



e-Flash No. 131 - 26 July 2016

Please be advised that the next edition of the e-flash will be published on 19.08.2016

ASSOCIATIONS' AFFAIRS

1. IATA-FIATA Air Cargo Program (IFACP)

Freight forwarding companies operated within the IATA Cargo Agents' rules for several decades; their services gradually evolved in time from being "selling-agents" for the airlines' services to becoming their purchasing customers.

IATA and FIATA having joined forces to review, refine and re-engineer this Agency Program to reflect these changes, the IATA FIATA Air Cargo Programme was adopted by both organisations in 2016. The brand new program moves decision-making on the rules governing the airline-forwarder relationship to a governance body jointly managed by forwarders and airlines, which reflects today's market conditions. For full information on the IATA-FIATA Air Cargo Program please use the Link: [Find out more](#).

2. FIATA Logistics Academy (FLA) - SCM Master Certificate Course starting soon

Take control of your career and empower yourself by earning a degree or professional certificate from an accredited university. Advancing your education and earning credentials proves to employers that you have demonstrated competency and knowledge of all levels of the supply chain.

Michigan State's three-course master certificates and five-course advanced master certificate provide the necessary tools and techniques to advance your career in this dynamic, lucrative industry. Next courses start of August 1st 2016.

Contact fla@fiata.com for more information or visit: <http://www.universityalliance.com/fla/>

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

3. UN SG warns that trade slowdown threatens global development, as President of Kenya opens UNCTAD 14

The slowdown in global trade and lack of productive investment are intensifying deep divides, protectionism and even xenophobia, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Sunday at the opening of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade Development ([UNCTAD 14](#)) in the Kenyan capital.

The Conference was opened by Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta in the presence of Mr. Ban and UNCTAD Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi. The Vice-President of Uganda, Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi, represented Yoweri Museveni, Uganda's President, detained at an African Union summit taking place in Kigali.

To read more please visit: <http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=3592d5dcafd1b9278dd78095f&id=a5c7934795&e=9edbed2164>

4. WTO launches new World Trade Outlook Indicator

The WTO has launched a new World Trade Outlook Indicator (WTOI) designed to provide "real time" information on trends in global trade. The WTOI was unveiled in Shanghai, China on 8 July, ahead of a meeting of G20 trade ministers. Combining a variety of trade-related indices, the WTOI is designed to give an early signal of the current direction of world trade and where it is likely to go in the near future.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/rese_08jul16_e.htm

5. How the Trade Facilitation Agreement can help reduce trade costs for LDCs

The Aid for Trade (AfT) initiative launched at the WTO's 2005 Hong-Kong ministerial meeting has been successful at raising funds. But after five biennial reviews, showing that AfT flows have helped countries build their supply-side capacities has proved elusive.

At around US\$40 billion disbursed a year, AfT represents approximately 30 percent of global official development assistance (ODA) flows to developing countries, but trade facilitation only accounts for about one percent of AfT disbursements according to the OECD's Credit Reporting System (CRS).

To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/how-the-trade-facilitation-agreement-can-help-reduce-trade-costs>

6. Making the WTO TFA work better for the private sector

Private sector can play a decisive role in all phases of implementation of trade facilitation reforms (from needs assessment, to design, to implementation and to monitoring and evaluation).

ITC, in its experience of working with beneficiary countries, has witnessed that regulatory authorities focus on minimal changes to achieve legal compliance and are reluctant to go beyond it to undertake meaningful reforms.

To read more please visit:

http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/webdtltlb2016d2_en.pdf?utm_source=UNCTAD+Transport+and+Trade+Facilitation+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a2e97bddd0-UNCTAD_s+Transport+Newsletter_n70&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f6141a63dd-a2e97bddd0-44494137#page=10

7. Honduras ratifies Trade Facilitation Agreement

Honduras has ratified the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), becoming the fifth Central American nation to accept the new accord. Honduras' Vice-Minister Melvin Redondo presented his country's instrument of ratification to WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo on 14 July.

To read more: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_15jul16_e.htm

8. DG Azevêdo welcomes Liberia as 163rd WTO member

Liberia joined the WTO (14 July 2016) as its 163rd member, after nearly 10 years of negotiating its accession terms with WTO members. Liberia is the eighth least-developed country (LDC) to accede to the WTO through negotiations.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/acc_lbr_14jul16_e.htm

9. First African Forum for National Trade Facilitation Committees

In its continued effort to support Trade Facilitation reforms in developing and Least Developed Countries, UNCTAD will organize the first African Forum for National Trade Facilitation Committees, in cooperation with International Trade Center (ITC) and World Customs.

