

The Chamber

October - December 2022

NEWSLETTER

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**KENYA - DRC
TRADE MISSION
2023**

**KNCCI HOSTS
MSMES ROUNDTABLE**

**LAUNCH OF DIGITAL
ECONOMY MSME
RESEARCH FINDINGS**

INSIDE!

Introduction

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (hereinafter referred to as the Chamber) is a not-for-profit autonomous, private sector institution and Membership Based Organization (BMO). It was established in 1965 after the amalgamation of the three existing Chambers of Commerce at the time, namely, the Asian, African and European Chambers mandated to protect and develop the interests of the business community. To date, the Chamber has a countrywide outreach with 47 County Chambers and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Council of Governors (CoG). The MOU seeks to promote greater trade and investment at the county level. The Chamber also works in close collaboration with the Government, stakeholders and business development organizations internationally. KNCCI is an affiliate member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the G77 Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PACCI), the World Chamber Federation (WCF), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Agriculture (EACCIA), and the East African Business Council (EABC), among several others. The Chamber advocates for the creation of a favorable commercial, trade and investment environment that supports enterprise expansion. The membership of KNCCI constitutes small, micro enterprises, medium and large enterprises.

The governing structure of the Chamber comprises of the National Governing Council, The Chamber President, The Chamber 1st Vice President and The Chamber 2nd Vice President, Chamber Directors, Chamber Sector Committees, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chamber of Trustees, as well as other relevant governance structures that may be set from time to time to execute specific tasks.

Vision

A vibrant and prosperous business community.

Mission

To facilitate and promote a sustainable business environment for economic growth and prosperity.

Rallying call

Growing your business together.





Courtesy Visit

Mauritius Economic Development Board (EDB) Chairman Mr. Hemraj Ramnial CSK, paid a courtesy visit to the Chamber leadership ahead of the Kenya-Mauritius Business & Investment Forum scheduled to take place on the 13th and 14th October 2022 at Mercure Nairobi Hotel (formerly Crowne Plaza Hotel), Upper Hill, Nairobi.

The discussions emphasized the importance of exchanging trade information and jointly hosting trade missions and exhibitions to establish new potential market and create joint ventures. Opportunities were highlighted in: Agriculture, Manufacturing, Information and Communication Technology, Banking and Finance, Tourism, Infrastructure, Building and Construction, Blue Economy and the Orange Economy (Textile and Leather).

Kenya and Mauritius maintain a cordial trade relationship having established a Joint Commission Council mandated to enhance trade between the two countries. The total trade between the two countries amounts to USD 69.46 million in 2021, with the balance of trade in favor of Mauritius. Mauritius is among top African investors in Kenya, mostly in financial services and the sugar sector.

The Double Tax Treaty signed in 2019 and ratified by Kenya in 2020 creates a legal framework for use by the Revenue Authorities in both countries for the avoidance of double taxation. A Memorandum of Understanding exists between the two national standards bodies for cooperation in standardization and related activities with a view to eliminating technical barriers to trade.

KNCCI and EDB will jointly establish a Joint Business Council to oversee implementation of trade and investment objectives as envisioned by both Countries.



Boosting the logistics Industry between Kenya and Saudi Arabia

The KNCCI leadership led by the Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia and Chamber 1st Vice president Dr. Erick Ruto, hosted a delegation from the Saudi Arabia Port authority – Jeddah Islamic Port led by Eng. Majed Rafed Al-Argoubi and Red Sea Gateway Terminal led by Eng. Hamdi Nadhrah.

In his presentation, Eng. Majed described Jeddah Islamic Port as the primary gateway to the Holy Mosque in Mecca for Muslim pilgrims from around the world. The port today is the biggest gateway for Saudi Arabia's imports and exports and the Red Sea's top re-export point, with 75 percent of the country's exports and inbound trans-shipment going through it.

The Jeddah Islamic Port is a logistics hub dealing with containers, general cargo, solid bulk, liquid bulk, livestock, passengers and log point.

In 2019 Jeddah Islamic Port, won the 10th "Makkah Award for Excellence" for economic excellence, in recognition of Saudi Customs' implemented programs and initiatives which contributed to the optimization of customs clearance procedures. The 2-hour clearance program was one of the most significant achievements, which created a qualitative leap by reducing the duration of the customs clearance from 8 days to less than 48 hours, and less than 24 hours for pre-arrival electronic submission of shipments.



The Chamber President took the delegation through the various investment opportunities in Kenya with a growing and diversified economy that is supported by a general investment climate; broader economic reforms, technology development, infrastructure improvements, exciting consumer market, qualified and cost-effective workforce, strategic Geographical location, wide market access, well-established private sector, vibrant capital market. Kenya is well suited as a distribution base to service Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia. Kenya serves as the Communications & Logistics hub of the region with access to regional transport corridors.

Additionally, he noted that it is safe to invest in Kenya, no foreign exchange control, allowing for full repatriation of profits, capital or interests. Foreign Investments Protection Act (FIPA)- FIPA guarantees against expropriation of investment by the government ensuring investments by foreigners is protected.

The Chamber 1st Vice President Dr. Erick Rutto in his remarks stated that in order to bridge the trade balance between the two countries it would be ideal to increase the export of live animals especially during Hajj with Kenya being a Disease-Free Zone.

KNCCI Director Mr. Kariuki Theuri emphasized on the need for the Saudi Food and Drug Authority and Kenya Food and Drug Authority to agree on the required certification in order to make the process seamless for businesses in both countries.

Red Sea Gateway Terminal (RSGT) is the newest flagship container terminal at Jeddah Islamic Port, a world-class terminal spearheaded by the Saudi Industrial Services group SISCO. Located at the Port of Jeddah, the Red Sea Gateway Terminal was established in 2009 as Saudi Arabia’s first private sector Build-Operate-Transfer project. Currently, with an annual container throughput capacity of 5.2 million TEUs, RSGT is providing world-class integrated logistics solutions, port operations in one of the world’s 40 busiest container ports and serves as an engine of growth for both local and regional economies.

Additionally, he noted that it is safe to invest in Kenya, no foreign exchange control, allowing for full repatriation of profits, capital or interests. Foreign Investments Protection Act (FIPA)- FIPA guarantees against expropriation of investment by the government ensuring investments by foreigners is protected.

Chamber President, Mr. Richard Ngatia



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KNCCI members to benefit from the NSE Ibuka program



The Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) Chairman Mr. Kiprono Kittony, NSE CEO Geoffrey Odundo and NSE Chief Business Officer Ms Mbithe Muema paid a courtesy visit to the KNCCI Leadership led by the Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia.

