



e-Flash No. 140 - 9 December 2016

ASSOCIATIONS' AFFAIRS

1. FIATA Headquarters' Session 2017

March 30th - April 2nd 2017

FIATA members are invited to join us at this year's Headquarters' Session, which will take place between March 30th and April 2nd 2017 in Zurich, Switzerland. We hope the programme we have prepared for you meets, and possibly exceeds, your expectations.

For more information on events and programme visit:

<http://fiata.com/events/fiata-congresses-hq-sessions.html> or direct link to the HQ programme http://fiata.com/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Meetings/FIATA_HQ_Session_2017_Programme.pdf

Interested to be a sponsor?

If you wish to increase the visibility of your company or organisation, please consider sponsoring any of the social activities available during the Headquarters or conference materials, e.g. the lanyards of the Congress badge, please contact to FIATA Secretariat (Sorgetti@fiata.com) for more details on the moderate costs of sponsoring.

2. SAVE THE DATE - 2017 RAME Field Meeting to be held May 4th - 6th in Casablanca

The 2017 RAME Field Meeting event organisers, Association des Freight Forwarders du Maroc (AFFM Maroc), have secured the dates of the next field meeting to be held May 4th - 6th in Casablanca. The host country is geographically positioned to welcome delegates from Europe in addition to Africa, Middle East and other countries for which all delegates would be welcome.

This conference will be a forum presenting the contemporary challenges and opportunities of doing business in the region, also providing many great cultural outings in the evenings. Further details of the agenda, registration and conference website will follow soon. FIATA is thankful to AFFM for their support and assistance in the organisation.

3. SAVE THE DATE - FIATA - 11th Field Meeting of the 2017 RAP Meeting in Bangkok

Members of the of the Region Asia Pacific are invited to take note of the date of the following meeting: it will be held in Bangkok on June 28th, 2017. Registration details with relevant information will be placed on the FIATA website in due time. FIATA is grateful for the kind hospitality, support and assistance we are receiving from the Thai International Freight Forwarders Association (TIFFA) in arranging this meeting to make it successful.

4. FIATA Participates in COP22 Low-Emissions Solutions Conference

UNFCCC's COP22 in Morocco was unique this year in for a variety of reasons, not least of all for introducing the first [Low-Emissions Solutions Conference \(LESC\)](#) hosted by the Government of

Morocco and co-organised by SDSN, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and ICLEI- Local governments for Sustainability (ICLEI).

FIATA appointed its local Association Member, Association des Freight Forwarders du Maroc (AFFM Maroc), to participate in a panel that explored technical solutions to lower global emissions. For more information, please visit:

<http://unsdsn.org/news/2016/12/05/solutions-at-the-heart-of-cop22/>

5. FLA Recommends Course on Innovation for Economic Development (IFED)

Leaders in key decision-makers around the world are paying increased attention to the role of technological innovation and institutional change in prosperity. To support these efforts, Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education offers Innovation for Economic Development, a program aimed at helping leaders design policies that enhance economic growth, global competitiveness, and environmental sustainability.

Note that FIATA has sponsored the soon to be published book Trading Power by the Faculty's Chair Calestous Juma. For more information: <https://exed.hks.harvard.edu/Programs/ifed/overview.aspx>

6. 2017- 2018 edition ICAO TI Released - Discount to ICAO FIATA Training Centres

The Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air 2017-2018 has been released and is available for purchase at 228 USD. Accredited ICAO FIATA DG Training Centre have access to a reduced price of the TI.

For those interested in purchasing the ICAO TI please visit: <https://store1.icao.int/index.php/technical-instructions-for-the-safe-transport-of-dangerous-goods-by-air-2017-2018-doc-9284-english-printed.html>

Those interested in inquiring more about the ICAO FIATA DG Training by Air Program, please contact eid@fiata.com.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

7. UNCTAD Launches Least Developed Countries Report 2016

UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries Report looks at how the world's 48 most disadvantaged nations can improve. Research presented by "The Least Developed Countries Report 2016: The Path to Graduation and Beyond - Making the Most of the Process" indicates the stakes are rising ever higher for the group, with their proportion of the global poor more than doubling since 1990 to well over 40 per cent. Only four countries have "graduated" in the 45 years since the classification was established. Countries graduate from the LDC category by satisfying a complex set of economic and social criteria.

