



Foreword

The Winning Formula !

With a few months before the Budget speech and amidst a political cloud of uncertainty, the pace of the high level meetings between the Government and the Business community has accelerated with a degree of transparency and urgency. The frankness and openness of the exchanges with relevant stakeholders have been refreshing. New ideas and adoption of stretch targets with an uncompromising stance towards those reluctant to change can only augur well for the future. New synergies and the identification of real shakers and movers can only make us all move in one direction, which is to reverse the dwindling growth rate we have seen over the past few years.

Renewed dynamism alone will not suffice, if it is not backed up by regulatory certainty and institutional predictability. As has been made abundantly clear during the various pre-budget consultations, We know what to do, but the HOW remains to be addressed. The need to carefully assess the regulatory impact of certain proposed measures ahead of their inclusion in the budget can only help to ensure the smooth implementation of important measures, and it is very commendable that the exercise has started in earnest and also much earlier than in previous years. The joint public / private assessment and review of the key sectors of the economy has undoubtedly helped to bridge the gap of expectations and lay out a path for sustained reforms to enable us to move forward.

Raju Jadoo
Secretary General



Presentation of Larry Farrell

Mr. Larry Farrell, Founder and Chairman, of The Farrell Company, a leading research and Teaching institution in the field of entrepreneurship in the USA, delivered a lecture at the MCCI Business School on the 24 June 2014 on the following theme: "The practical and proven steps to create entrepreneurial companies and on entrepreneurial economy".

Watch Video:

- [Part 1](#)
- [Part 2](#)



MCCI to lead a business delegation to Austria

A business delegation will be led by the Secretary General of the MCCI, Mr. Raju Jadoo, to participate at the "Forum on Emerging markets with Mauritius as country focus" to be held at the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in Vienna on the 4 September 2014.

The objective of the Forum is to promote Mauritius as a business and investment destination.

Members of the business community who are interested to participate in the mission are requested to register themselves on the following link: <http://www.b2match.eu/emergingmarkets2014/pages/how-it-works>

Pakistan's Joint Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Waqar Ahmad Shah, meets with Mauritian business community at the MCCI



At a meeting held at the MCCI on 18 July 2014 between Members of the Mauritian business community and members of a high-level delegation from Pakistan, Mr. Waqar Ahmad Shah, the Joint Secretary of Commerce of Pakistan and head of delegation, expressed confidence regarding the strengthening of trade relations between the two countries.

The Pakistani delegation was in mission to Mauritius in the context of the 10th session of the Mauritius-Pakistan Joint Working Group which was held on the 16 and 17 July 2014.

Referring to the outcome of the 10th Joint Working Group, Mr. Waqar Ahmad Shah felt that trade relations between the two countries would deepen thanks to the consolidation of the Preferential Trade Agreement.

The meeting was also a good opportunity for representatives of companies trading with Pakistan to raise concerns on some problems which they encounter when exporting to Pakistan.



Mr. Salim Sulliman from Central Distributors Ltd, receiving an award from Ahmed Associations for long-standing business relations

The President of the Mauritius-Pakistan Joint Business Council, Mr. Shehzad Ahmed, who chaired the meeting, recalled that the relations between the private sector organizations of both countries had been brought to new heights since the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MCCI and the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry in 2004. He added that the relations had been further consolidated with the participation of the MCCI at the Expo Pakistan held annually in Karachi.

Mr. S. Ahmed expressed his thanks to Mr. Waqar Ahmad Shah who had announced that a booth will be put at the disposal of the MCCI in the context of the forthcoming Expo Pakistan to be held in October 2014.

Mauritius-Pakistan Joint Working Group: Establishment of implementation mechanism to enhance the effectiveness of the PTA

Mauritius and Pakistan have agreed to establish a Joint Trade Committee and a sub-committee on customs matters as implementation mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of the PTA signed between both countries in July 2007.

This was the main outcome of the 10th round of the Mauritius-Pakistan Joint Working Group held on 16 and 17 July 2014 at Hennessy Park Hotel in Ebène.

