



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Modernising Trade in the Indian Ocean Rim Conference

Conference Agenda

Capital Pearls Hotel, 6 Lagoon Drive, Umhlanga Rocks, Durban, South Africa, 17-18 June 2019

Including:

1. *The Modernising Trade in the Indian Ocean Rim Conference, for all attendees*
2. *The Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI) meeting, for IORA trade officials only*
3. *The Working Group on Women’s Economic Empowerment (WGWEE) meeting, for IORA women’s empowerment officials only*
4. *The Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF) meeting, for business representatives.*

Side event:

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) 100th Anniversary Regional Event

Associated workshop:

UN Women Research Validation Workshop on Women’s Economic Empowerment

17 June Monday	18 June Tuesday			19 June Wednesday
<p>Modernising Trade Conference</p> <p>09:30 17:15</p>	<p>IORBF</p> <p>08:30 12:30</p>	<p>WGTI</p> <p>08:30 17:00</p> <p>registered only</p>	<p>WG WEE</p> <p>08:30 17:00</p> <p>registered only</p>	<p>UN Women Research Workshop</p> <p>09:30 15:30</p> <p>registered only</p>
<p>Welcome Function</p> <p>19:00</p>	<p>Chair’s Meeting: IORBF / WGTI / WGWEE</p> <p>17:30-18:30</p>			

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Day 1: Monday 17 June 2019

Modernising Trade in the Indian Ocean Rim Conference

07:30-09:15 Registration of Participants

09:15-09:45 **Opening**

Chaired by Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), Chief Operating Officer Tourvest Pty Ltd, Former AREVA Senior Vice President

Welcome Address by Mr Siphos Zikode, Deputy Director General, Department of Trade and Industry

Opening remarks by Mr. Sihle Zikalala, Premier, KwaZulu-Natal Province

Opening remarks by Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe, Secretary-General of IORA

09:45-11:15 **Session 1: Opportunities and Challenges for Trade and Investment in the Indian Ocean Rim**

Chaired by Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), Chief Operating Officer Tourvest Pty Ltd, Former AREVA Senior Vice President

This session will set out the current status of trade and investment in the Indian Ocean Rim and key trends such as the fourth industrial revolution and digitisation.

Presentation by South Africa: reviewing IORA's trade and investment agenda - a view from the Chair
Mr Siphos Zikode, Deputy Director General, Special Economic Zones and Economic Transformation, Department of Trade and Industry

Presentation by the Centre for International Private Enterprise
Mr Jose Raul Perales, Deputy Director (Trade)

Presentation by India: trade and investment challenges and opportunities: the view from India
Mr Manish Singhal, Deputy Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, India

Discussion

11:15-11:30 *Coffee Break*

11:30-13:00 **Session 2: Promoting Trade Facilitation**

Chaired by Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Ms. Nola Watson, Chairman

This capacity building session will provide an update on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement including current status of ratification, examples of customs compliance and overcoming barriers to trade.

Presentation by Mauritius: Looking Ahead: Trade and Investment in IORA in 2025 – the Coordinating Country perspective
Mr. Sunil Boodhoo, Director, International Trade Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Mauritius

The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement
Professor Peter Draper, Executive Director, Institute for International Trade, The University of Adelaide (Australia)

Presentation from the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation
Ms Valerie Picard, International Chamber of Commerce and Deputy Director, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation

Presentation on private sector perspectives on trade facilitation
Mr Stavros Nicolaou, Senior Executive, Aspen Pharmacare

Discussion

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

Session 3: Tools for promoting regional trade

Chaired by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Mr Manish Singhal, Deputy Secretary General

This session will showcase practical tools from Member States to promote regional trade.

Presentation on the Trade Community System
Mr Bryan Clark, Director, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Presentation on the IORA Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Mechanism
Ms Anjana Khemraz, Secretary General, MCCI Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Mauritius

Presentation by UNCTAD on Facilitating trade for boosting SMEs and inclusive development
Ms Claudine Sigam, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Discussion

15:30-16:00

Afternoon Tea

16:00-17:00

Session 4: Tools for Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment

Chaired by Kenya
Mr John Ndonji, Principal Gender Officer, State Department for Gender

Reflecting the importance of women's economic empowerment in achieving inclusive and sustainable economic growth, this session will include presentations and tools businesses can adopt.