The meeting aimed to deliberate on areas of collaboration between the two institutions gearing focus on the NSE Ibuka Program. Ibuka is a premium incubation and acceleration program established by the NSE PLC in 2018. The program seeks to support companies to reach their next stage of growth through an incubation and acceleration program tailor made to suit their needs. Through the various stages, the Program is designed to prepare companies to raise capital and be investor ready through various capital market options available at the NSE PLC. The program offers a wide range of benefits to entities including:

- **Capital Markets Access** – The Ibuka Program provides enterprises with a unique opportunity to have direct access to capital market players including regulators and advisors. The exposure provides companies knowledge of key considerations when companies want to access public capital markets to raise funds and accelerate growth

- **Visibility** – The Ibuka program provides companies access to increased visibility opportunities that enhancing their profile. The program exposes companies to media, investors, analysts as well as other key stakeholders. Visibility of the company is supported through various media engagements initiatives by the NSE as well as a weekly list of all the companies on the program shared to a database of over 10,000 investors locally and internationally.

- **Expert Advisory** -The program provides company's access to a host of advisors and consultants who offer expert advisory and consulting services to the enterprises.

- **Business Sustainability**-The program enables companies develop relevant corporate governance structures that enhance decision making thus enhance the probability of the business to continue operating successfully.

- **Value Discovery**– The program enables companies enhance their value as well as establish their objective market valuation through various initiatives.



5th Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE) 2022 press conference at Nairobi Serena Hotel

The 5th Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE) took place from the 3rd to 5th November, 2022 at the Sarit Expo Centre Nairobi.

The three days event was organized by Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited in partnership with Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) and Kenya Investment Authority under the theme, 'Driving growth in Kenya's manufacturing sector through technology and partnerships. Data from the International Monetary Fund [IMF] predicts that despite the COVID-19 impact, Kenya's economy is still expected to grow by 5.0 per cent in 2022 and it will maintain a 5.7 per cent growth in 2023.

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According to Richard Ngatia- President of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, [KNCCI], the exhibition is expected to contribute to the Kenya government's Big 4 Agenda by providing trade and technological exchange opportunities between Kenya and the world.

Mr Ngatia "Kenya Total exports to China grew by 37% from 2020 to 2021 due to increased demand of Kenyan Products (Ores and concentrates of base metals, Petroleum oils and oils, Vegetable textile fibers, Leather, manufactures of base metal, crude vegetable materials, tea and mate) also most of the exporters have been able to meet the standards. With now Kenyans exporting Avocado in 2022. We anticipate the total exports to increase by the end of 2022."

The Expo comes at a time when the new administration's economic blueprint is anchored on a Bottom-UP model to grow the country's GDP.

Mr Gao Wei, Managing Director, Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited, hinted at the need to link local enterprises to better technology as a way of enhancing their productivity. "We recognize and pledge to support the current government's Bottom-Up Economic Model offering a platform for both local and international business communities to share technological advancements and boost local production capability to match the international standards through a partnership with stakeholders."

The 5th edition of the expo focuses on industrialization. The exhibition portfolio includes General Machinery, Construction Machinery, Hardware & Tools, Solar & New Energy products, Auto Parts, Chemical Products Medical Equipment, etc. In addition, according to our statistics, over the past four years, our exhibition has received more than 4,800 professionals and merchants from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and other countries, with a turnover of around \$ 20 million. Based on these, we could foresee a greater performance this year.

The industrialization drive is taking the African continent by storm as most countries are scaling up growth to meet the African Union's 2063 plan that is pegged on making the continent the manufacturing hub of the world.

Most African countries have inked more trade deals which are areas like infrastructural development and skills transfer.

"Kenya become an important participant of the Belt and Road Initiative and the gateway for Chinese enterprises to "Go into Africa". Developing Manufacturing is also one of the Key Sectors in Kenya's Vision 2030. China now is ready to help increase the added-value and competitiveness of Kenya Products and the objective of the expo is set to provide a unique platform to fulfil this goal." comments Mr Pius Rotich, Team leader of the Investment Promotion Department at the Kenya Investment Authority.

Mr Rotich also opines that the Kenya Kwanza team has settled on six core pillars, namely: Agriculture; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) economy; Housing and Settlement; Healthcare; Digital superhighway and creative economy; Environment and climate change. "The expo provides a unique platform for both government and private sectors from the two countries to cooperate on Agriculture, Manufacturing, Healthcare and construction which are the key sectors of priority for the Kenya Government with great socio-economic impact to Kenya. This expo is coming in such a time when the government is working hard to revive businesses that had been affected by the pandemic & slowed down during election-eering period. This year, 22 Kenyan companies dealing in Tea, coffee, Avocados and flowers will exhibit and use this platform to look partners and new markets in China." Mr Rotich reveals.



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In comparison to the four previous editions of our exhibition, the 5th edition of the Kenya International Industrial expo is set to be bigger and better.

The show inclusive of the indoor and outdoor area covers 3121m², an increase of 20% compared to last year. Altogether, there will be 151 stands built for a total of 130 companies mainly from China and other countries who will showcase their products this year. As part of the dedicated effort to boost the local industries in support of the government’s Bottom-Up Economic Model of Kenya,

Mr Gao added that “This year the expo shall be remain a combination of both virtual and physical (Online +Offline) Hybrid Expo model. The foreign exhibitors will have local representatives at their respective stands. Trade visitors at Sarit Expo Centre will have a chance to see and interact with the products physically and have real time (live) discussions with the foreign exhibitors via virtual links for business deals and negotiations.”

Courtesy Visit by Cuban Ambassador



The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia hosted the ambassador of Cuba to Kenya H.E. Juan Manuel Rodriguez. The Ambassador was accompanied by 3rd Secretary Ms. Edisleydi Curbelo Garcia and Mr. Mwazala of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Cuba Desk.

The Ambassador invited the Kenya business community to participate in the Fihav – Havana International Fair 2022 scheduled to take place on the 14th -18th November 2022 in Havana, Cuba. The Trade Fair is open to all sectors and is expected to attract participants from all over the world.

Kenya and Cuba enjoy cordial bilateral cooperation, and have progressed beneficial cooperation in the healthcare sector. In 2017 the two countries implemented an exchange programme that saw Cuban doctors come to work in Kenya County hospitals while Kenyan doctors were sent to Cuba for specialized training. With both countries being members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), there is opportunity to improve cooperation and partnership in healthcare, tourism, education, renewable energy and ICT sectors.

The Ambassador invited the Kenya business community to participate in the Fihav – Havana International Fair 2022 scheduled to take place in Havana, Cuba.

▮ Cuban Ambassador, H.E. Juan Manuel Rodriguez



KNCCI and ACA heighten collaboration to combat counterfeiting

Trade in counterfeits is a global challenge that has affected brand reputation, diluted market competition and undermined Intellectual Property rights (IPR). Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) President Mr. Richard Ngatia hosted a delegation from the Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA) led by ACA Executive Director Dr. Robi Mbugua Njoroge and senior management team.

The two Organizations resolved to heighten collaboration towards combating counterfeiting and dealings in counterfeit goods.