Both sides further agreed to explore ways and means to enhance the awareness of the PTA and to create more visibility of the bilateral trade and investment potential of the two countries.

Regarding the issue of Basmati Rice, it was clarified by the Pakistani side that Pakistan export of rice to all the major markets of the world including US and EU are certified by laboratories operating in the private sector. Such laboratories are accredited and approved by the government.

In addition, both sides agreed to exchange their Wish Lists of their export interest to be considered for addition to the PTA list of products which will be negotiated during the next Joint Working Group meeting scheduled to be held in September 2015 in Pakistan.

Une première à Maurice: La MCCI Business School lance la formation en alternance à partir de la rentrée universitaire 2014

La MCCI Business School propose à partir de septembre/octobre 2014, des formations en alternance à l'intention des étudiants, des employés et des entreprises. Cette formule combinant formation académique et insertion professionnelle permettra aux jeunes de mieux s'intégrer au monde du travail et décrocher en même temps un Brevet de Technicien Supérieur, diplôme d'Etat de l'enseignement supérieur français délivré par le Ministère de l'Education Nationale par le biais de l'Académie de la Réunion et reconnu internationalement. Ces formations s'adressent aux jeunes à la recherche d'une formation qui les rendent opérationnelles ainsi qu'aux professionnels déjà en activité qui désirent obtenir une qualification académique.

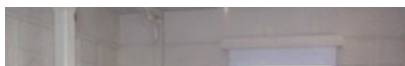
L'école propose pour la rentrée 2014 le Brevet de Technicien Supérieur en alternance dans les spécialités suivantes:

- Services Informatiques aux Organisations - Informatique
- Management des Unités Commerciales - Marketing
- Assistant de Gestion PME-PMI - Gestion
- BTS Banque

Les entreprises qui souhaitent profiter de cette nouvelle formule de formations particulièrement adaptées à leurs besoins peuvent également bénéficier de l'aide du gouvernement sous le DUAL TRAINING PROGRAMME.

Veuillez contacter la MCCI Business School sur le +230 454 8950 pour plus d'informations.

The MCCI hosts a webinar training on tariff simulation



In the context of a trade capacity building exercise, the MCCI has requested the International Trade Centre (ITC) to deliver a webinar training on their 'Tariff Reduction Simulation' software which was held on Thursday 24 July 2014 in the MCCI Conference Room.

The objective of the webinar was to train a pool of trade analysts on using the ITC Tariff Reduction Simulation module which allows the user to apply customized tariff reduction simulations and to see the effect on the initial tariff. The ITC module is especially valuable for the MCCI in assessing the possible outcomes of trade liberalisation negotiations.

The participants to the webinar included representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection, the Association of Mauritian Manufacturers and of the MCCI.



The Webinar training was hosted by the MCCI

Status of Bill of Entry through e-mail notification

Members are hereby informed that it is now possible to receive status of their validated Bill of Entry through their e-mails since 1st August 2014.

To avail of this e-mail notification facility, declarants are kindly requested to liaise with the Mauritius Network Services (Tel: 401 6800) for appropriate guidelines and updates of their Declaration's Front-End System.

The Bill of Entry's status communicated include the Query, Scanning, Examination and the status of the Delivery/Shipments Allowed

This service will be offered free of charge.

Indian Ocean Rim Association: The role of the private sector as a catalyst to economic development highlighted

The involvement of the private sector in policy reforms and business facilitation as a strategy for economic development were among the issues raised at the IORA Business and Trade Facilitation Workshop held on the 4 and 5 August 2014 at the Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebène.

The workshop, which was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade in collaboration with the IOR Secretariat, provided a platform to further emphasize the need to build complementarities of economies within the IORA Member States.

The workshop had also as objective to develop synergies to harmonise trade practices, to minimize trade barriers within the Indian Ocean region and to identify areas of cooperation.