To read more please visit:

<http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=3592d5dcafd1b9278dd78095f&id=efa70da27b&e=9edbed2164>

8. WTO - Gabon, Kyrgyz Republic ratify Trade Facilitation Agreement

Gabon and the Kyrgyz Republic have ratified the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), putting the total number of ratifications from members at 102. Only 8 more ratifications are needed to bring the TFA into force.

The TFA will enter into force once two-thirds of the WTO membership has formally accepted the Agreement. To read more please visit:

https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_06dec16_e.htm

9. Launch WEF/Global Alliance's 2016 Global Enabling Trade Report

The Global Enabling Trade Report 2016 co-published by the World Economic Forum and the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation was released last week. The report shows that improving the efficiency of border administration is a largely untapped tool that governments can use to boost economic growth. The biggest beneficiaries of customs reforms are small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) which typically lack the resources to comply with complex, expensive or time-consuming measures. Produced every two years, the report is a benchmark for governments looking to boost growth and development through trade.

FIATA is working with WEF and the Global Alliance to promote TFA related initiatives.

To read the report please visit: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GETR_2016_report.pdf

10. The Comoros Starts WTO Membership Negotiations

At the first meeting of the working party on the accession of the Comoros, WTO members expressed their support for its membership process and said they would work with the country to advance its accession negotiations as quickly as possible.

The Comoros has set the 11th Ministerial Conference (MC11), to be held in Buenos Aires in December 2017, as the target date for the conclusion of its accession negotiations. To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/acc_06dec16_e.htm

11. Air Freight Market Analysis - October 2016

Global air freight tonne kilometres grew by 8.2% year-on-year in October 2016, the fastest pace in 18 months. The upward trend in seasonally adjusted air freight has strengthened over the past three months amid signs of a stronger-than-expected peak season, particularly for European and Asian carriers.

The seasonally adjusted load factor has risen strongly recently, with annual improvements in October nearly in all regions. To read the full report please visit:

<http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/Documents/economics/freight-analysis-oct-2016.pdf>

12. UNCTAD - Online Commerce Requires More Trust in the Markets

eMarkets are growing rapidly - from \$16 trillion in 2013 to \$22 trillion in 2015 - holding opportunities to generate more jobs and incomes in developing countries, connecting individuals and markets, even in remote locations. In July, UNCTAD launched the [e-Trade for All initiative](#) in Nairobi, bringing together 15 international organisations and 22 private sector actors, FIATA amongst them, to improve developing countries' access to cutting edge technical assistance and giving donors more options for funding.

To read more on the growth of ecommerce please visit:

http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1389&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=UNCTAD%20Home;#2140;

CUSTOMS

13. WCO - Sixth Edition of Harmonized System (HS 2017) enters into force Jan 1st 2017

The WCO is pleased to remind FIATA Members that the publications of the HS 2017 Nomenclature, its Amendments, and the Explanatory Notes are available. The HS 2017 Classification Opinions Compendium and Alphabetical Index will be published and available by end January 2017.

All these publications can be ordered on the online bookstore of the WCO publications:

<http://wcoomdpublications.org/>

14. Customs Administrations in East Africa Welcome WCO's Involvement in TF Project

A Regional Joint Coordinating Committee (RJCC) meeting of the Trade Facilitation Project for East Africa was held in Kigali, Rwanda on 24th of November 2016. The Trade Facilitation Project in East Africa started in 2007, with support from JICA (<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html>).

