

The logo features three overlapping, light blue, teardrop-shaped elements that form a central white space. The text is centered within this space.

World Chambers Federation

Network | Knowledge | Know-how



**World
Chamb
Federa**

Fédération Mondiale des Chamb
Federación Mundial de Cámaras

sfederation.com



**ICC World
Chambers
Federation**

The World Chambers Federation (WCF) was established by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in December 1950 to be the advocate of its chamber of commerce members worldwide. WCF strengthens links between more than 12,000 chambers enabling each to improve performance as well as discover new products and services to offer to its members. WCF promotes and protects the role of the chamber as an essential intermediary between government, business and the general public.



International Chamber of Commerce
The world business organization

For more information please visit:
www.iccwbo.org

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
ICC is the world business organization representing enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote trade and investment across frontiers and help businesses meet the challenges and

General Council

WCF is governed by its General Council, which sets the strategic direction and development of WCF services. WCF members are eligible to serve on WCF's General Council. They represent the variety of member chambers (national, regional, local, sectoral, large, small, public or private law, etc.).

Membership

WCF activities and projects involve local, regional, national, bilateral and transnational chambers from all over the world. All chambers that are members of ICC, either via the ICC national committee network or directly through its headquarters, are automatically members of WCF. Membership extends into more than 125 countries.

How to Join

For more details on membership, chambers can contact their local ICC representative office or WCF directly.



opportunities of globalization. ICC activities cover a broad spectrum, including arbitration and dispute resolution, business self-regulation, fighting corruption, combating commercial crime, as well as making the case for open trade and the market economy system.

Best Practices and Innovation

World Chambers Congress

The World Chambers Congress is organized every two years in a different region of the world. The Congress is the only international forum for chamber leaders to share best-practice experiences, exchange insights, develop networks, address the latest business issues affecting their communities, and learn about new areas of innovation from chambers around the world.

The Congress addresses, at practical level, how chambers can serve, strengthen and support their member companies.

www.worldchamberscongress.org

World Chambers Competition

The World Chambers Competition, organized in parallel with World Chambers Congresses, is the only global awards programme to recognize the most innovative projects undertaken by chambers of commerce around the world.

The Competition provides a unique opportunity for chambers to:

- showcase originality and ingenuity
- demonstrate determination to strengthen SMEs
- improve services provided to members

www.worldchamberscompetition.org

The Congress attracts delegates from over 100 countries



The World Chambers Congress showcases chamber innovation

WCF Webinars

Following the success of the World Chambers Congress, WCF launched a series of webinars to continue the conversations started at the Congress.

A webinar, short for Web-based seminar, is a presentation or workshop that is transmitted over the Internet. A key feature of a webinar is its interactive elements – the ability to give, receive and discuss information. Past topics include customer service and Certificates of Origins. Webinars on WCF activities, social networks and region-specific issues are also planned.

Chamber Education and Training

Visit our website to learn about the latest offers or contact us if you would like a tailor-made training specific to your current needs.



World Chambers Congresses

- 1999 Marseille, France
- 2001 Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 2003 Quebec, Canada
- 2005 Durban, South Africa
- 2007 Istanbul, Turkey
- 2009 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2011 Mexico City, Mexico
- 2013 Doha, Qatar
- 2015 Europe
- 2017 Asia

Trade Services



ATA Carnets

The ATA Carnet is an international customs document that permits the duty and tax-free temporary import of goods for up to one year. WCF administers

the ATA Carnet international guarantee chain through the World ATA Carnet Council according to the conventions developed by the World Customs Organization.

ATA Carnets are extensively used by businesses all over the world, with over 150,000 Carnets issued every year for goods valued at about US\$17 billion. Currently, 70 countries accept ATA Carnets for the temporary admission of commercial samples, professional equipment and goods for presentation or use at international trade fairs and similar events. In cooperation with WCO, chambers of commerce and the ICC national committee network, WCF is working to extend the ATA Carnet System to more countries and to further integrate it into current business practice.

www.atacarnets.org



Certificates of Origin (COs)

A Certificate of Origin is a document attesting that goods in a particular export shipment are wholly obtained, produced, manufactured or processed in a particular country (country

of origin). Almost every country in the world considers the origin of imported goods when determining what duty will be imposed on the goods or, in some cases, whether the goods may be legally imported at all.