ACA will work closely with KNCCI through the Chamber Intellectual Property and Legal & Regulatory Committees to intensify sensitization campaigns targeting both traders and consumers, build the capacity of importers on IPR recordation, conduct research on counterfeiting and spearhead legal and policy reforms.

Findings of the first ever national baseline survey on illicit trade conducted between October 2019 and February 2020 by ACA revealed that trade in counterfeits cost the country over US\$900 million annually in tax revenue, with 7500 job losses estimate in 2018 alone. Commonly counterfeited products include alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, footwear & clothing, electronic equipment, beauty products and medicines.

The Belarus Business Forum Held on 27th October 2022 at KNCCI Board Room



The Ambassador of Belarus H.E. Pavel Pavel Vziatkin accompanied by the Deputy Director General for certification from The Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BELCCI) Mr. Sergei Nikiforov paid a courtesy visit to the Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia to establish a rapport between the two Chambers of commerce.

The meeting was also attended by KNCCI Secretariat, Ms. Caroline Kossiom, Ms. Joyce, Ms. Virginia and Mr. Abubakar.

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), in partnership with the Belarus Embassy hosted a Kenya- Belarus high- level business forum in the sectors of; Paper, Wood, Machinery, Education, Construction, Agriculture and Tires at KNCCI Boardroom.

The forum aimed at creating business linkages and networks between Kenya and Belarus business communities where Kenya plays a key role as a trade hub for further distribution of Belarus goods and services to the markets of other Countries in East Africa.

The KNCCI members and the Top Belarus visiting business delegation were able to exchange and click on their areas of interest thus benefited from the talks. The discussions were interactive which saw the private investors from Belarus encouraged to set up distribution centers and processing zones in Kenya. There would be a further continuation of the B2B Discussions and Sessions tomorrow the 28th of October 2022 at Golden Tulip Hotel Westlands.

This is keen since Kenya Economy continues to evolve and tap into the opportunities arising from global trade patterns and higher market integration.

Boosting Trade between Kenya and the USA



Chairman of the Capital Markets Authority Mr. Nicholas Nesbitt further alluded to the immense investment potential that the East Africa Community offers, with a combined population of more than 280 million

people and endowed with natural resources, human capital and raw materials that can be utilised by domestic and foreign industries.

The delegation had the opportunity to meet and network with Kenyan businesses during their trade mission.

The United States is the largest destination for Kenya's products, with more than 75% exported duty free under AGOA in 2021.

Equity Bank Kenya hosted a delegation from the United States of America (USA) to explore trade and investment opportunities in Kenya following successful missions in Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Speaking on the segment of the business forum, the President of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Mr. Richard Ngatia highlighted on investment opportunities in Key sectors of Agriculture, Manufacturing, Infrastructure, Health Care, Energy, ICT and Tourism. "With the onset of the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), Kenya is well positioned as a distribution base to service Africa, and serve as the logistics hub of the region," he said. Mr. Ngatia encouraged investment in the Special Economic Zones which guarantee tax incentives and are fully developed for investment.





Equity Bank Kenya appreciation visit to KNCCI

Equity Bank Kenya led by Associate Director Mr. Jeremy Kamau, GM Business Banking Erastus Muthura paid a courtesy visit to the Chamber to appreciate the participation and presentation of the Chamber President Richard Ngatia to wide acclamation of their members and stakeholders at the recent Kenya -USA Trade Mission event held on the 1st of November in Nairobi.

The team appreciated the partnership between the two institutions and looked forward to closer collaboration in the coming months and year.

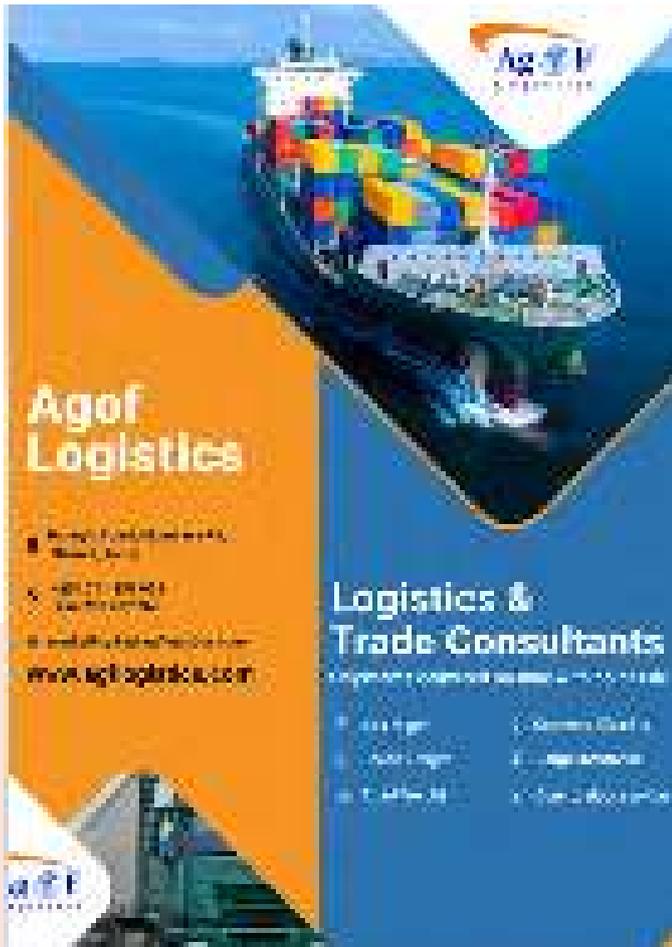


Doors Open at the 5th Edition of The Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE)

The 5th edition of the Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE) officially opened its doors to potential buyers of Chinese products. This is a medium to advance trade interests, and build networks for future business partnerships, aligning well with the vision of shared prosperity. The expo will run for three days, starting today Thursday 3rd November, 2022 at Sarit expo Centre in Nairobi.



The Ag. Chief Executive Officer Mr. Patrick Nyangweso represented Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) during the opening ceremony where he indicated that such exhibitions open opportunities for everyone to see solutions offered by the Kenyan market.



The EXPO has continued to provide platforms and opportunities in technology transfer, boosting inter-trade and enhancing the opening of the gateway between Kenya and China. Looking at exports, Kenya exports mainly; Ores and concentrates of base metals, Petroleum oils and Vegetable oils. Others are textile fibers, Leather, Manufactures of base metal, Crude vegetable materials, Tea and mate, among others.

This could be investment prospects or even access to quality brands. He amplified the Chamber's ambition of enhancing international relations by advocating for enhancement of international trade with other states since this is a key contributor of mutual relationship and understanding.

Since 2020, KNCCI has been very proactive in supporting the Kenya International Industrial Expo in collaboration with Afripeak Expo Kenya.



This Expo brings together over one hundred (100) companies from China who will be exhibiting at the 3 days event. It is a fitting launch-pad for growing trade cooperation between China and Africa and an important signal to the world that China remains open for business.



