



e-Flash No. 141 - 22 December 2016

ASSOCIATION'S AFFAIRS

1. Wishing All FIATA Members a Happy New Year

This is the last number of the e-Flash in 2016. We wish all Members their families and friends a splendid time at the turn of the season and hope to find you all, and many more of you, in 2017 for a productive and satisfactory business period. The e-Flash will be published on January 13th for the first time in 2017, after a short break.

2. Save the Date of the Next UIC/FIATA Rail Market Place Seminar

FIATA and UIC are pleased to announce the eighth edition of the Market Place Seminar to be held on 14th and 15th of September 2017 in Duisburg, Germany. Bringing together railway undertakings, terminal operators, freight forwarders and customers, this important meeting's dates are a must in your agenda if you are dealing with rail freight or wish to know more about rail freight services.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

3. UN General Assembly Grants Observer Status to International Chamber of Commerce

In an unprecedented move, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly granted Observer Status to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the world's largest business organisation representing more than six million members in over 100 countries.

The new role for ICC means that business will have direct voice in the UN system for the first time. FIATA works closely with the ICC through the Global Business Alliance and Global Alliance on Trade Facilitation and congratulates the ICC on this achievement.

To read more please visit:

<http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2016/UN-General-Assembly-grants-Observer-Status-to-International-Chamber-of-Commerce-in-historic-decision/>

4. SAVE-THE-DATE: ICAO 2nd Meeting on Sustainable Air Transport in Africa

The meeting will be held in partnership with the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) in Accra, Ghana, between 28th and 31st March 2017. This meeting will focus on the implementation of the Antananarivo Declaration, adopted at the meeting in Madagascar in March 2015 to support the development of air transport in the Continent. The meeting will build on discussions for implementation of the Yamoussoukro and Lomé Declarations to liberalise air transport across Africa.

To read the Antananarivo declaration from the first meeting please visit:

<http://www.icao.int/Meetings/AirTransport-Madagascar/Pages/default.aspx>

To read FIATA's position paper on the implementation of the Yamoussoukro and Lomé Declaration please visit:

[http://fiata.com/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Position_Papers/POSITION_PAPER -
_Revisiting_the_Yamoussoukro_Decision.pdf](http://fiata.com/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Position_Papers/POSITION_PAPER_-_Revisiting_the_Yamoussoukro_Decision.pdf)

For FIATA's position paper on African connectivity please visit:

http://fiata.com/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Position_Papers/The_Keys_to_Unlocking_Africa.pdf

5. WTO - Canada Ratifies the Trade Facilitation Agreement

Canada has ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), making it the 103rd WTO member to do so. Only seven more ratifications from members are needed to bring the TFA into force. [According to a 2015 study carried out by WTO economists](#), full implementation of the TFA would reduce members' trade costs by an average of 14.3 per cent, with developing countries having the most to gain.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_15dec16_e.htm

6. WTO - EU donates EUR 1 million to help developing countries participate in trade talks

The donation will finance trade-related technical assistance and capacity building activities for officials in Geneva and elsewhere to help them better understand and implement WTO agreements and to enhance their negotiating skills. Since the creation of the Fund in 2001, more than 2,400 training and capacity building activities have been organized.

To read more please visit: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres16_e/pr786_e.htm

7. UNCTAD launches its 2016 Handbook of Statistics

With this Handbook, UNCTAD offers trade data that are largely based on final official figures, and which provide a greater level of detail than any other dataset on trade. By supporting policy analysis, this resource will help policy makers to implement better and more effective policies.

According to the Handbook the value of global merchandise trade fell 13% from \$19 trillion in 2014 to \$16.6 trillion in 2015, making 2015 only the second year since 2000 in which merchandise trade declined.

To read more and access the handbook please visit:

[http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1411&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=U
NCTAD%20Home;#561;#Statistics](http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1411&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=UNCTAD%20Home;#561;#Statistics)

8. UNCTAD - eTrade for All Initiative gathers pace, sets platform launch for April

Policy makers in developing countries will be able to access cutting edge technical and financial assistance on eCommerce, when the eTrade for All launches its new web platform in April, an UNCTAD official said. As freight items become ever more prevalent on eCommerce platforms, FIATA has been invited to participate in the initiative on behalf of its members and provide input from the perspective of freight e-consignments.

To read more on the growth of ecommerce please visit:

[http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1389&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=U
NCTAD%20Home;#2140;#e-Trade](http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1389&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=UNCTAD%20Home;#2140;#e-Trade)

9. ICAO Launches Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Toolkit

Given that UAS, informally referred to as "drones," can be mistakenly and often illegally operated by less-informed pilots around airports and other areas of controlled or sensitive airspace, ICAO has been

taking steps to help minimise their risks. Its new UAS Toolkit is much more than a starting point for learning the basics of their safe operation.

