



In the limelight

MCCI Economic Review 2015 released

The MCCI is pleased to announce the publication of its Economic Review for the year 2015.

The MCCI Economic Review 2015 gives an analysis of the global and local economic situations for 2015. It offers a practical assessment of the international economic context, and analyses the performance of advanced and emerging economies.

The MCCI Economic Review also gives an assessment of the major macro-economic indicators for Mauritius for 2015. In particular, the situation of investment, exports, inflation, business confidence and GDP growth amongst others are covered in several illustrations. The report includes an outlook of the global and local economy for 2016, pointing to the challenges and opportunities.

The MCCI Economic Review can be accessed [here](#).

Local News

Trade Statistics for 1st Quarter 2016

Total exports for the first quarter of 2016 summed up to Rs. 21.2 billion, representing a decrease of 5.9% compared to corresponding quarter in 2015. The fall in the value of exports of 'Ships stores and Bunkers' (-21.2%) as well as the significant decline in re-exports of 'Telecommunication equipment and accessories' (-57.7%) account for this decrease.



It is worth noting that domestic exports amounted to Rs. 13.7 billion in the first quarter of 2016, representing an increase of 5.6% from its value in the first quarter of 2015.

Compared to the corresponding quarter in 2015, exports to our main buyers declined for U.A.E (-70.3%), United Kingdom (-2.9%) and Madagascar (-1.2%) but rose for Italy (+37.8%), South Africa (+26.5%), France (+14.0%) and U.S.A (+4.4%).

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: Statistics Mauritius)

African Economic Outlook predicts a growth of 3.8 percent for Mauritius in 2016

The African Economic Outlook predicts GDP growth rates of 3.8 percent in 2016 and 4.0 percent in 2017 for Mauritius on the back of stronger domestic and external demand.

In 2015, growth in the Mauritian economy was driven by the ICT, financial and insurance sectors. These gains were partially offset by the poor performance of the construction sector, which contracted. The report argues that the Government's fiscal stance in 2015 remained expansionary, with an increase in the budget deficit to 4.4 percent of GDP.

In 2015, the Bank of Mauritius (BOM) lowered the key repo rate to 4.4 percent from 4.65

percent, taking into account the slow pace of growth and subdued inflation levels. Inflationary pressures in the domestic economy were generally low on account of subdued food prices and declining international commodity prices. Mauritius' current account deficit fell to 4.9 percent in 2015, compared with 5.9 percent in 2014, largely due to the impact of weak oil prices on merchandise imports and a booming tourist sector on services exports.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The African Economic Outlook is a joint publication of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Organisation for Economic Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Premier forum de l'Indian Ocean Network dédié à l'Économie numérique

La première édition de l'Indian Ocean Network (ION) se tiendra les 28 et 29 juin 2016 à la CCI d'Antananarivo (CCIA). L'événement est organisé par la CCI d'Antananarivo sous l'égide de l'Union des Chambres de Commerce et d'Industrie de l'océan Indien (UCCIOI) en collaboration avec la Commission de l'océan Indien et l'Union Européenne.

Durant ces deux jours de l'ION, l'UCCIOI entend valoriser le savoir-faire des opérateurs de la région en matière de TIC et le rôle du secteur en tant que levier de développement sous-jacents aux autres secteurs d'activité en termes de développement et d'emplois.

Le 1st ION sera rythmé par des conférences, des ateliers thématiques et des rencontres B2B.

Le programme ainsi que le formulaire d'inscription sont disponibles [ici](#).

MCCI Afternoon Coffee: The economic impact of Cybercrime and the need for an innovative insurance policy for internet banking discussed

A presentation on the different types of threats to which businesses are exposed and the critical role that the 'middle man' can play within a company in identifying potential risks, was delivered by the Cybercrime Unit, Central CID during the last MCCI Afternoon Coffee held on 25 May 2016.



The event also involved discussions with operators from the insurance sector about the possibility of coming up with an innovative insurance policy for internet banking.

To recall, the MCCI Afternoon Coffee aims to keep operators informed of various topics of benefit to their businesses. Around 35 operators from various sectors attended the event.

Appel à Candidatures aux Entreprises « Usage Eau Chaude Solaire »

Un appel à candidatures a été lancé aux entreprises qui ont des besoins d'eau chaude d'un minimum de 2500 m3 par an, quel que soit le mode de production de cette eau chaude (Chaudière, chauffe-eau électrique, solaire thermique, récupération sur groupe froide).