KNCCI collaborates with Wajir County Government

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) leadership led by Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia, 1st Vice President Dr. Eric Rutto, 2nd Vice President Ms. Fatma Elmaawy and Directors hosted the Deputy Governor of Wajir County H.E Hon. Ahmed Muhamed.

The discussions highlighted the need for greater partnership between KNCCI and Wajir County Government to optimise the County's great economic potential. Key focus was drawn towards strengthening trade in livestock and livestock products, cross border trade of cereals and development of infrastructure and industrial parks to attract investment in the vast but promising land of Wajir.

KNCCI through its Wajir County Chapter will continue to work closely with the County Government to ensure that MSMEs benefit from programmes on capacity building, market linkages and credit access.





Kenya-Turkey Joint Business Council signs a working agreement

On 1st November 2022, KNCCI Kenya Joint Business Council signed a 3-year term partnership agreement with the Turkey Joint Business Council. The agreement will act as a guideline on the service delivery of the Kenya-Turkey Business Council.

During the signing The Chairman of the Kenya Joint Business Council Mr.Ken Onditi indicated that the Council will ensure that trade between Kenya and Turkey grows through close sharing of market opportunities, market linkages, quarterly organizing of trade activities, addressing trade challenges amongst traders,

The Turkey Business Council Chairman Mr.Omar, stated that Agriculture, Healthcare, Textile, Infrastructure, Tourism, Manufacturing and Construction will be the main focus area of the council in advancing trade growth and development between the two countries.

The Council will hold consultative meetings with a road map on how to implement its mandate within the 3-year term.

KNCCI Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia applauded the Council's commitment on ensuring growth in Trade and Investment and highlighted that Turkey is a key market for Kenyan Business Community.

He committed to support the Council in the implementation of its mandate.

Agriculture, Healthcare, Textile, Infrastructure, Tourism, Manufacturing and Construction will be the main focus area of the council

Kenya - Turkey Joint Business Council



The Kenya -South Africa high level business forum

The Kenya -South Africa high level business forum took place on the 9th November, 2022 at KICC. The forum brought together a business delegation from South Africa, Kenya business community and government officials .

The Chamber 1st Vice President Dr. Erick Rutto being one of the key note speakers representing the private sector appreciated the relationship between Kenya and South Africa noting that Kenya is among South Africa's leading trading partners in Africa and a major recipient of Foreign Direct Investment from South Africa. Kenya has experienced a trade imbalance with South Africa.

This is premised on the fact that Kenya is primarily an agricultural economy while South Africa is advanced in manufacturing, mining, service and technology, which makes it able to produce high value goods at low costs. In his remarks Dr. Rutto urged the two countries to look into the trade barriers limiting business between the two countries. The trade barriers are;

BARRIERS OF TRADE

- Minimum exposure to South African Business information and opportunities.

- Advance Rulings Business people would appreciate advance ruling, which will provide decisions on the classification, origin and valuation of commodities prior to their importation or exportation, thus improving certainty and predictability.

- High Import Tariff Rates (35%) on Kenyan products to South Africa.

- Delay in payments Some exporters and importers have reported delay on payments and export fraud, which are not only limited to Kenya-South Africa trade but other destinations as well.

- Multiple documentation A number of KNCCI exporters have reported excessive documentation and bureaucracy required to facilitate product samples unlike other Countries. (Need to simplify the process of documentation).

- Visa Issuance Currently Kenyan Business people apply for Visa to visit South Africa which is granted for 3 months while South African Business people get Visa on arrival. We need to harmonize the process and consider long-term Visa for Kenyan Business people.



Visa-Free regime among Key Wins for the Kenya business community to unlock trade with South Africa



Following the high level business forum that took place earlier involving both the private and public sectors from Kenya and South Africa. The business forum was followed up by a presidential deliberation involving the business community and the two heads of state,

H.E Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH President of Kenya and H.E Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa President of the Republic of South Africa to deliberate on matters discussed and come up with tangible solutions for the benefit of the business community.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia in his welcoming remarks recognized the business community present during the forum and appreciated them for being part of the important deliberations. He then proceeded to present a joint summary between him and the South African counterpart Dr. Stavros Nicolaou, Board Member BUSA of the business forum, which included the following;

- The purpose of the business forum was to unlock trade, investment potential and deepen mutual cooperation between the two countries.

- The forum which comprised of both private sector and public sector will bring about an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect between the two countries.

- The two governments have been called upon to seamlessly improve the environment for doing business in the two countries including easing the visa regimes.

- The two countries will work towards having a vibrant frictionless trade and investment relations with the aim of improving livelihoods of the citizens, particularly the youth, women and MSMEs of the two countries .

- The forum took note of the challenges inhibiting the full exploitation of business opportunities within the two countries and called upon the two governments to streamline and harmonize the regulatory frameworks on standards and Sanitary & Phytosanitary Standards (SPS)
- The forum highlighted specific opportunities which can be harnessed for enhanced economic growth in Eastern and South Africa.
- The Forum recognized the importance of agriculture and value addition in the two economies and the whole continent.

The Cabinet Secretary for Trade, Investment and Industry Hon. Moses Kuria in his remarks stated that the future of Africa lies in the free flow of trade and investments. He also called upon South African companies to partake in Kenya’s infrastructure, construction and telecommunication projects through PPPs.

The two heads of state announced a visa free regime for Kenyans going to South Africa for a period of 90 days

Kenya - South Africa High-Level Business Forum





KNCCI Hosts MSMEs Roundtable

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) in collaboration with the National Government represented by H.E Dr. William Samoei Rutto CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya, Hon Geoffrey Rigathi Gachagua Deputy President of Kenya, Investment, Trade & Industry Cabinet Secretary Hon. Moses Kuria and key private sector players held the KNCCI SMEs Roundtable Forum in alignment with the Kenya Kwanza administration.

The Chamber 1st Vice President Dr. Erick Rutto moderated the first session with three panelists representing Eldo Hub, Ngao Credit and Orange Economy with the emphasis on the challenges faced by the SMEs in various sectors.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia in his remarks stated that MSMEs collaborating with government policies, programmes and initiatives is the surest way to create seamlessness and mutually supportive engagement. He noted KNCCI had already taken the lead on this; The last two years have taught us to build sustainable and resilient businesses;

many small businesses closed during this period and took to digital platforms as an alternative for doing business.

A survey conducted in July 2022 shows 48% of businesses adopted the use of phones for marketing and sales, 20% established new strategic partnerships with other businesses

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the Mastercard Foundation launched its COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Program (CRRP) to support businesses (MSMEs), institutions, individuals, and communities respond to and withstand the impact of the pandemic while strengthening their resilience in the long run.

In Kenya, the Mastercard Foundation partnered with KNCCI among other organizations to provide targeted support to informal, microenterprises that were particularly hard hit by the pandemic. 18,000 KNCCI members, majority women and youth entrepreneurs received Ksh. 535 million collateral and interest free microloans as well as digitally delivered training to sustain their businesses during this difficult period.