One of the concrete outcomes of this discussion was the development of WCO/JICA Joint Project on Trade Facilitation in Africa that was launched in July 2016. To read more please visit:

<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2016/december/customs-administrations-in-east-africa.aspx>

15. WCO - Updated Trade Facilitation Guidance Now Available

The WCO has updated the TFA Implementation Guidance, incorporating new tools and instruments and adding more Members' practices. The Guidance makes it easier to find information on the Revised Kyoto Convention, the SAFE Framework of Standards and other WCO tools, such as the Single Window Compendium, the Post-Clearance Audit Guidance and the Risk Management Compendium along with many others.

The updated guidance is now available in English and French; a Spanish version will be updated by the end of March 2017.

More information at <http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/wco-implementing-the-wto-atf/atf.aspx>

16. WCO Support Mission for the Europe Region on eCommerce and Digital Customs

WCO with the support of the Azerbaijani State Customs Committee, Korean Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF Korea) and the WCO Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB) for Europe, organised a Regional Workshop on eCommerce and Digital Customs for the European Region 28th of November - 1st of December 2016 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Participants shared their national experiences and initiatives concerning effective risk management and efficient revenue collection on low-value shipments. The participants also shared practical experience and best practice relating to the implementation of ICT solutions. To read more please visit:

<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2016/december/wco-support-mission-for-the-europe-region-on-e-commerce-and-digital-customs.aspx>

SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS & CONNECTIVITY

17. More Sustainable Transport, not Less Transport, UN says

Opening the first-ever [Global Sustainable Transport Conference](#), United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told delegations gathered in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, that the world has the resolve, commitment, imagination and creativity "to transform our transport systems in a sustainable manner that will improve human wellbeing, enhance social progress and protect our planet." The UNDESA Secretary General Wu Hongbo stressed the need for integration across road, rail, aviation, ferry and maritime modes, and said these different sectors need to start working together.

To read more please visit:

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/11979Final_Press_Release.pdf

At the same meeting ICAO's Secretary General Dr Fang Liu made a strong case for civil aviation to sustainable socio-economic development. She commented on the importance of ICAO's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA).

To read more on this item please visit:

<http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/aviation-benefits-sustainable-development-highlighted-ashkhabad-global-sustainable-transport-conference.aspx>

18. UNECE - Developing Official Statistics for SDGs

A group of 27 countries, with balanced regional representation, was tasked to develop the indicators for the SDGs. In March 2016, the [Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators \(IAEG-SDGs\)](#) presented a list of 230 indicators which was adopted by the UN Statistical Commission.

UNECE recently hosted the [fourth meeting of the IAEG-SDGs](#), which took place on 15th - 18th of November in Geneva. The meeting discussed refinements to the global indicator list, as well as how data will flow from national surveys, statistics and indicators to international statistical systems and databases. This work will be facilitated by international organisations, which will act as "custodian agencies" of different indicators, ensuring international comparability of data.

To read more please visit: <http://www.unece.org/info/media/news/statistics/2016/developing-official-statistics-for-sdgs/doc.html>

19. EU Renewable Energy Directive Must Prioritise Sustainable Aviation Fuels

The European Commission's revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) aims to incentivise sustainable fuels. There is a strong case to prioritise sustainable fuel policies in air transport, in order to boost supply and reduce costs.

To read more please visit: <http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/Pages/2016-11-30-01.aspx>

To read FIATA's position on sustainable transport please visit:

http://fiata.com/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Position_Papers/FIATA_Statement_-_The_Need_to_Assess_Connectivity_Measure_for_Freight_Transport.pdf

20. IATA - Air Cargo Connectivity Enhances Global Trade Participation

IATA released a study identifying a quantitative link between a country's air cargo connectivity and its participation in global trade. A 1% increase in air cargo connectivity was associated with a 6.3% increase in a country's total trade.

Read more at: <http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/Pages/2016-12-07-03.aspx>

21. ADB to Upgrade Highways, Improve Road Safety in Kashkadarya

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$198 million loan to help upgrade and widen 77 kilometres (km) of the existing Karshi-Shakhrisabz-Kitab highway in Kashkadarya province, southeast of Uzbekistan, to improve tourism, mobility, as well as domestic and international trade.

Read more at: <https://www.adb.org/news/adb-upgrade-highways-improve-road-safety-kashkadarya>