This meeting will be held in Addis Ababa from Oct 17-21st and aims at bringing the opportunity to NTFCs all over the African continent to share best practices.

To read more please visit: <http://www.tfafacility.org/first-african-forum-national-trade-facilitation-committees>

10. Kremlin stops developing special economic zones in Russia

On June 9 2016 President Vladimir Putin announced the planned reform of special economic zones (i.e. special territories with tax and customs benefits). Mr Putin also declared that 10 of the 33 zones will be closed immediately and that responsibility for the remaining 23 will be transferred from the Russian Federation to the applicable region. The list of special economic zones to be closed has not yet been published. The development of special economic zones in Russia began in 2005 and was originally intended to attract foreign investment and establish new business areas.

To read more please visit: <http://www.intellinews.com/kremlin-stops-developing-special-economic-zones-in-russia-99471/>

11. EU - Customs Risk Management

The European Commission has adopted a progress report on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan for Customs Risk Management. For further information see their [new web section](#) with the report and the staff working document.

12. EU - Smart and Secure Trade Lanes Pilot (SSTL)

The European Union, China and Hong-Kong have agreed to expand the Smart and Secure Trade Lanes (SSTL) Pilot Project. The details are on their [website](#).

13. EU - Electronic customs

The European Commission has published the 2016 version of the Multiannual Plan (MASP) for electronic customs. It is available from their [website](#).

14. EU Trade Commissioner in China urging deeper global and bilateral trade and investment ties

Commissioner Cecilia Malmström stressed the enormous benefits that the EU-China relationship had brought to both sides and argued that in addressing their own major challenges - a sustained economic recovery across the EU and reform and opening up in China - both sides would benefit each other as well as their own citizens.

To read more please visit:

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1526&newsletter_id=230&utm_source=trade_newletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EU%20Trade%20&utm_content=EU%20Trade%20Commissioner%20in%20China%20urges%20deeper%20global%20and%20bilateral%20trade%20and%20investment%20ties&lang=en

15. Making trade facilitation work in Africa: Lessons from the service delivery agenda

At a time when countries across the African continent are deploying important efforts to facilitate trade, what can we learn from public service delivery in other areas for strengthening trade facilitation reform? Policy-makers and politicians can take inspiration from the broader reform efforts across the continent. The Mandela government first introduced the Batho Pele ("People First") principles for public service delivery nearly two decades ago to radically transform the public service delivery culture in South Africa, although this has been a slow and uneven process.

To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/making-trade-facilitation-work-in-africa-lessons-from-the-service>

16. South Africa launches initiative to promote trade with African partners

Rob Davies, South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry, recently announced the upcoming launch of Trade Africa, which will replace what was previously known as the Africa Export Council. The initiative consists of a governmental unit within the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), whose goal will be to promote and facilitate trade relations between South Africa and the rest of the continent.

To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/south-africa-launches-initiative-to-promote-trade-with-african>

17. APEC tackles border bureaucracy to boost small business

"Businesses that trade in international markets must contend with import licensing that can be hard to understand rules and considerable paperwork," explained Marie Sherlyn D. Aquia, Chair of the [APEC Committee on Trade and Investment](#)

To read more please visit: <http://smemagazine.asia/2016/07/apec-tackles-border-bureaucracy-to-boost-small-business/>

18. Labour provisions in trade agreements in favour of better business

Trade-related labour provisions, such as ones that address labour relations or minimum working conditions for employees, do not harm business or make trade provisions less popular, according to a study released today by the United Nations labour agency.

Research from the UN International Labour Organisation ([ILO](#)) found that a trade agreement which included labour provisions raised the value of trade by 28 per cent on average, as compared with 26 per cent for a similar agreement without the labour provision.

To read more please visit: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsId=54481#.V49Xu9J97IU>

AIR FREIGHT

19. IATA signs MoU with the African Union Commission

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and The African Union Commission (AU) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to expand strategic cooperation to further the continent's economic and social development with the benefits of safe, efficient and sustainable air transport in Africa.

The MoU paves the way for further development in African aviation. The industry already supports 6.8 million jobs and generates \$72.5 billion of economic activity on the continent.

More information at: <http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/Pages/2016-07-14-01.aspx>

SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS & CONNECTIVITY

20. FIATA in New York to highlight SMEs in the SDG Process

Throughout the past 10 days, the UN's focus has been on the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York. FIATA's presence at the forum shed light on the number of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) that make up the bulk of the logistics and freight industry. Their involvement throughout this process cannot be overlooked.