Overall, the program created new digital channels to reach MSMEs and leveraged existing ones such as MPESA. It is estimated that the COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Program sustained nearly 43,000 jobs, of which 44% or 8,700 were held by young people and 84% or 16,500 by women. The loans disbursement officially ended in May 2021.

We believe technology can serve as a force for progress, therefore, in support of your agenda on the digital superhighway and the creative economy, we propose to support the advancement of Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM), as education and educators play a key role in Kenya's success. We feel a STEAM for all agenda shall prepare us better for the dynamic changing nature of work.

To close the digital divide, pathways to fast-growing technology jobs should include non-traditional programs such as apprenticeships and innovative high school programs that combine academic study with career-focused skills, to prepare our workforce for the future of work.

It is in this regard, in partnership with Trade-Mark Africa, we have built a digital platform for our members. Additionally, we have embarked on a partnership with Google Kenya to digitize and map 4million MSMEs across the country. A partnership with the ICC and UNECA will see us establish a center of entrepreneurship which seeks to digitalize 750,000 MSMEs over a period of 3 years in East and Central Africa with Kenya as the hub.

The President of the Republic of Kenya in his remarks stated that export documents will be digitized to reduce transaction costs and business information digitized and consolidated in an integrated portal. He also emphasized on the need to deepen the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. He instructed that our TVETs be technology compliance and more industrial training and attachment be carried out.

MSMEs must be supported to participate in supply and value chains through establishment of processing plants and common shared facilities. The cost of production must also be lowered significantly.

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry appreciates our sponsors DTB bank Kenya Ltd, Equity Bank Ltd, Stima Sacco, Absa Bank Kenya Ltd and BAT Kenya. We also appreciate all our participants; the panelists, The Board of Directors, The National Governing Council and members for being present

Export documents will be digitized to reduce transaction costs and business information digitized and consolidated in an integrated portal. He also emphasized on the need to deepen the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

President of the Republic of Kenya H.E Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH

Connecting Kenyan businesses to the UAE and Gulf market

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) in collaboration with Sharjah Exports Development Centre (SEDC) which is the export promotion agency of Sharjah (an initiative of Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) hosted the UAE- East Africa Trade mission 2022 at Villa Rosa Kempinski, Nairobi.



The main aim of the trade mission was to enhance bilateral ties between Kenya and the United Arab Emirates. The mission comprised of Business-to-business meetings between companies and individuals from both countries. The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia in his opening remarks appreciated the cordial partnership between KNCCI and SCCI which has seen KNCCI get accorded an office space in Sharjah.

The office will be a one- stop center for traders from Kenya and UAE to be acquainted with information on the investment outlook, trade processes, standards and procedures applicable in the two countries. The space will greatly facilitate B2Bs and encompass a conference hall for business forums.

In his remarks he stated that as the private sector, we look forward to the conclusion of the ongoing discussions on the United Arab Emirates-Kenya Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (UAEK-CEPA) as it will ease trade barriers. The Chamber President emphasized on the opportunity for UAE investors to support the industrial capacity required for the AfCFTA implementation.

Kenya invites investors in manufacturing plants and infrastructure development through PPPs in order to expand Kenya's industrial capacity for international trade.

He concluded by saying that the business forum presents an opportunity for the two chambers to build synergies and support both governments in creating an enabling trade environment between the two countries.

SCCI Chairman, H.E Abdullah Sultan Al- Owais in his remarks stated that he was delighted to be part of the business forum and was hoping that the forum will be beneficial for both UAE and Kenya traders and will also act to bridge the trade gap between the two countries.

The Chief Guest being the Cabinet Secretary Hon. Simon Chelagui Ministry of Cooperatives and MSMEs in his remarks stated that Kenya is a promising place to do business with growing markets and opportunities. Kenya has proven to be an effective paradigm for successful cooperation among economies at different stages of economic development. He stated that despite the commendable contribution by MSMEs to the country's economy, there are a number of challenges accessing regional and international market. As recognized in the UAE Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are vital for the economic diversification and growth because they help in building national human resources.

He concluded by appreciating the good working relationship between KNCCI and SCCI. MSMEs shall leverage on the partnership to strengthen business growth.

Representing the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment Mr. Oliver Konje, Director International Trade expressed his gratitude to be part of the UAE- East Africa Trade Mission, an important platform to discuss and explore opportunities of boosting business exchanges and investment between the two countries.

He acknowledged the warm and cordial relations that exist between the two countries as evidenced by continued cooperation and partnership on issues of mutual interest.

He concluded by encouraging the business associations and councils to work together to enhance business engagements between the private sector in both countries.

Kenya Investment Authority (KenInvest) Ag. Managing Director Ms. Olivia Rachier in her remarks stated that the business forum was timely coming after a long period of Covid -19 pandemic and the world is starting to reopen for international travel.

She observed that trade and investment between the two countries was highly in favor of UAE. Kenya's trade with UAE has been increasing over the years. In 2021, the value of Kenya's imports from UAE was approximately USD 1.83 billion while Kenyan exports to UAE were valued about USD 315 million. She noted that this is one of the gaps that the forum should try to bridge by creating more business opportunities.

She concluded by stating that Kenya has a good business environment and it is much easier to set up and do business here and now than ever before.

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry appreciates the organizers of the forum, participants and all members present. KNCCI urges all members to take advantage of the numerous opportunities to bridge the trade gap between the two countries.



Advocating for compliance of human rights norms and standards by businesses

Businesses play an important role in promoting human rights. They have the power to drive equality in both the workplace and in the community, and through offering employment opportunities it can support the advancement of social and economic rights.

On Wednesday 23rd November, 2022 The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) in partnership with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had a consultative breakfast forum with various business entities within Nairobi to discuss National Action Plan (NAP) on business & human rights. The NAP was approved by the Cabinet & thereafter presented to Parliament. The forum also focused to sensitize businesses on how to successfully face the corporate human rights challenge which is crucial to business success in the years ahead.

KNCHR Deputy Director Mr. Cyrus Maweu in his opening remarks stated that he was very delighted that Kenya is the first African country to set up a National Action Plan (NAP) on business and human rights. He emphasized on businesses being keen on human rights matters, 'A business that threatens human rights threatens its own existence'

The Chamber 2nd Vice President Ms. Fatma Elmaawy in her remarks stated that businesses need to balance human rights & responsibilities for both employers & employees for a healthy business & work environment.

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KNCHR ECOSOC Officer Ms. Christina Arrumm highlighted on the three pillars of the United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs) on business human rights which are;

- State duty to protect human rights.
- Corporate responsibility to respect human rights.
- Access to remedy.

Businesses have a responsibility to respect human rights and provide remedy for any abuses resulting from their activities.



Businesses need to balance human rights and responsibilities for both employers and employees for a healthy business and work environment. She emphasized that the new business value and currency is 'integrity'.

