E-Flash

E-Flash No. 114 - 27 November 2015

1*. Reminder - 2015/2016 Logistics Performance Index (LPI) Survey*

The World Bank wants to hear from FIATA's members as part of the on-going LPI 2015/6 survey. FIATA is the World Bank's most important partner in the LPI survey and it is thanks to the participation of FIATA's members that the LPI can be published every two years.

If you are working at a freight forwarding company dealing with international shipments, we cordially invite you to take the survey at http://lpisurvey2016.worldbank.org/?comp=FEF. Completing the survey should only take around 20 minutes. The survey does not seek any confidential company-specific information. Responses are anonymous.

2. Kenya Offers to Host UNCTAD XIV

On 17 November 2015, Kenya offered to host the fourteenth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XIV), including the Civil Society Forum and the World Investment Forum.

UNCTAD XIV was originally set to be held in Lima, Peru in March 2016, but in early September, the Government of Peru informed UNCTAD that it could no longer host the conference due to the latest negative forecasts for the El Niño weather event.

To read more please visit: http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=3592d5dcafd1b9278dd78095f&id=1ed62bd7a7&e=9edbed2164

3. UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries Report 2015

In its Least Developed Countries Report 2015, subtitled "Transforming Rural Economies", UNCTAD proposes a roadmap to fight against the root causes of migration flows within and from least developed countries (LDCs) and to eliminate poverty by 2030.

The migration of poor people from the countryside into cities fuels excessive rates of urbanization in many of the 48 LDCs, while many international migrants come from rural areas.

To read more please visit: http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=748

4. APEC Leaders endorse ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

APEC Leaders meeting in Manila, Philippines issued the following "Statement on Supporting the Multilateral Trading System and the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference" on 19 November 2015:

We reiterate our commitment to achieve the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment by 2020 and to the eventual realization of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP). We appreciate the work by our officials to ensure that regional trade agreements complement and strengthen the multilateral trading system. We welcome the progress made by many APEC members in completing their respective processes to submit the instruments of acceptance to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, which will reduce the cost of trading across borders.

To read more please visit: http://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Leaders-Declarations/2015/2015_aelm.aspx

5.   **Panama ratifies Trade Facilitation Agreement**

Panama has become the 52nd WTO member to ratify the new Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). The TFA will enter into force once two-thirds of the WTO membership has formally accepted the Agreement.

In addition to Panama, the following WTO members have also accepted the agreement: Hong Kong China, Singapore, the United States, Mauritius, Malaysia, Japan, Australia, Botswana, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Niger, Belize, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, China, Liechtenstein, Lao PDR, New Zealand, Togo, Thailand, the European Union (on behalf of its 28 member states), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Pakistan. To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news15_e/fac_17nov15_e.htm

6.   **ICAO Council Declaration on International Aviation and Climate Change**

During its 206th Session on 18 November 2015, the 36-State Governing Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) adopted a formal Declaration. The Declaration stated that the Council would ensure continuous leadership of ICAO on environmental issues relating to international civil aviation, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In its Declaration, the Council reiterated the need for ICAO and its Member States to express a serious concern, through the UNFCCC process, on the use of international aviation as a potential source for the mobilization of revenue for climate finance for other sectors in a disproportionate manner.

To read more please visit: http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/ICAO-Council-Declaration-on-International-Aviation-and-Climate-Change.aspx

7.   **ICAO (II) World Aviation Forum Concluding Communique**

Eight hundred participants represented ICAO Member States, international organizations, financial institutions and the industry sector at its first-ever **World Aviation Forum (IWAF):** *Aviation Partnerships for Sustainable Development*, from 23 to 25 November 2015. The IWAF emphasized that the aviation system has a significant impact on the economic development and growth; it impacts tourism and trade, and generates other economic benefits which help eradicate poverty, create jobs and mobilize resources.

Participants concluded a 12 points communiqué where they welcomed the commitment by International and regional organizations to work closely with ICAO to ensure that a safe, secure and sustainable global aviation system is part of the global development framework;

To read more please visit: http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/Concluding-Communique-ICAO-World-Aviation-Forum.aspx

8. ICC calls on governments for collaboration with business to tackle climate challenge

With less than two weeks to go to the UN Conference on climate change (COP21) and the conclusion of the G20 last weekend, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) continues to engage its network in more than 130 countries to advocate for a climate deal that engages business to fully address the climate challenge.

ICC national committees all over the world will also be promoting an ambitious global climate agreement which works with business with a series of events throughout the month of November. It has to be noted that FIATA had participated in the drafting of the document by providing suggestions and endorsement as appropriate. To read more please visit: http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2015/ICC-calls-on-governments-for-collaboration-with-business-to-tackle-climate-challenge/

9. UNECE - Sweden makes first step for new international agreement on air pollution to enter into force

Sweden has become the first Party to accept the 2012 amendments to the 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) under the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention). The Gothenburg Protocol deals with multiple pollutants and their effects at the same time and has thus been referred to as multi-pollutant and multi-effect protocol.

