



E-Flash No. 122 - 22 March 2016

ASSOCIATIONS' AFFAIRS

1. 2016 FIATA HQ Session - A gathering of the industry

FIATA held its annual HQ Session this year in the Crown Plaza Hotel in Zurich from March 18th - 20th. Delegates actively engaged in a number of sessions on training, security, customs, air freight and IT relevant to the developments of the industry.

The session produced a number of actions to be taken forward throughout the year and into Dublin where FIATA will hold its 2016 FIATA World Congress. One thing was clear, the future looked bright and delegates were ready to do their part to see it occur.

2. 2016 RAME Field Presentation in Zurich

Addis Ababa 2016 RAME Field Meeting May 19-22 Now Open

The Ethiopian Freight Forwarders and Shipping Agents (EFFSA) invites all delegates to this impactful conference to celebrate and network. Addis Ababa, the Capital City of Ethiopia and one of the important advocacy centres in Africa, gateway to southern, central and western African regions from the Middle East is the host of this year's RAME.

This conference shall be a forum that shall present the challenges and opportunities of doing business in this flourishing region and in the hosting country in particular. To register and find more information please visit: <http://www.rame2016.org/rame2016-registration>

3. ITF Side Event highlighted during ABIA Meeting in Zurich - Business and Government for Smarter Freight

FIATA in conjunction with CLECAT, ESC, IRU and the Smart Freight Centre are to host a side event at the upcoming International Transport Forum in Leipzig on May 20th. This side event aims to explore opportunities for collaboration, clearly articulate how these can be realised in practice, and share real world examples.

The private sector must do the heavy lifting in realising low carbon, efficient and competitive freight ("smart freight"). However, governments must help to overcome market and policy barriers to accelerate the uptake of solutions and innovation. Program details will become available at: <http://2016.itf-oecd.org/business-and-government-smarter-freight>

4. 12th Congress of Southeast European Freight Forwarders and Logistics Providers.

On behalf of UKRZOVNISHTRANS, Association of Transport Forwarding and Logistics Organization of Ukraine, the Congress of SEEFF will be held on June 2-3 2016 and between 30th of May and the 3rd of June the traditional Transport week will be in Odessa. Transport Week

is an annual business event, which includes a series of international events, dedicated to the matters of transport, logistics and supply chain management.

To register please visit: <http://seeff.plaske.ua/en/registration/>

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

5. Nepal, Tanzania and Ukraine accept protocol amending the TRIPS Agreement

Acceptance of the protocol amending the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) is gaining further momentum. Two least developed countries, Nepal and Tanzania, as well as Ukraine deposited their instruments of acceptance on 11 March, 14 March and 16 March respectively.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/trip_18mar16_e.htm

6. E15 BEIJING LAUNCH EVENT

On Friday, 18 March, the E15 Initiative will organise a Beijing launch of its [policy option papers](#) and [Synthesis Report](#), which together serve to propose, interpret and explore suggestions for improved governance of the global trade and investment system in the 21st century.

To read more please visit: <http://e15initiative.org/events/5412/>

7. Turkey notifies acceptance of Trade Facilitation Agreement

Turkey has ratified the new Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), becoming the 71st WTO member to do so. H. E. Ambassador Haluk Ilicak and Hüsnü Dilerme, Deputy Under-Secretary with the Turkish Ministry of Economy, presented their country's instrument of acceptance to WTO Deputy Director-General Yi Xiaozhun on 16th of March.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_16mar16_e.htm

8. THEME OF 2016 PUBLIC FORUM TO BE "INCLUSIVE TRADE"

The theme of the 2016 Public Forum, to be held at the WTO's headquarters in Geneva on 27th and 29th of September, is "Inclusive Trade". The Forum will be an opportunity for participants to discuss how a wider range of individuals and businesses can participate in the trading system and how WTO rules can help to ensure everyone benefits from trade.

To read more please visit:

https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/pfor_08mar16_e.htm

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

9. USCIB Applauds Plan to Transition Stewardship of Key Internet Functions, Urges U.S. Government Approval

The United States Council for International Business (USCIB) welcomed a comprehensive package of proposals developed by numerous Internet stakeholders including the private sector, which will enable global stewardship of the domain name system (DNS) and enhance accountability of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), which manages the global domain name system.

To read more please visit [here](#).

AIRFREIGHT

10. Aviation: EU to launch negotiations with China and Japan for new safety agreements

Just three months after its adoption by the European Commission, the [Aviation Strategy](#) is starting to deliver its first results. The Council has yesterday authorised the European Commission to open negotiations with [China and Japan](#) in view of concluding [Bilateral Air Safety Agreements](#) (BASA). Such agreements enhance air safety worldwide and contribute to the global competitiveness of the European aviation industry by cutting red-tape and facilitating exports.

To read more please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/air/news/2016-03-08-china-japan-safety-agreements_en.htm

11. International aviation: Statement by Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc following her meetings in Washington D.C.

EU Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc was in Washington D.C. to discuss the ongoing negotiations within the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in view of the adoption of a global market-based measure to curb aviation emissions. She also promoted the new [Aviation Strategy](#) and took stock of the implementation of the 2010 EU-US Open Skies Agreement.

To read more please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/air/news/2016-03-01-bulc-washington_en.htm

12. ICAO Secretary General stresses economic impact factors and air transport development themes at 10th IATA Air Cargo Symposium

Stressing the importance of maintaining current air transport safety and efficiency levels in the face of the dramatic growth now projected for global civil aviation, ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu delivered a strong message today to members the global air cargo community attending the International Air Transport Association's (IATA's) 10th World Cargo Symposium (WCS) in Berlin.

For more information: <http://www.atn.aero/article.pl?id=58083>

SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS & CONNECTIVITY

13. UN Statistics Body Endorses SDG Indicators - FIATA in New York

The United Nations Statistical Commission [endorsed](#) last week a set of 230 [global indicators](#) as the basis for reviewing progress towards the UN's 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#), called the "last missing piece" of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs, was adopted last year at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in New York following nearly five years of negotiations. This was a topic of discussion in FIATA's ABIA meeting in the HQ Session this past week following up their participation in New York. To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges/news/un-statistics-body-endorses-sdg-indicators>

14. France Pushes for Additional Reforms to EU Emissions Trading System, Report Says

Amid renewed concerns of falling carbon prices, a French "non-paper" has reportedly been circulated calling for changes to the "Market Stability Reserve" established under the EU's Emissions Trading System (ETS).

The non-paper, obtained by the Carbon Pulse media outlet, is an informal proposal that is said to be under discussion among other member states and other key players. To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges/news/france-pushes-for-additional-reforms-to-eu-emissions-trading-system-report>

15. UNECE and UN-Habitat to launch pilot projects on monitoring the SDGs in Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine

Developing a system to monitor the SDGs in different areas will be key to measure progress and ensure that targets can be met. In order to strengthen member States' capacities for the development of evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development, UNECE and UN-Habitat are launching a pilot project for monitoring the SDGs in Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine.

To read more please visit: <http://www.unece.org/info/media/presscurrent-press-h/housing-and-land-management/2016/unece-and-un-habitat-to-launch-pilot-projects-on-monitoring-the-sdgs-in-albania-georgia-kyrgyzstan-and-ukraine/doc.html>