2nd Chamber Vice President, Fatma El-Maawy





KNCCI- KDC Breakfast meeting dubbed 'Creating Wealth together'

In June 2022, The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) entered into a partnership with the Kenya Development Corporation (KDC) to accelerate the provision of credit to Small and mid-sized enterprises.

To foster the partnership the two organizations organized a member's breakfast at the Sarova Stanley Hotel under the theme; 'Creating wealth together'. The main aim of the meeting was for the members present to familiarize themselves with the products and services offered by KDC and how they can tap in for business continuity and growth.

The meeting was officiated by Director Investments at Kenya Development Corporation Ms. Nora Ratemo who in her remarks appreciated KNCCI for mobilizing members to benefit from the partnership. She welcomed investors to breakfast meeting to introduce KDC and the products offered to both industrial and commercial enterprises.

KNCCI Acting Chief Executive Officer Mr. Patrick Nyangweso in his opening remarks appreciated the Kenya Development Corporation for creating a platform to address the challenges in relation to the SME sector.

KDC Deputy Director Business Development and Advisory Ms. Judith Omachar gave an overview of KDC. Kenya Development Corporation Ltd (KDC) is a Development Finance Institution which was established in 2020 to merge the operations of Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation (ICDC), Tourism Finance Corporation (TFC) and IDB Capital Limited. She also made a presentation on the various financial products and services which include;

- Loan facilities
- Equity finance
- Special facilities
- Advisory services

The Chamber 1st Vice President Dr. Erick Rutto welcomed all the members and urged them to take advantage of the various products offered by KDC for the benefit of growing their businesses. He urged KDC to cascade their services across all the 47 counties in which KNCCI has presence in to improve business in the grassroots.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia in his remarks appreciated KDC for creating a platform with KNCCI members 5 months since the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) signed a memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kenya Development Corporation.

The noted that the partnership between KNCCI and KDC will provide an avenue for KNCCI Members to access affordable credit to grow their businesses, while at the same time providing KDC access to potential clients to absorb the products highlighted.

As it stands, the business community have an opportunity to contribute to key development projects through PPPs, in the sectors of tourism, infrastructure, healthcare and housing among others. During recent trade missions in South Korea, France, UK and others, we have seen great interest by foreign investors to establish trade partnerships with Kenyan businesses through development of infrastructure, joint ventures, distributorships and exports.

Mr. Ngatia urged the Kenya Development Corporation to avail clients with minimal time frame of access of funds to 7 days opposed to the current 60 days. He also urged them to take up collateral such as LPO financing and comfort letter.

Representing KDC Director General, the Deputy Director, Finance and Accounts Mr. Kennedy Wanderi appreciated KNCCI for taking the lead in establishing a working rapport with KDC to ensure business growth by offering business advisory services and come up with products that are more suitable for members.

KNCCI Women In Business Vice Chairperson Ms. Nancy Muthoni concluded the meeting by issuing vote of thanks to the organizers and participants. She appreciated KDC for fostering the partnership with KNCCI and giving the business community a chance to network and benefit from their services.

During recent trade missions in South Korea, France, UK and others, we have seen great interest by foreign investors to establish trade partnerships with Kenyan businesses through development of infrastructure, joint ventures, distributorships and exports.

█ Chamber President, Mr. Richard Ngatia



UAE Trade Center in partnership with African Salihya – ASCC Logistics successfully announced the launch of its extended digital e-commerce platform Order N Get (ONG) (www.ordernget.com) at Villa Rosa Kempinski Nairobi.

The platform will act as a major gateway to shop from Dubai to Kenya. Order N Get (ONG) is a unique ecommerce platform that facilitates online sales of products by verified sellers, offering wide range of products at unbeatable price, end to end delivery with an exceptional experience for both sellers and shoppers in the UAE and Africa region. The Order N Get (ONG) is an initiative that will facilitate all types of businesses to sell products online and provide customers a unique and pleasant online shopping experience.

Ordernget.com **successfully** launched in Kenya

More importantly, this initiative aims to support large- and small-scale businesses by giving them wider market access and visibility for their products in the online marketplace. Customers can order electronics, beauty & fragrance, home & kitchen products, baby & kid's products and fashion accessories through this multi-category site, with more categories to be added eventually.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Walid Hareb AlFalahi, Chief Executive Officer, UAE Trade Center and Founder, OrderNGet said "ONG is a cross border e-commerce platform catering to B2B/B2C segments. This unique platform e-connects UAE and Africa thereby facilitating businesses to expand into new markets, sell/buy products at their convenience and under the umbrella of open market principles in a secure transactional environment."

Mr. Mohamed-Dahir Sheikh Abdirahman, Managing Director and Founder, African Salihiya – ASCC Logistics and Co-Founder, OrderNGet added: “There is immense scope for trade to be enhanced further by tapping into untapped opportunities and connecting businesses across countries.

OrderNGet, with its innovative cross-border e-commerce technology, provides an open opportunity for businesses to enter new markets, connect with businesses, and buy or sell products with easy payment and end-to-end delivery. Thus, our partnership with ONG acts as a key driver for the upliftment of the economy and for our people ‘s growth.” This initiative aims to support the country’s vision 2030, working in strategic partnership with the Kenyan Government to expand the economy and thus ONG was launched in Nairobi during the national day of the United Arab Emirates, joining hands together to achieve this vision.

Honorable Aden Duale, Cabinet Secretary (CS), Ministry of Defence, Republic of Kenya in his remarks appreciated the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) for building partnerships that are beneficial to the business community. He also urged the founders of the platform to ensure that the platform also accommodates Kenyan products such as coffee, tea and flowers which are majorly for export.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia stated that the launch was very timely with the recent launch of the hustler fund which will help the pyramid at the bottom to access opportunities to import products and commodities to set up small businesses.

The Chamber President appreciated the founders for the great initiative, he gave KNC-CI’s commitment to support the Kenya business community access new international markets and tap into global opportunities. Africa & UAE trade partnership has been a hallmark of growth and is poised for further growth with the launch of OrderNGet. “This is an exciting opportunity for our business community to leverage on E-commerce to access the UAE market for improved trade.”

Mr. Pithon M Mutiga Head- MSME Banking, National Bank Of Kenya (NBK) added “Trade is an integral part of our economy, and this partnership will see our traders in export/import businesses thrive. As a financial partner, NBK will support payments and seamless transactions on the platform. We remain dedicated to support Kenya – UAE trade and are cognizant of the fact that to achieve this, we must work with partners and players in the industry”.

Honorable Simon Chelugui, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Cooperative and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise and Development in his remarks stated that the platform was timely to create a link between Kenya and UAE markets. The platform will act as a new dawn for MSMEs to import and export products to enhance products.

Mr. James Mureu Board Chairman, Micro & Small Enterprise Authority (MSEA) in his remarks noted that MSME participation in

He also urged the founders of the platform to ensure that the platform also accommodates Kenyan products such as coffee, tea and flowers which are majorly for export.

