



MCCI News
BRINGING BUSINESS INSIGHTS

In the limelight

MCCI appointed to serve on the WCF General Council 2017-2019



The MCCI has been appointed to serve on WCF General Council for the next two-year mandate during the WCF's General Council elections last November.

Over 1200 chamber members from more than 125 countries were called to vote and elect their twenty preferred chamber leaders to serve on the WCF General Council (2017-2019).

In this context, Mr. Raju Jadoo, Secretary General of the MCCI, has been informed by Mr. Peter Mihok, Chairman of the WCF, of his appointment to serve on WCF General Council.

The final composition of the Council sees representation from all parts of membership worldwide. It includes 10 representatives from the Americas, 10 representatives from the Africa and Middle East region, 10 Asia-Pacific representatives and 20 representatives from Europe.

The World Chambers Federation, a non-political and non-governmental body, is the backbone of the chamber community, uniting the global network of 12,000 chambers and their business communities. WCF offers a wide range of products and services to help chambers deliver the best possible service to their respective members.

The full list of WCF General Committee members can be viewed [here](#).

MCCI Updates

MCCI receives the visit of the new Ambassador of Egypt

The new ambassador of Egypt to Mauritius, HE Mrs. Aya Saad Mohamed paid a courtesy call on the Secretary-General of the MCCI, Mr. Raju Jadoo on Tuesday 13th December 2016.

The objective of the visit was to discuss about the various investment opportunities that exist between the two countries, especially through common African agreements.



Both parties shared the view that investment in the services and medical tourism sectors in Mauritius would yield to fruitful outcomes. Discussions also focused on future business networking events to be held between MCCI and the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce of in view of consolidating the relations between the business people of Mauritius and Egypt.

Legend: HE Mrs. Aya Saad Mohamed signing the visitors' book.

Harnessing Gender for Inclusive Trade

Identifying the contemporary barriers to gender sensitive trade outcomes in Africa was one of the main focus of the one-day workshop on "Harnessing Gender for Inclusive Trade" in South Africa, organized by the South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA), the Australian Government, and the Institute for International Trade Australia on 9 December 2016.



The objective of the workshop was to develop effective strategies and recommendations on how to better integrate trade policy and practice with gender equality outcomes in the future. The workshop also addressed the intersections between trade and gender including global and regional value chains, informal cross border and the textile industry), and focused on identifying challenges and finding practical solutions to these problems.

Ms. Rooma Narrainen Manager-Trade Division, at the MCCI was invited to be a panelist to share the experience of Mauritius in the transition from the textiles and clothing sector to the services sector from a gender perspective.

Local News

Introduction of the Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Regulated Machinery) Regulations

As per the Cabinet decision dated 9 December 2016, the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities will introduce the Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Regulated Machinery) Regulations to provide for mandatory labelling of domestic appliances, namely electric ovens, refrigerators and dishwashers. The label, also known as energy label, rates an appliance from dark green (most efficient) to red (least efficient) and shows the annual energy consumption of the appliance.

The regulations provide, among others, that:

- (a) the labels should be in accordance with the standards developed by the Mauritius Standards Bureau;
- (b) the dealer should submit a test report or product certificate to the Mauritius Standards Bureau for verification; and
- (c) the Energy Efficiency Management Office would issue a certificate of compliance that would be valid for a period of two years.

A copy of the regulations can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

The regulations will be effective as from 1 July 2017.

International News

OECD advocates for expansionary fiscal incentives

Expansionary fiscal initiatives and maintaining trade openness are needed to push the global economy out of today's low-growth trap, according to the OECD's latest Global Economic Outlook.

In his remarks to the launch of the Outlook, the OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría pointed out that in light of the current context of low interest rates, policymakers have a unique window of opportunity to make more active use of fiscal levers to boost growth and reduce inequality without compromising debt levels.

In its report, the OECD predicts an acceleration of growth in the United States, due to an assumed easing of fiscal policy, with the economy projected to grow by 2.3% in 2017 and 3% in 2018. The euro area is expected to grow at a 1.6% rate in 2017 and by 1.7% in 2018, whilst in Japan, growth is projected at 1% in 2017 and 0.8% in 2018. The 35-country OECD area is projected to grow by 2% in 2017 and 2.3% in 2018, according to the Outlook.

In emerging economies, with rebalancing continuing in China, growth is expected to continue drifting lower, to 6.4% in 2017 and 6.1% in 2018. India's growth rates are expected to hover above 7.5% over the 2017-18 period, but many emerging market economies will continue to grow at a more sluggish pace. The deep recession in Brazil is expected to end in 2017, after which the economy will grow at a 1.2% rate in 2018.

The Outlook draws attention to conditions that create a “window of opportunity” for new fiscal initiatives, as extraordinarily accommodative monetary policy has led to very low interest rates and created fiscal space. A targeted annual increase in public spending of ½ percent of GDP could be financed for several years in most countries without increasing the debt-to-GDP ratio in the medium term. Combining this initiative with structural reforms, and acting collectively across countries, would boost the impact, according to the Outlook.

Read full article [here](#).

ICC has been officially granted the Observer Status by the United Nations’ General Assembly

The decision-taken by 193 members of the UN General Assembly during its on-going 71st session in New York - is the first time that a business organisation has been admitted as an Observer at the UN General Assembly. The list of UN observers is highly restricted and features principally intergovernmental organisations.



The new role for ICC means that business will for the first time have direct voice in the UN system. The decision paves the way for ICC to contribute directly to the work of the General Assembly and reflects the vital role the private sector will play in implementing the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: ICC)

Business Opportunities

Trade and Investment

Hungary

Company from Budapest offers special sugar flour products for export.

Contact: Mr. Csaba Juhasz
Email: imn@t-email.hu
Website: www.intercontact.hu

Germany

M/s Prolignis, a German project developer and operator offers highly efficient biomass cogeneration plants (electricity, steam, cooling).

Contact: Ms. Silvia Berghof
Email: silvia.berghof@prolignis.de
Website: www.prolignis.de

Trade Fairs

Hong Kong

Hong Kong International Stationery Fair 2017

Date: 9 - 12 January 2017, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre
More info: http://www.chinaexhibition.com/Official_Site/11-8325-Hong_Kong_International_Stationery_Fair_2017.html

India

India International Garment Fair (IIGF) 2017

Date: 18 - 20 January 2017, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
More info: www.indiaapparelfair.com

Tenders

Integrated Growth Poles Project: Output and Performance Based Road Contracts (OPRC) for Civil Works of Roads in Tete Province, Mozambique

The Administração Nacional de Estradas (National Highway Administration) of Mozambique invites sealed bids from eligible bidders to implement the Integrated Growth Poles Project for the Output and Performance Based Road Contracts (OPRC) for Civil Works contracts in Tete Province, Mozambique.

Deadline: 2nd February 2017

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

More tender offers are available through UN Development Business [website](#).

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