The establishment of a platform for the dissemination of economic and trade information, the setting up of standing working groups within the IOR Business Forum so as to sensitize the private sector on regional policies prior to high-level negotiations and capacity-building were among the recommendations made.

The workshop brought together more than 30 delegates comprising captains of industry, policy makers and representatives of business and investment organizations.

Source: IORA Secretariat



La 2ème édition du 'Networking Event' de MARC a eu lieu à la MCCI

MARC réunit les juristes et les opérateurs économiques

Le MARC, centre d'arbitrage et de médiation opérant sous l'égide de la Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a tenu le jeudi 31 juillet 2014, son troisième Networking Event de l'année, avec la participation du Mauritius Bar Association.

L'invitée d'honneur de ce troisième volet de Networking Event était Me. Narghis Bundhun, en tant que représentante de la Mauritius Bar Association. A l'occasion, Me. Bundhun a fait un exposé sur la pratique des MARLS (Méthodes Alternatives de Règlement de Litiges) à Maurice, ainsi que sur les bénéfices que peut en tirer la communauté des affaires afin de mieux maîtriser leurs différends commerciaux, et sur l'importance de la formation, notamment en médiation et en arbitrage pour les professionnels du droit.

Auparavant, le "MARC Strategy and Development Commission" a tenu sa deuxième réunion. Pour rappel, le MARC Strategy and Development Commission a été créé en mars 2014 avec pour but d'améliorer l'encadrement légal et institutionnel des Méthodes Alternatives de Règlement de Litiges (MARL) à Maurice, afin que la communauté des affaires puisse régler leurs litiges commerciaux rapidement, en toute confidentialité et à moindre coût.

L'événement networking du MARC était aussi marqué par la présence de Me. Gerald Page, avocat

Decrease in the CPI in the 2nd quarter

According to latest releases from Statistics Mauritius, the Consumer Price Index, which stood at 107.7 in March 2014, registered a net decrease of 0.9 point (or -0.8%) to reach 106.8 in June 2014 following lower prices of vegetables, which were partly offset by higher prices of fruits, fish and some other food products.

The headline inflation rate for the twelve months ending June 2014 works out to 4.0% compared to 3.6% for the twelve months ending June 2013.

Excluding 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco', the headline inflation rate for the twelve months ending June 2014 works out to 3.3% compared to 2.5% for the twelve months ending June 2013.



Ms. F. Dhuny (centre) with the GS1 South Africa team

Collaboration between GS1 Mauritius and GS1 South Africa for Capacity Building

In an endeavour to reinforce the institutional capacity of GS1 Mauritius, Fazlee Dhuny from the MCCCI, attended a tailor-made training at GS1 South Africa in Johannesburg during the second quarter of 2014.

The objective of the training was to upskill the staff of GS1 Mauritius. The training covered a large range of topics namely 2D Barcodes including Data Matrix and QR Code, overview of GS1 South Africa Call Centre, the Global Data Synchronisation Network, and GS1 Barcode Verification and Item Measurement.

GS1 South Africa further shared its expertise and knowledge on its Alliance Partner Programme and Trusted Supplier Programme. The training also included a site visit to Pick & Pay Distribution Centre. This collaboration and knowledge transfer between GS1 Mauritius and GS1 South Africa are ongoing to identify areas of development and implement the action plan to improve the diversity of GS1 Mauritius services to further meet the evolving needs of the GS1 community.

ICT: Promoting the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime

A Conference on the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, aiming at promoting the use of the Convention by stakeholders in Mauritius, was held from the 11 August to 14 August 2014 at the Intercontinental Resort in Balaclava.

The event was organised by the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, in collaboration with the Council of Europe and focused on cybercrime capacity-building in the context of the GLACY (Global Action on Cybercrime) Project. More than a hundred participants, both from the public and private sectors attended the conference.

In his opening address, the Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Mr Tassarajen Pillay Chedumbrum, said that cyber-security is of paramount importance for Mauritius. Now that the ambition of the country of becoming a cyber-island has been achieved, the next step is to become a smart nation, hence the need to understand that Mauritius is becoming more vulnerable to cyber-attacks, he stated.