■ Hon. Aden Duale, CS, Ministry of Defence

Tripartite agreement to foster the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



KCB Group a patron member of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI), with synergies between the two being regional and countrywide presence.

KCB foundation is a charitable trust established by the KCB Group dedicated to community development programs to transform lives by ending extreme poverty and hardships by supporting programs in enterprise development, education, environment, health and humanitarian aid.

The tripartite agreement seeks to help support, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and corporates on sustainable development through access to financial and non- financial services . The agreement will also provide capacity building and mentorship through the various programs such as 2jjajiri, Mifugo ni Mali and agribusiness beneficiaries. The agreement will also ensure that research on emerging issues is conducted and possible interventions identified to solve any issues affecting the MSMEs. Chief Commercial Officer KCB Bank Group Mr. Samuel Makome in his remarks stated that the agreement will be of benefit to all KNCCI members across the country since both organizations have presence in all the 47 counties.

The Bank is also ready to tailor make products to suit emerging needs of the business people, The Foundation will support MSMEs in business incubation and business development services in order to grow business and enhance professionalism.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia , appreciated the partnership that will see that MSMEs across the country benefit from the numerous products offered by both KCB bank and KCB foundation. He noted that the agreement will see that all parties will work towards advocating for a conducive business environment for the growth of the MSMEs.

Mr. Ngatia urged the bank to develop online platforms that are easily accessible by the youth and which can be used to sensitize them on various ways of eliminating poverty in the grassroots.

Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI)is delighted to cement the agreement that will bring about business growth to all MSMEs across the country.

Enhancing trade relations between Kenya and Serbia



Bilateral relations between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Kenya are traditionally friendly. Both Kenya and Serbia enjoy a cordial relationship with Serbia having an embassy in Nairobi Kenya and Kenya having a consulate in Belgrade.

The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia hosted the Ambassador of Serbia to Kenya Mr. Dragan Zupanjevac. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen the existing bilateral relations between the two countries through various activities that would be of mutual benefit for businesses to both countries.

The trade statistics between the two countries indicate that trade balance is in favor of Serbia. The major exports to Serbia include; live trees, tobacco, edible fruits, crude vegetable materials and wood products, coffee, tea and fish. The major imports from Serbia include; electric machinery, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, insecticides, mechanical and electrical items and telecommunication equipment.

There will be a Tourism Expo in Serbia in February 2023, Tourism in Serbia is officially recognized as a primary area for economic and social growth and would be ideal for Kenyan businesses to invest in that sector. There will be also a Business to Business (B2B) forum in Nairobi in June 2023 which provide a networking opportunity between business counterparts in both countries.

Trade statistics between the two countries indicate that trade balance is in favor of Serbia. The major exports to Serbia include; live trees, tobacco, edible fruits, crude vegetable materials and wood products, coffee, tea and fish.

Bilateral Relations Between Kenya and Serbia



KNCCI signs a Cooperation Agreement with the Danish Institute for Human Rights

In January 2015 Kenya accepted recommendations to develop a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights while undergoing her 2nd cycle review under the universal periodic review process.

The Government of Kenya through the Office of the attorney General and Department of justice has since developed a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, a comprehensive strategy for protecting against human rights abuses by businesses, whether private or government-owned.

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) has this morning signed an agreement with the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) to build the capacity of KNCCI's members and the business community in Kenya for them to be able to understand and implement the UN guiding Principles on Business Human Rights.

Human rights are universal and every person around the world deserves to be treated with dignity and equality.

While governments have to protect individuals against human rights abuses by third parties, businesses are recognizing their legal, moral, and commercial need to get involved more especially as the cornerstone of the economy.

The attention of customers, business partners, employees, civil society, and investors is increasingly being drawn to sustainability. There is closer scrutiny of corporate impact on people and communities, so is the interest in human rights protection. Companies that focus on protecting human rights and cultivating positive relationships with their stakeholders ensure their business' continued growth and social license to operate.

KNCCI aims to support 400 businesses in Kenya drawn from its 4 regions across the 47 counties. The Project will be executed at the county level in Kenya's four regions with 8 training sessions each carrying 50 business persons. The training sessions will be held in the following counties; Kisumu, Mombasa, Kilifi, Uasin Gishu, Nakuru, Busia, Nyeri and Machakos.

The agreement was signed by the Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia representing the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) and Department Director Business and Human Rights Mr. Elin Wrzoncki representing The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR)

The two organizations urge the business community and the government to act with due diligence to avoid infringing on others' rights. They must address any negative human rights impacts related to their business and must also abide by the international standards.





Courtesy visit by Kenyan Ambassador to DRC

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) will be hosting a regional trade conference to DRC from 22nd January to 26th January, 2023. The trade conference will convene the private sector, government officials, development actors and policy makers from Kenya, The Democratic Republic of Congo, other East African countries and the Great Lakes region.

It is expected to provide a platform for business networking, exchange of trade opportunities and market information.

In a bid to ensure the business community of a fruitful mission, Kenyan Ambassador to DRC Dr. George Masafu paid a courtesy visit to the Chamber President and the KNCCI- DRC planning committee to offer his support in various ways ahead of the trade mission.

The trade conference will convene the private sector, government officials, development actors and policy makers from Kenya, The Democratic Republic of Congo, other East African countries and the Great Lakes region.

■ Hon. Aden Duale, CS, Ministry of Defence



KENYA - DRC TRADE MISSION

Facilitation Fee
30,000
KSh.



KINSHASA
D.R. CONGO



22ND - 26TH
JAN 2023



Business to
Business Forums



Networking
Forums



Industrial
Visits



Excursions/
Expeditions

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Launch of digital economy MSME research findings

Companies are embracing the digital world in greater numbers than ever before. Digitization of businesses has numerous advantages such as access to information, improved customer experience, increased productivity, lower operational costs, improved information security, higher and automation of business processes.

The Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) in partnership with The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) and the Micro and Small Enterprise Authority (MSEA) have launched the digital economy MSME research findings at Nairobi Serena Hotel.

KNCCI was represented by Chamber 2nd Vice President Ms. Fatma Elmaawy, CIPE was represented by Kenya Country Director Mr. Ben Kiragu and MSEA represented by Chairman Mr. James Mureu

The Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) formed a Digital Economy Working Group to provide oversight for a digital economy research project that sought to identify policy and administrative hurdles experienced by SMEs in the digital space.

The Policy Brief discusses challenges, opportunities and policy recommendations focused on Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) as a subset of MSMEs. The research study findings and discussions with the Digital Economy Working Group revealed that MSEs represent a significant percentage of the business environment in Kenya, but are falling behind medium and large enterprises in respect to the adoption of digital technologies. Many factors constrain the participation in the digital economy, of the MSEs surveyed, but three key issues stood out in the study:

With a specific focus on MSEs in the Digital Economy within the Kenyan Innovation System, the brief focuses on the three key issues to make eight recommendations target actors in the triple helix of government, industry and academia.