L'objectif est d'aider ces entreprises mauriciennes à réduire leur facture d'énergie à travers des audits énergétiques cibles et adapté à leurs besoins. Le coût de l'audit est subventionné à 60 % par les fonds de l'Agence Française de Développement et l'Union Européenne.

Pour plus d'informations, cliquez [ici](#).

Date limite de réponse : 01 juillet 2016

International News

GS1 Standards adopted by Apparel and Fashion Industry

Today's apparel consumers expect to get the right product in the right place at the right time. This leads to high-speed product turnover and a vast number of stock-keeping units to manage.

It can be challenging to increase the speed-to-market while keeping track of items with many different attributes like type, size, colour, style and season.



GS1 Standards provide visibility of merchandise as it travels to distribution centres, stores or straight to consumers' houses. They allow companies to monitor the progress of shipments and then verify the accuracy and completeness of deliveries. They speed up inventory counts and help prevent loss of merchandise through electronic article surveillance.

To learn more on how to reduce costs, underpin supply chain and deliver exceptional efficiency in the fashion and apparel industry, discover the [GS1 Apparel Brochure](#).

New publication supporting SMEs released by the International Trade Centre

[Settling Business Disputes: Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution](#), a new publication by the ITC, provides an overview of traditional and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) options for international trade.

International business brings new opportunities, and new risks, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) venturing into unfamiliar foreign markets with different languages, cultures and legal systems. By incorporating arbitration and mediation clauses into their contracts, small firms can better protect themselves from the risks of trading across borders.

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: ITC)

Business leaders call for WTO to address pressing business issues

The Trade Dialogues event, held on 30 May 2016, brought together over 60 business leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities they face in conducting trade operations and to discuss how the WTO can help in dealing with them. The attendees were from small and large enterprises, from developed and developing countries, and from a variety of sectors. The event was held at the request of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the B20 group of leading independent business associations from G20 economies, and facilitated by the WTO.

This high-level event for the business community is the first of its kind to be held at the WTO. It is part of a series of 'Trade dialogues' that will provide a range of stakeholders with the possibility to discuss their concerns on trade-related matters.

The Director-General of the WTO, Mr. Roberto Azevêdo said that there has been a resurgence of private sector interest in the work of the organization, after two successful WTO ministerial conferences. He expressed his satisfaction by this initiative taken by ICC and B20 to facilitate dialogue between business leaders and WTO members. He also stated that it was an opportunity to hear fascinating insights on the issues that businesses face in the trading system — particularly smaller enterprises — and ideas on how those issues might be tackled.

Mr. Sunil Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti enterprises, and First Vice Chairman of the ICC, declared that the Trade Facilitation Agreement must be put into operation, ratified and implemented as soon as possible, as it has the potential to bring enormous benefits to the world economy. He also suggested that the WTO needs to develop rules and standards to make sure that the efficient growth of e-commerce is secured, since it will surely revolutionize trade flows around the world.

Read full article [here](#).

Business Opportunities

Trade and Investment

Madagascar

Malagasy company wishes to sell essential oils and other natural products, such as honey.

Contact: M. David Lamblin; email: david.lamblin@gmail.com

India

Manufacturer/exporter of laboratory, medical and surgical, pharmaceutical, industrial equipments, etc. is looking for potential importers.

Contact: Mr. Braj Bhushan – NBMS Global Trade Pvt. Ltd.; email: sales3@nbmstrade.com

Trade Fairs

South Africa

Africa Big Seven – Food & Beverage Show

Date: 19 to 20 June 2016, Midrand

More info: <http://www.africabig7.com>

Aviation Festival Africa

Date: 28 to 29 June 2016, Johannesburg

More info: <http://www.terrapinn.com/exhibition/aviation-festival-africa>

SA Automotive Week

Date: 11 to 13 October 2016, Pretoria

More info: <http://www.saaw.co.za>

Tenders

A list of international tenders compiled in connection with the **AMADE** (*Accès aux marchés publics pour le Développement Économique*) project, is available [here](#).

AMADE project is an initiative of the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)* to provide assistance to institutions in at least 20 French-speaking developing countries to enhance the capacity of local enterprises in participating in national and international public tenders/business opportunities.

8 June 2016

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