workshop on Business Facilitation Tools for SMEs, 29 March 2016

The MCCI is organising a half-day workshop on 'Business Facilitation Tools for SMEs' on Tuesday 29 March 2016 at Le Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Caudan, Port-Louis.

The workshop aims to apprise SMEs on the various business facilitation tools available in Mauritius to improve the business and trade environment.

The presentations will cover, inter alia, the Trade Obstacles Alert Mechanism as well as the support services being provided by SMEDA under MyBiz and by MCCI through the SME Marketplace.

REGISTER ONLINE: <http://www.mcci.org/en/media-news-events/events/toam/>

## Local News

### 26th MCCI Annual Dinner, Friday 25 March 2016

The 26th Annual Dinner of the MCCI will be held on Friday 25 March 2016 at L'Aventure du Sucre, Beau Plan, Pamplemousses, as from 18hrs30.

On this occasion, our Guest Speaker, Mrs. Michaëlle Jean, Secretary-General of the International Organisation of La Francophonie will address the audience on the following theme: "La mise en œuvre de la Stratégie Économique de La Francophonie dans le contexte actuel".

### Preparation of the Budget Memorandum 2016-17

As part of pre-budgetary consultations with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the MCCI is currently engaged in the preparation of a Budget Memorandum. In this context, the MCCI is seeking the views and proposals of members on key measures for the economic development of the country.

The MCCI will consider members' suggestions within the broader framework of promoting a more business friendly environment.

Recommendations are to be sent before 31 March 2016 to Mrs. [Christiane Charlot](#).

### MCCI Annual General Meeting, Thursday 31 March 2016

The 167th Annual General Meeting of the MCCI will be held on Thursday 31 March 2016 at Le Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Caudan, Port-Louis. The president of the MCCI, Mrs. Hélène Echevin, will make a presentation of the state of the economy on this occasion.

### Tax seminar entitled "Is Mauritius ready for BEPS?", 7 April 2016

Lex Communications and Juristconsult Chambers in collaboration with an Indian law firm Nishith Desai Associates are organising a Tax seminar entitled "Is Mauritius ready for BEPS (Base Erosion and Profit Shifting)?"

The half-day workshop will be held on 7th April 2016, at Le Sirius, Le Labourdonnais Hotel,

Caudan, Port-Louis.  
Deadline for registration: 1st April 2016  
For more information: Tel: (+230) 2085526, email: [news@juristconsult.com](mailto:news@juristconsult.com)

## Economy: IMF predicts growth to reach 4.0 percent by 2020



Following its annual bilateral discussions with Mauritius, the IMF Executive Board submitted a summary of its views on the country's economic performance to the Mauritian authorities.

It is estimated that growth in the economy will increase to 3.8 percent in 2016, and reach 4.0 percent in 2020. It is expected that inflation will gradually pick up from a historic low of 1.3 percent to reach 2.6 percent in 2020. The IMF forecasts a constant rise in both public and private investment rates, with Gross Domestic Investment reaching 28.4 percent of GDP by 2020.

In their statement, the Executive Directors of the IMF commended the country's efforts to maintain a stable macroeconomic environment and foster a more diversified economy. They nonetheless noted the macro-financial risks from a potential slowdown in offshore activities and vulnerabilities in the banking sector. They encouraged the authorities to continue to strengthen macroeconomic and financial sector resilience and to pursue structural reforms to raise productivity and growth.

The IMF further welcomed the authorities' commitment to raise growth and competitiveness by addressing infrastructure bottlenecks and skills mismatch, reducing the cost of doing business, and facilitating further diversification of the economy.

The full statement from the IMF Board of Directors can be accessed at [http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2016/pr16116.htm#P31\\_2847](http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2016/pr16116.htm#P31_2847).

## International News

### GS1: Global GS1 Healthcare Conference 2016



The Global GS1 Healthcare Conference will be held on 18-20 April 2016 in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. Held twice per annum, it is a key event for sharing information to the GS1 Healthcare community.

Participants attending the three-day conference will hear about GS1 Standards implementation in hospitals and the benefits global standards bring to providers and patients. They will learn how the traceability of products across the health supply chain eliminates counterfeit medicines, increases patient safety and complies with regulations. They will get the opportunity to learn about the latest status on UDI around the world and on other initiatives regarding track and trace for medical devices.

To register, please visit <http://healthcare-event.gs1.org/>.

### Africa is open for business: The African Development Bank calls on African private sector

Africa's private sector will continue to lead the continent towards economic transformation, African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina said Monday at the launch of the fourth [Africa CEO Forum](#) in Abidjan, on 21st March 2016.

Addressing some 500 CEOs from 43 African countries and 20 more worldwide, he said, "The 'Africa rising' story remains strong. Yes, African economies face economic headwinds from the significant decline in the price of commodities ... but African economies remain resilient. While the global economy is projected ... to grow at 3% this year, Africa is projected to grow at 4.4% in 2016, and to accelerate ... to 5% in 2017".

He set out a clear vision of the work that governments must do to allow the private sector to

reach its maximum potential: ensuring macroeconomic stabilization and fiscal consolidation, broadening the tax base, and deepening domestic capital markets. In addition, he said, governments need to continue to address infrastructure deficits, break down barriers to regional integration, and fast-track key reforms.

Source: <http://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/article/africa-ceo-forum-2016-15217/>.

## Business Opportunities

### Trade and Investment

#### Egypt

- Company producing all types of tyres is looking for a local partner who would consider setting up industry in Mauritius

**Contact:** Mr. Ihab Ashmawy, Export General Manager, **email:** [general@trenco-tire.com.eg](mailto:general@trenco-tire.com.eg)

- Company looking for Mauritian partner to make exports of high manufacturing extender lines for pipes and using Mauritius as a hub to supply SADC region.

**Contact:** Mr. Sameh Hammad, Export Manager, **email:** [info@egic.com.eg](mailto:info@egic.com.eg)

- Company looking for importers in pharmaceutical products.

**Contact:** [info@octoberpharma.com](mailto:info@octoberpharma.com)

- Company looking for local partners interested in home care products, as well as personal care and car care.

**Contact:** Mr. Awmy Ahmed Ghazy, **email:** [export@abcgrp.com](mailto:export@abcgrp.com)

### Trade Fairs

#### South Africa

Southern African International Trade Exhibition for Retail Products (SAITEX)

**Date:** 19 – 21 June 2016, Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg

**More info:** <http://10times.com/saitex>

#### India

Global Exhibition on Services

**Date:** 20 – 23 April 2016, India Expo Centre and Mart, New Delhi

**More info:** [www.gesdelhi.in](http://www.gesdelhi.in)

### Tenders from UN DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS

#### **Publishing and Supply of Textbooks for Mozambique**

The Ministry of Education and Human Development (MINEDH) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Education for all - Fast Track Initiative Catalytic Trust Fund, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Publishing and Supply of Textbooks for Grade 3.

MINEDH now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for *Publishing and Supply of Textbooks for Grade 3 including 2 textbook titles (2 lots) and amounting to 2,132,000 textbook units to be delivered to four ports in Mozambique.*

**Deadline: 26 July 2016.**

Interested members are requested to contact Mrs. Arline Sookahet at the MCCI for more information.

More procurement notices are available at <https://www.devbusiness.com>

23 March 2016

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