1 Digital skills training and development/awareness

Government: Use a Public Private Partnership (PPP) approach to offer MSE digital training and skills development / awareness programmes over a 60-month period.

Industry: Strengthen linkages between MSEs and other industry players through Business Associations (BA) so that digital training is easily accessible and focuses on sector-specific needs.

Academia: Offer appropriate training, networking and research in partnership with MSE to demystify access to digital technologies.

3 Cyber Security

Government: should foster a culture of cyber hygiene among MSEs in the digital economy, which includes the development of user-only security technology.

Industry: Enhance the establishment and growth of start-ups in local/global hubs that innovate cyber-security solutions for MSEs.

Academia: Train and undertake MSE focused research on cyber-security working with global actors.

2 Internet and equipment access costs

Government: Use taxation, subsidies and operational efficiency to drive down cost of equipment for MSEs to enter the digital economy.

Industry: Innovate affordable products and services (Wi-Fi, cloud storage) that scale access, lower cost, and provide MSE-specific applications.

MSEs represent a significant percentage of the business environment in Kenya, but are falling behind medium and large enterprises in respect to the adoption of digital technologies.

Findings of the Digital Economy Working Group

MSEs deserve a seat, a voice, and an opportunity at the table where they can articulate their priorities

with respect to Kenya's digital economy transformation. The recommendations in the policy brief seek to provide a foundation for future advocacy by actors in government, industry, and academia to ensure that MSEs are represented in policy making during this period of change.

Such advocacy can be empirically grounded by the findings of the Digital Economy Report and translated into actionable steps through the Toolkit. The goal of the research and resulting products is to support the development of policy interventions that strengthen economic empowerment and democratize economic growth by increasing the inclusion of MSEs in Kenya's Digital Economy.

PICTORIAL



Participants during the Kenya -South Africa High Level business forum at KICC on the 10th November, 2022



Participants during the Kenya -South Africa High Level business forum at KICC on the 10th November, 2022



Members of the Kenya-Turkey Joint business council during Musiad Expo 2022 Fair that took place on November 2-5, 2022 at TÜYAP Fair Convention and Congress Center in Istanbul – TURKEY



The Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia during a courtesy visit to KCB Group CEO Mr. Paul Russo



Visitors during the 5th Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE) at the Sarit Centre Expo



Participants during the Kenya –Egypt Business forum that took place on the 9th October, 2022 at Nairobi Serena Hotel

PICTORIAL



B2B engagements between Kenya and UAE business people



KNCCI appreciates Diamond Trust Bank (DTB) for celebrating the Customer Service Week



Participants during the KNCCI-KDC breakfast meeting at Sarova Stanley Hotel on the 29th November, 2022



Hon Dr. Shadrack Mwitwi, Chairman Debra Limited during a courtesy visit to KNCCI leadership



Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Richard Ngatia with South Korean official during the signing of the trade and investment deal on Wednesday, November 23.



Kakamega Governor Fernandes Barasa, outgoing Finance and Economic Planning executive Geoffrey Omulayi and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry Kakamega chapter chairman Wycliffe Kibisu during the launch of the MoU between KCB and KNCCI.

PICTORIAL



Buxton Point staff receiving an award of recognition as the Best Real Estate Developer at the Mombasa Business Awards Gala Dinner on December 16, 2022.



Sudanese Embassy Nairobi hosts Kenyan business players ahead of International Fair of Khartoum 2023.



Chamber President Mr. Richard Ngatia with the Ambassador of Serbia to Kenya Mr. Dragan Zupanjevac



From left KCB Group Director Marketing, Corporate Affairs Ms. Rosalind Gichuru with Chamber 2nd Vice President Ms. Fatma Elmaawy



From Left Board Chairman MSEA Mr. James Mureu,KNCCI Director Mr. Omarsadik Dahiye and Chief Executive Officer, UAE Trade Center and Founder, OrderNGet Mr. Walid Hareb AlFalahi



H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto , CGH President Of The Republic Of Kenya And Commander-In-Chief Of The Kenya Defence Forces during the KNCCI MSMEs roundtable meeting on the 10th November, 2022

KNCCI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 1ST QUARTER

JANUARY – MARCH 2023

DATE	EVENT	COUNTY/COUNTRY	VENUE	NATURE OF EVENT
JANUARY				
14th Jan	Golf Event-Lady Captain Prize	Kenya	Golf Park	An event for ladies to enhance their golfing prowess and opportunities to network
22nd - 26th Jan	Kenya-DRC outbound mission to the Capital City Kinshasa	National	DRC, Kinshasa	Regional Conference and B2B
24th -31st Jan	40th Session of the International Fair of Khartoum	Sudan	Khartoum	Regional Trade fair

FEBRUARY				
7th- 9th February	International Exhibition of Iron and Steel	Algeria	Oran	Opening of new perspectives, exploiting commercial and investment opportunities for economic operators in iron and steel factors.
16th February	Construction sector Breakfast/Cocktail	Kenya	Nairobi	Networking, capacity building and business forum
18th - 21st Feb	Riyadh Construction Expo	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	Riyadh Front Exhibition	Construction
23rd Feb	E- Commerce SME Roundtable	Nairobi	TBC	Roundtable discussions
23rd - 25th Feb	MEDITECH & HEALTHCARE AFRICA	Nairobi	KICC	Healthcare
23rd - 25th Feb	2nd Engineering & healthcare show	Pakistan	Expo Centre, Lahore	Exhibition
27th - 28th Feb	Tripartite Free Trade Agreement (TFTA)	Masai Mara. Kenya	Masai Mara	Policy & Advocacy

MARCH				
6th -9th March	Kenya Round Table Trade Conference	Nairobi	TBC	Business Linkages (Kenya and UAE)
8th March	New members induction breakfast	Kenya	Nairobi	Identifying new members
8th – 9th March	Dairy Summit Central Kenya Series	Thika	Mwai Kibaki Convention Centre Mt. Kenya University Thika	Exhibition, Workshops & Conferences
16th March	Exporters Round Table	Nairobi	Roundtable discussions	
16th March	XETOVA Networking forum	Kenya	Nairobi	Gain strategic knowledge and connect women in supply chain for increased business opportunities
19th -21st March	International SME Convention	India	New Delhi	Creating awareness about the platform and develop commercial ties.
20th March	XXIV Edition of The International Agro-Industrial Food Fair	Havana, Cuba	Rancho Boyeros Fairgrounds	Agriculture, Agro-processing, food and Beverages
27th - 28th March	Trinitite Free Trade Area (TFTA)	Nairobi	Summit	
29th – 31st Tentative	Germany Business Delegation	Germany	All Sectors	
20th March	Annual SME Conference	Nairobi	KICC	Exhibition, Workshops & Conferences



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