More information here: <http://fiata.com/media/press-releases/2016/22-july.html>

21. UNCTAD - development and globalisation: facts and figures

Developing countries would be better able to finance the Sustainable Development Goals if rich countries were meeting their 2002 target to put 0.7 per cent of gross national income into overseas aid, the United Nations said on Monday, announcing a first major effort to measure progress in achieving the new Goals.

Launching this year's [Development and Globalization: Facts and Figures](#), UNCTAD Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi said that if rich countries had consistently met the 0.7 per cent target since 2002, then developing countries would have been \$2 trillion better off.

To read more please visit: <http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=3592d5dcafd1b9278dd78095f&id=14000afc92&e=e40dd5da39>

22. Performance of container trade in Latin America and the Caribbean 2015

In 2015, global and regional container port activity experienced a slow growth worldwide. The global container throughput grew by only 1.1% in 2015, according to Alphaliner's estimates based on a preliminary survey of over 400 ports worldwide. Several components have contributed to the lower container growth and are detailed in the featured article.

To read more please visit:

http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/webdtltlb2016d2_en.pdf?utm_source=UNCTAD+Transport+and+Trade+Facilitation+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a2e97bddd0-UNCTAD_s+Transport+Newsletter_n70&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f6141a63dd-a2e97bddd0-44494137#page=4

23. UN chief launches first report to track Sustainable Development Goals

Launching the first-ever Sustainable Development Goals report on the new global development agenda adopted last year, [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon today said that the 15-year undertaking is "off to a good start" but will require all parts of the UN family and its partners to work together.

The Forum is the UN's central platform for the follow-up and review of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), adopted last September by 193 Member States.

Read more at: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsId=54503#.V49TA9J97IU>

24. Trade in a 2030 Agenda-era: Fossil fuel subsidies and the WTO

Although the international trade and climate agendas are perceived by some to be in conflict, there is in fact a symbiosis between the two, for both trade and climate are closely intertwined with sustainable development. There are pressing reasons to abolish fossil-fuel subsidies, from both a trade perspective, and from that of climate change. At present the WTO system, and in particular the SCM Agreement, presents the most promising theoretical option for a multilateral platform to help countries undertake the necessary reforms.

To read more please visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/trade-in-a-2030-agenda-era-fossil-fuel-subsidies-and-the-wto>

25. ICC and UN Global Compact align efforts to mobilise business on SDGs

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the United Nations (UN) Global Compact announced a partnership to improve awareness, opportunities and participation of the private sector in support of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

More at: <http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2016/ICC-and-UN-Global-Compact-align-efforts-to-mobilize-business-on-SDGs/>

26. EU Commission gets go-ahead for €6.7 billion investment in transport projects

The EU Member States today formally approved [the list of 195 transport projects](#) that will receive €6.7 billion of EU funding under the 2015's calls for proposals of the [Connecting Europe Facility](#) (CEF).

The investment confirmed today by the Member States will unlock additional public and private co-financing for a combined amount of €9.6 billion, and is expected to create up to 100,000 jobs by 2030.

27. Interview: China's Belt and Road Initiative conducive to efforts to carry out UN sustainable development agenda

China's Belt and Road Initiative is conducive to promoting the global efforts to carry out the 2030 Agenda, as it will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of all the Goals and targets, bringing together governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources, according to Chinese sources recently published here: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-07/20/c_135525365.htm

MISCELLANEA

28. UN Commission on International Trade Law Adopts text on Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)

UNCITRAL's work on ODR is a response to the sharp increase in online cross-border transactions, and the consequent need for a mechanism for resolving disputes that arise from such transactions. ODR is designed to assist buyers and sellers in resolving their disputes in a simple, fast, flexible and secure manner, without the need for physical presence at a meeting or hearing.

To read more please visit: <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/en/pressrels/2016/unis1235.html>

29. Third-Party logistics market expected to pass \$1.1 trillion by 2022

An Allied Market Research report found that the global third-party logistics market is expected to reach \$1.1 trillion over the next six years. The result would be a 5.16% compound annual growth rate, according to the research firm. The researchers also found that trucking and rail freight will be the major modes of transportation over the next six years, with intermodal continuing to play an important role.

More at:

http://www.ttnews.com/articles/basetemplate.aspx?storyid=42492&utm_source=logistics&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=newsletter