



In the limelight

Turkey-Africa Business and Economic Forum (TABEF), 2-3 November 2016, Istanbul

The Turkey-Africa Business and Economic Forum (TABEF) will be held at the Lutfi Kirdar International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Istanbul from 2 to 3 November 2016.

The Forum will be a unique platform for the high-level officials, business organizations, and other participants from Africa and Turkey to discuss about the multitude of business opportunities available in both regions.

More information on the programme and registration procedures can be obtained on the official website of [TABEF](#).

In the margin of TABEF, a Mauritius Business Forum (MBF) - jointly organized by the MCCI and the Board of Investment (BOI), in collaboration with the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (DEIK) - is scheduled to be held on the 1st of November 2016 in Istanbul.

Interested members may contact Ms. Sabina Aumeer at the MCCI, Tel: (+230) 2083301 for more information.

MCCI Updates

GS1 Mauritius® participates in the 'Potential Exporters Programme' organised by SMEDA

GS1 Mauritius participated in a workshop on 'Potential Exporters Programme' organised by Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) on 27 September 2016.

This workshop which regrouped around 100 entrepreneurs, has been organised to support local SMEs having the potential to export.



Representatives from the Mauritius Export Association, Enterprise Mauritius, Mauritius Standards Bureau as well as the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection also intervened to impart knowledge on the various kinds of exports procedures.

The presentation delivered by Miss Fazlee Dhuny focused on the importance of adopting GS1 Barcodes when exporting and dealing with freight forwarders, customs and stakeholders in the exporting countries. The benefits of adopting GS1 Barcodes versus proprietary barcodes were also explained.

Local News

GDP Growth for 2016 revised downwards to 3.7 percent

Based on latest figures on key sectors of the economy and past trends, Statistics Mauritius has revised downwards its GDP Growth rate to 3.7 percent in 2016, from a 3.9 percent predicted in June 2016.

As a reminder, the [MCCI Economic Outlook](#), published in September 2016, predicts a weakened recovery in economic growth, at 3.4 percent in 2016.

According to Statistics Mauritius, the agricultural sector is expected to recover by 4.3 percent after a contraction in 2015 caused by lower production of food crops, fish and livestock.

After a growth rate of zero percent in 2015, the manufacturing sector is expected to recover modestly by around 0.6 percent, with an expected expansion of sugar milling and refining of imported sugar. Textile manufacturing is expected to contract further by 2 percent after a drop of 2.8 percent in 2015.

The construction industry is expected to stagnate in 2016, with lower implementation of investment projects expected during the next six months. The tourism industry is expected to show a growth of 7.5 percent higher than the 6.9 percent estimated earlier, based on a revised figure of tourist arrivals of 1,250,000 instead of 1,240,000 tourists in 2016.

A full report of the National Account Estimates can be accessed [here](#).

Mauritius consolidates its position as the most competitive economy in Sub-Saharan Africa

Mauritius is Sub-Saharan Africa's most competitive economy according to the latest publication of the Global Competitiveness Index 2016 – 2017 of the World Economic Forum.

In the 2016-2017 Global Competitiveness Report published last month, the country is ranked at number 45 out of 138 countries, a step above its position last year. Mauritius continues to consolidate its lead in the Sub-Saharan region for the fourth consecutive year.

The Global Competitiveness Report assesses the competitiveness landscape, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity and gives an index on the level of competitiveness of a country.

According to the latest report, the overall quality of infrastructure has improved in Mauritius. On the macroeconomic environment level, the country benefits from a favourable fiscal situation, a high savings rate and an inflation rate which is under control. The country's credit rating has also improved from 60th position in 2015 to 57th this year.

Furthermore, Mauritius maintains its leading position in the tenth edition of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) published on 03 October 2016.

Read more [here](#).

(Source: BOI)

International News

ICC issues recommendations on new global agreement to support e-commerce for SMEs

Business recommendations on a proposed World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on e-commerce was unveiled at WTO headquarters in Geneva, as part of the on-going WTO business dialogue process launched in May this year.

The proposal echoes calls from business leaders for the WTO to play a central role in underpinning an open, reliable and secure global digital economy, and calls for the WTO to consider launching new talks on a holistic package of trade disciplines, rules and assistance to boost micro, small- and medium-sized business (MSMEs) e-commerce, with an overriding objective to promote inclusive growth.

International Chamber of Commerce's (ICC) Secretary General John Danilovich presented the proposal on behalf of the world business organization during a meeting of the ICC-led business focus group, established by the WTO to seek private sector views on new ways to strengthen the multilateral trade agenda.

The proposal from business is built around three pillars: connectivity and capacity building for e-commerce, enabling MSMEs to get goods sold online to consumers more efficiently (trade facilitation 2.0) and digital rules.

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: ICC)

GS1® Canada endorses new research into patient safety

GS1 Canada endorsed the launch of new research showcasing of how the adoption of global standards can open massive untapped potential for health system efficiency and patient safety on 3 October 2016.

The report covers two years of research, including in-depth interviews with over 50 Canadian experts, a detailed review of hospital and government records.



"At every point in the healthcare supply chain, we have the ability to use standards to improve everyone's number one priority - patient safety," says Mr. John King, Chair of GS1 Canada's Healthcare Advisory Council, and former EVP of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.

Mr. Miguel Lopera, President and CEO of GS1, further added that "where global standards have been successfully implemented in countries around the world, they have increased patient safety, enabled the management of healthcare costs and reduced the risk of error and overall inefficiencies."

Read full article [here](#).

Business Opportunities

Trade and Investment

Pakistan

Glitz Pharma, a manufacturer of pharmaceuticals in Pakistan, is looking for potential buyers and distributors of their products in Mauritius.

Contact: Dr. Awais - Export Coordinator; **Email:** export1@glitzpharma.net

Ukraine

A commodity broker specialized on the market of foodstuffs such as wheat flour, vegetable oils and sugar would like to establish cooperation with local trading companies.

Contact: Mr. Sergey Pavlyshko; **Email:** s.pavlyshko@pa-trade.com

Thailand

Low-cost machinery available for sugar growers.

Contact: Mr. Philip J. Pope; **Email:** Danchangtractors@hotmail.com

Trade Fairs

Madagascar

Origin Africa 2016 Trade Show, Forello Centre, Antananarivo

Date: 3 to 5 November 2016

More info: <http://originafrica.org/>

South Africa

The Wellness Expo 2016, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg

Date: 25 to 26 November 2016

More info: <http://www.terrapinn.com/exhibition/wellness-show/index.stm>

Tenders

Consultant for preparing safeguards instruments, Seychelles

The Government of Seychelles is seeking a consultant for preparing safeguards instruments (namely an Environmental and Social Management Framework and a Process Framework) in the context of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Program (SWIOFish).

The Republic of Seychelles is currently preparing an investment in the framework of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Program (SWIOFish). The program aims to increase the economic, social, and environmental benefits to the countries of the South West Indian Ocean from sustainable marine fisheries, and is financed primarily by the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility.

Expressions of interest should be sent before **Friday 14 October 2016**.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Arline Sookahet at the MCCI.

More tender offers can be consulted on the website of [UN Development Business](#).

7 October 2016

3, Royal Street, Port-Louis, Mauritius. Tel: (230) 208 3301 Fax: (230) 208 0076 www.mcci.org

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