Presentation by UN Women on Women's Empowerment Principles
Ms Leigh Tomppert, Coordinator, Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim Project, UN Women

Presentation by International Trade Centre (ITC), drawing from the SME Competitiveness Outlook 2018 Report and SheTrades platform
Ms Judith Fessehaie, Director, Sustainable and Inclusive Value Chains, International Trade Centre

Discussion

17:00-17:15

Conference Wrap-Up

Summary of the day's proceedings

Chaired by Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), Chief Operating Officer Tourvest Pty Ltd, Former AREVA Senior Vice President

Mr. Chris Wood, Director (International Operations), Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

with

Mr. Doug Trappett, Director, Indian Ocean Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

19:00

Networking cocktail hosted by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), South Africa; the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia; and Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal (TIKZN).

Capital Pearls Hotel (room TBC)

For all participants

Day 2: Tuesday 18 June 2019

There are multiple meetings on Day 2 as per the outline on page 1. Two meetings are closed to registered delegates only (Working Group on Trade and Investment, WGTI; and Working Group for Women's Economic Empowerment, WGWEE).

Day 2: Business meetings (open to all)

08:00-08:30	Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF) Meeting Coffee and Registration of Participants Attendees include nominated IORBF delegates, and anyone as observers
08:30-12:30	IORBF meeting 23 rd Meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), to discuss how business can cooperate with governments and promote trade in the Indian Ocean region. <i>Host: Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of IORBF, Chief Operating Officer Tourvest Pty Ltd, Former AREVA Senior Vice President</i> 08:30-08:45 Welcome and objectives 08:45-09:15 Report of the previous meeting 09:15-10:15 Strategic conversation – Vision for revitalising the IORBF 10:15-11:15 IORBF initiatives and recommendations 11:15-11:45 Proposal for a permanent business interlocuter for IORA 11:45-12:00 Any other business 12:00-12:15 Communique Preparation 12:15-12:30 Recommendations and Closing Includes group photograph at 09:15.
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30-17:00	Side event: International Chamber of Commerce: 100th Anniversary Event Opening and keynote addresses Panel one: Stop the rise in global inequality Panel two: Make climate change everyone's business Closing
17:00-17:30	Break
17:30-18:30	Chairs' Meeting: IORBF, WGTI and WGWEE Chaired by South Africa <i>Mr. Victor Mashabela, Chief Director, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa</i> Chairs, Vice Chairs and Coordinating Countries of the IORBF, WGTI and WGWEE will reconvene to share the priorities of their respective working groups, and identify shared objectives across the three groups. Observers welcome.

Day 2: Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI) (closed to registered delegates only)

08:00-08:30 Coffee and Registration of Participants
FOR NOMINATED WGTI DELEGATES ONLY

08:30-10:30 **Session 1: Revisiting and Revitalising the Working Group on Trade and Investment – role and mandate**

Chaired by South Africa
Mr. Victor Mashabela, Chief Director, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

An opportunity for Member States to discuss the WGTI's role and draft Terms of Reference, drawing on discussions from Day 1.

Includes group photo at 10:00

10:30-11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00-12:30 **Session 2: Revisiting and Revitalising the Working Group on Trade and Investment – work plan**

Chaired by Mauritius
Mr. Sunil Boodhoo, Director, International Trade Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Mauritius

An opportunity for Member States to propose and discuss elements for the WGTI Work Plan.

Presentation of key recommendations from the 'Study on Bilateral and Regional Trade and Investment-related Agreements, Arrangements and Dialogues between Member States'
Professor V. N. Attri, Chair in Indian Ocean Studies (CIOS)

12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-15:00 **Session 3: Work plan discussions continued.**

Chaired by India
Mr Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, India

Presentation on how IORBF and WGTI can work best together
Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), Chief Operating Officer Tourvest Pty Ltd, Former AREVA Senior Vice President

15:00-15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30-17:00 **Session 4: Next steps**

Chaired by South Africa
Mr. Victor Mashabela, Chief Director, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

This session will summarise the day's proceedings, including key elements to report to the IORA Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) meeting on 19-20 June 2019, next meeting date, and any key deliverables to be achieved before the IORA Council of Ministers meeting in late 2019.