The amended Gothenburg Protocol includes national emission reduction commitments for main air pollutants to be achieved in 2020 and beyond. It is the first legally binding agreement containing obligations to reduce the broader spectrum of so-called short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), notably fine particulate matter (PM2.5), including black carbon and ground-level ozone precursors: nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds. To read more please visit: http://www.unece.org/info/media/news/environment/2015/sweden-makes-first-step-for-new-international-agreement-on-air-pollution-to-enter-into-force/doc.html

10. VOLVO organises spectacular Sustainability Forum: "Next Stop Paris" on 25.11.2015 in Stockholm

Along with Eva Molnar (Director of the Transport Division, UNECE) and José Viegas (Secretary General of the International Transport Forum) Marco Sorgetti accepted Volvo's invitation to debate Sustainable Transport and Logistics during the second of the two high level panels organised in Stockholm by the VOLVO group. The perfect organisation deployed by VOLVO allowed for a lively and intriguing debate on sustainability, opened by the remarks of the Swedish Minister for Infrastructure, Anna Johansson. In the second part, on transport and logistics sustainability, the discussion explored options for improvements in sustainability and FIATA suggested holistic approach on logistics connectivity and focus on the last mile. Johan Rockstroem handled the debate with the expert hand of the scientist and the audience had the opportunity to hear the inspiring

conclusions of VOLVO's CEO Martin Lundstedt, who called industry and civil society to action with a shared, collaborative approach. The debate was organised in the perspective of the imminent COP21 meetings in Paris. More information on: http://www.volvogroup.com/group/global/en-gb/responsibility/infocus/Sustainabilityforum/Pages/default.aspx

11. UNECE - Focus on road safety

The recent 2nd High Level Conference on Road Safety in Brasilia with the title "time for results" was rich in results indeed, which will impact on inland transport and reverberate all over the world. It was noted that road accident casualties in Western Europe have been consistently decreasing for years despite the increase in road traffic, which is an excellent, exemplary achievement. More information is available here:http://www.roadsafetybrazil.com.br/en

On November 19th the Brasilia declaration on Road Safety was adopted:

http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_traffic/Brasilia_Declaration/en/

12. UNECA - Towards greater Road Safety in central Africa

What is the current situation and what are the possible implementation difficulties in Central Africa of the African Road Safety Plan? It is to answer these questions that the Central African Office of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa is organising a meeting of experts from 30 November to 1 December 2015 in Douala-Cameroon.

Drafted during an experts meeting organised in November 2011 in Addis Ababa-Ethiopia, by the ECA and the African Union, the African Plan is supported by five pillars: management of road safety, mobility, vehicles, road users and post-accident intervention

To read more please visit: http://www.uneca.org/stories/towards-greater-road-safety-central-africa

13. Coal-fired power plants: EU endorses new OECD rules on export credits

Several of the world's richest economies clinched a deal last week to restrict government support for technology exports for coal-fired power plants during a meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that concluded on 17 November in Paris, France.

The new rules on export credits have been endorsed by the EU. This is an important EU contribution for the COP21 negotiations on climate change, which start in Paris on 30 November 2015. It marks a further step in work ongoing since 2012 in aligning export credit policies with climate change objectives.

To read more the OECD rules on export credit please visit: http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/biores/news/oecd-members-reach-deal-to-limit-export-finance-for-coal-technologies

To read about the EU's endorsement please visit:
http://dsms.consilium.europa.eu/952/Actions/Newsletter.aspx?messageid=2295&customerid=32997&password=enc_31313783131583735363831_enc

14. Support for interoperable digital services: decision adopted by the Council

On 23 November 2015 the EU Council adopted a decision on a programme to promote the interoperability of digital services across Europe (ISA²). The programme aims to help member states' public administrations interact more efficiently with each other and offer more user-friendly digital services for citizens and businesses. As pointed out by FIATA at the Digital Transport Forum in Brussels on 24.11.2015 this adoption may contribute to facilitate the adoption of electronic transfer of records in transport documents for regulatory purposes.

Funding for projects to be carried out by the Commission in cooperation with member states is expected to become available.

To read more please visit: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/11/23-support-for-interoperable-digital-services/?utm_source=dsms-auto&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Support+for+interoperable+digital+services%3a+decision+adopted+by+the+Council

15. News from the Logistics Hall of Fame

Heidi Senger-Weiss inducted into the Logistics Hall of Fame at the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure.

Read more: http://www.logisticshalloffame.net/en/press/press-information/heidi-senger-weiss-inducted-into-the-logistics-hall-of-fame-at-the-federal-ministry-of-transport-and-digital-infrastructure#!LogisticsHoF_SG1_1217