Discussions held during the Conference focused on the following: background, purpose, structure, geographical scope, and benefits of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime; implementation of the Convention under the domestic law of Mauritius; and role of capacity-building.

International News

SADC Summit: Council of Ministers emphasized on the need to scale up implementation of the SADC integration agenda.

The SADC Council of Ministers meeting held on August 14 and 15, 2014 at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, reaffirmed that the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) is the main instrument for scaling up regional integration.

Council directed the Secretariat to finalise draft RISDP by frontloading industrialisation and its implementation strategy and requested the Committee of Ministers of Trade to review the sequencing of targeted outputs on Industrial Development and Trade Liberalisation in order to accord centre stage to industrialisation in the current stage of integration in SADC.

As far as trade is concerned, Council endorsed the decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers of Trade to address some of the implementation

challenges of the Free Trade Area in order to boost the Region's productive competitiveness and industrial capacity, and promote equity, fairness and balance in intra-regional trade.

The Council also directed the Secretariat to facilitate implementation of all pillars of the development integration agenda, in particular, fast-track the coordination of measures for effective implementation of the SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework and the Industrial Upgrading and Modernisation programme

The meeting was chaired by Hon. Simbarashe S. Mumbengegwi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Source: www.sadc.int

U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM: \$ 14 BILLION IN BUSINESS DEALS

The first U.S.-Africa Business Forum was held on 5 August 2014 in parallel to the U.S.-Africa Leader's Summit held in Washington. The Business Forum focused on strengthening trade and financial ties between the United States and Africa.

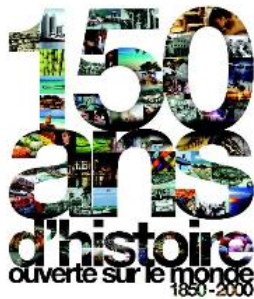
President Obama participated in the Business Forum along with Secretary Pritzker and Mayor Bloomberg, as well as other senior U.S. government officials. The U.S.-Africa Business Forum will intensify efforts to strengthen trade and financial ties between the United States and Africa and seek to create partnerships that will promote trade, accelerate job growth, and encourage investment.

The Forum focused on U.S. private sector engagement in Africa in the areas of finance and capital investment; infrastructure; power and energy; agriculture; consumer goods; and information and communication technology.

African leaders engaged with business executives from both sides of the Atlantic to engage in conversations about successes and solutions to increase trade with and invest in Africa. President Obama participated in the conversation with CEOs and government leaders from the United States and Africa. The U.S.-Africa Business Forum is expected to catalyze \$14 billion in business deals for Africa.

Source: <http://www.aalep.eu/us-africa-business-forum-14-billion-business-deals>

Dans l'histoire de la MCCI



Améliorations aux quais

M. D. C. Smith présida la réunion de la Chambre du 14 septembre 1882, qui s'occupa d'une motion portant sur les nécessaires améliorations à apporter aux quais. Le transport commercial dans le port, malgré un demi-siècle de prospérité commerciale, s'effectuait toujours par des chalands, et faisait perdre un temps précieux lors du chargement et du déchargement des marchandises.

La Chambre décida de référer la question à un comité, qui pria le gouvernement de soumettre les projets et les plans présentés par le comité qu'il avait nommé.

Le gouvernement attendit jusqu'à la mi-décembre 1882 pour annoncer à la Chambre les mesures correctives provisoires prochaines, et l'institution par le gouverneur d'un comité pour un plan général d'améliorations qui faciliteraient particulièrement le chargement et le déchargement des cargos.

Le président de ce comité, qui était le directeur des Douanes, convoqua une réunion des membres en vue de mettre en chantier le plan d'action pour les améliorations demandées. Le président et le vice-président de la Chambre furent nommés pour en faire partie.

Référence: Extrait du livre *150 ans d'histoire ouverte sur le monde* publié par la MCCI. Ce livre est disponible en vente à la MCCI et dans les librairies.

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