17:30-18:30

Chairs' Meeting: IORBF, WGTI and GWEE

Chaired by South Africa

Mr. Victor Mashabela, Chief Director, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

Chairs, Vice Chairs and Coordinating Countries of the IORBF, WGTI and GWEE will reconvene to share the priorities of their respective working groups, and identify shared objectives across the three groups.

Observers welcome.

Day 2: Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment (registered delegates only)

08:00-08:30 Coffee and Registration of Participants
FOR NOMINATED GWEE DELEGATES ONLY

08:30-10:30 **Session 1: Updates on WEE activities**

Chaired by South Africa

Mrs. Nomvula Makgotlho, Chief Director, Market Access Support, Department of Small Business Development, South Africa

Presentation by UAE on Women's Financial Inclusion

Mr. Mohamed Alzaabi, Director of Trade Promotion Department, Ministry of Economy, United Arab Emirates

Presentation by Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) on blue economy research

Professor Narnia Bohler-Muller, Executive Director, HSRC

Presentation by UN Women on project webinars and research

Ms Leigh Tomppert, Coordinator, Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim Project, UN Women

Discussion

10:30-11:00 *Group Photo and Coffee Break*

11:00-12:30 **Session 2: Promoting entrepreneurship: what next?**

Chaired by India

Ms Ashima Chaturvedi, Officer on Special Duty, Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs

Promoting women's entrepreneurship is at the heart of IORA's WEE agenda. This session will update the GWEE on forthcoming US support for women's economic empowerment in IORA, opportunities to link with UN Women's project, and seek the GWEE's guidance on ways forward.

Presentation by the US on WEE support and a Women's Business Forum

Ms Melanie J. Bixby, Deputy Director, Security and Transnational Affairs, South and Central Asian Affairs, U.S. Department of State

UN Women discussion questions on promoting the WEPs in IORA Member States

Ms Leigh Tomppert, Coordinator, Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim Project, UN Women

12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-15:00

Session 3: Taking Forward the Work Plan

Chaired by Mauritius

Mrs. Mohni Bali, Head, Gender Unit, Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, Mauritius

With the GWEE work plan circulated out of session and following the updates on activities given in Session 1, this session invites Member States to nominate to implement currently unallocated projects, suggest new projects and consider next work steps.

15:00-15:30

Coffee Break

15:30-17:00

Session 4: GWEE role, composition and next steps

Co-Chaired by Australia and Mauritius

Mrs. Mohni Bali, Head, Gender Unit, Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, Mauritius

and

Ms. Catherine Herron, Assistant Director, Indian Ocean Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

In this session Member States will discuss Coordinating Country role for WEE for 2019-20 (two-year term of current Coordinating Countries expires end 2019); finalise discussions on the GWEE Work Plan, if necessary; summarise key elements for Australia to report to the IORA Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) meeting on 19-20 June 2019; give preferences for the next meeting date; highlight any key deliverables to be achieved before the IORA Council of Ministers meeting in October 2019.

17:30-18:30

Chairs' Meeting: IORBF, WGTI and GWEE

Chaired by South Africa

Mr. Victor Mashabela, Chief Director, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

Chairs, Vice Chairs and Coordinating Countries of the IORBF, WGTI and GWEE will reconvene to share the priorities of their respective working groups, and identify shared objectives across the three groups.

Observers welcome.

Wednesday 19 June 2019

**Associated workshop:
UN Women Research Validation Workshop on Women's Economic
Empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim Region**

09:30-15:30

Note: This is a closed workshop for members of the IORA Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment and the Technical Advisory Group for the UN Women project only. This is not open to other participants. All participants will be expected to have read the research in advance, which will be circulated prior to the meeting.

This Workshop will examine in detail two draft pieces of research on women's economic empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim region being conducted by UN Women through the 'Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in the Indian Ocean Rim' project, supported by Australia.

Refer to separate Concept Note. Agenda and draft research reports to be circulated to participants separately.