UAS today can be flown in a variety of configurations, and outfitted with a wide range of payloads and sensors to support their increasing humanitarian and emergency operations roles. They are also being used to monitor infrastructure and crops and for wide-ranging geological, geographical and climate-related research and development. FIATA recently had a drone operating logistics company participate in our Dublin World Congress to showcase advances in drone technology to perform the last mile delivery.

To read more please visit: <http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/icao-launches-unmanned-aircraft-systems-toolkit.aspx>

10. TAPA EMEA - New Security Standards on Track for 2017

Positive feedback from members, audit bodies and 'live' trials puts TAPA's new Facility and Trucking Security Requirements on track to go live on July 1st 2017. The 2017 Standards Update Workshop outlined the details of the change process, past actions and the roadmap going forward. It also gave the opportunity to discuss challenges faced when reworking global industry standards.

FIATA hosted TAPA EMEA at its most recent World Congress in which standards to go live in 2017 were presented and discussed.

Read more at: <https://www.tapaemea.org/information/latest-news-views/news-detail-view/new-security-standards-on-track-for-2017-go-live.html>

CUSTOMS

11. WCO - Regional Workshop on AEO programmes in Libreville, Gabon

The WCO experts explained in detail the importance of supply chain security, Customs-Business partnership approaches, AEO programme requirements, its benefits and its step by step phased implementation approach in Gabon on Dec 5th - 8th 2016. The workshop helped participants to identify existing gaps within their current AEO/compliance programmes, in terms of further improvements and alignment with SAFE Framework of Standards, as well as to prepare for implementation of related regulations of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

To read more please visit:

<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2016/december/regional-workshop-on-the-aeo-programmes-in-libreville.aspx>

12. WCO highlights the opportunities and challenges of E-commerce

The newly established WCO Working Group on eCommerce will work to tackle the different dimensions of eCommerce by collecting and exchanging best practices in the field. WCO Secretary General Kunio Mikuriya, confirmed the WCO Theme for 2017 "Data Analysis for Effective Border Management" and stressed the impact of the digital revolution and the need to address promptly the challenges posed to the global economy.

FIATA in its capacity as an observer to the WCO has committed together with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to co-lead the WCO eCommerce Working Group's - Sub-Working Group for Safety and Security. For more information

please visit: <http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2016/december/wco-highlights-the-opportunities-and-challenges-of-e-commerce.aspx>

SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS & CONNECTIVITY

13. UNFCCC - Clarifying Long-term Emission Reduction Strategies

The secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) hosted a webinar on submitted long-term emission reduction strategies on Thursday 8th of December. During the webinar, Germany and the United States presented their [long-term low emission development strategies](#), which were submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP22) in Marrakech in November. To meet the central goal of the Paris Climate Change Agreement, which is to limit global warming to well below 2°C and as close to 1.5°C as possible, as well as to achieve climate neutrality in the second half of this century, long-term climate planning is required.

To read more please visit:

<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/paris-agreement/clarifying-long-term-emission-reduction-strategies/>

14. With new Pledges and Project, Climatescope Take Clean Energy on

Key group of emerging nations builds 18% more renewable capacity than wealthier countries and four in five have now set national clean energy targets. This marks the third year Climatescope has been conducted globally and reflects activity in 2015, a year that culminated with the signing of the Paris Climate Agreement at UN-sponsored talks in December. In the run-up to those negotiations, three quarters of the Climatescope nations submitted or reiterated pledges to cut their future CO2 emissions. An even higher number are now on record with promises to achieve certain clean energy consumption goals in coming years.

To read more please visit: <http://global-climatescope.org/en/blog/2016/12/15/Climatescope2016-launch/>

15. UNECE - EPRs to Support the Achievement and Monitoring of SDGs

UNECE environmental performance reviews (EPRs) can play an important role in supporting the achievement and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). EPRs can assess the progress made by a country in achieving the relevant SDGs, identify challenges and provide recommendations to address them.

These were the conclusions of the extended meeting of the Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews, which took place in Geneva on 9th of December 2016. To read more please visit: <http://www.unece.org/info/media/news/environment/2016/eprs-to-support-the-achievement-and-monitoring-of-sdgs/doc.html>

16. Call for Participation: UN/CEFACT Announces launching of a new project

UN/CEFACT is pleased to announce the launching of a new project, Pipeline Data Carrier. Information in business transactions today often resides in fragmented business and government systems; it is often transmitted from actor to actor on the information supply chain, sometimes being altered or omitted.

The project's purpose is to provide project managers with a recommended framework to develop the high level design for traceability systems for regulated goods in international trade. Read more at: <https://www.unece.org/cefact/>

17. ADB - Additional Funds to Help Improve Kiribati Roads

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is to provide an additional \$9 million grant to support the Kiribati Road Rehabilitation Project which is upgrading and rehabilitating the road network in South Tarawa (Kiribati). The project is also being supported by the World Bank and the Government of Australia through the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility.

Read more at: <https://www.adb.org/news/additional-funds-help-improve-kiribati-roads>