A chamber's role in the issuance and attestation of Certificates of Origin and other trade documents is vital to the facilitation of international trade. WCF enhances the position of chambers as the natural agent for the issuance and attestation of these documents. WCF provides a range of tools to support chambers in this task. This includes publishing the International Certificates of Origin Guidelines, establishing an international CO accreditation chain, monitoring the developments of chamber activity in preferential, non-preferential and electronic Certificates of Origin on a country-by-country basis, as well as offering training.

The WCF Chairmanship



WCF facilitates chamber collaboration on matters of mutual interest



Chamber Services

Business for Peace Awards

The Business for Peace Foundation was founded in 2007 in the belief that socially responsible and ethical initiatives will stand the test as a business case and gradually, as the moral culture of corporations matures, constitute an integral part of modern business.

The inaugural Awards were given in 2009 in Oslo, Norway – the home of the Nobel Peace Prize – with winners chosen by a prestigious Award Committee consisting of past Nobel Prize winners in Peace and Economy.

Local chambers of commerce and the ICC national committee network assist in the global nomination process as local nominating authorities for the Awards, helping the Foundation identify outstanding business people who have been able to achieve business success while acting in an ethically responsible way.

R20 Initiative

Regions 20 (R20) is a coalition to help mobilize sub-national governments in the fight against climate change. WCF has partnered with the R20 to reinforce the capacities of governments and the private sector on low carbon energy projects at sub-national level, in both developing and emerging countries.

Chambers can become an official Nominating Authority for the annual Business for Peace Awards

Through a series of local events and initiatives the project will underscore the vital role of chambers of commerce in helping SMEs to implement sustainable solutions in their operations, understand and make the most of the green economy, and benefit from the new business opportunities.

SME IP Toolkit

Intellectual property (IP) is a driving force for growth. Many chambers of commerce and business organizations already help their local businesses to use IP to increase their competitiveness. The ICC IP toolkit for chambers of commerce was created to support these chamber initiatives. Using the toolkit, chambers can access information on existing chamber IP programmes, and other IP resources, materials and information.

WCN Chamber Directory

WCF is a founding partner of the World Chambers Network (WCN). WCN mobilizes the worldwide network of chambers of commerce to work together at one Internet location. WCN provides a platform for the global chamber network, fostering a comprehensive exchange of business information between chambers and their member companies on all continents. Over 12,000 chambers are listed in the WCN Chamber Directory.

WCN enables chambers throughout the world to develop their traditional mission of providing business support. That means offering solid market intelligence, opening up contacts to new customers and suppliers, and developing business opportunities.

WCN ChamberTrust

ChamberTrust is an international registry of locally verified companies. The verification of the objective information (existence of the company, publicly available identifiers such as the company's sales tax and incorporation numbers, ownership of website, product and service descriptions) is made by a local chamber. The company is then



issued the ChamberTrust seal and is added to the global ChamberTrust registry which allows for extensive, searchable company, product and service descriptions. In addition, the company can upload online sales brochures and catalogues.

WCN Business Opportunities (GBX)

GBX is an online, short-term, trade opportunities advertisement service (to buy or to sell) responding to business specific needs, enabling searches for commercial re-sellers, representatives and other partners abroad. Opportunities include goods and services, for import, export, representation, joint venture, investment and cooperation.

Over 100 chambers around the world have registered to deliver the GBX service, placing opportunities to buy or sell for their companies. Companies can post opportunities directly online or via the participating chamber. Countless companies have found their international business partners by advertising on GBX.

www.worldchambers.com

Global Partnerships

Chambers play a pivotal role in the growth of the private sector. To enhance their capacity to foster private sector development, WCF has strong ties with a range of multilateral organizations, including The World Bank, United Nations Development Programme and regional development banks.

WCF also works with other private sector groups to extend programmes of assistance and training for chambers of commerce, particularly from developing and least developed countries.

Transnational Chambers

A transnational chamber is an organization comprising multiple chambers that share a common geographical or economic region, cultural reference or language. WCF works with transnational chambers on a range of practical projects and partnerships for chambers as well as



Celebrating 60 years of WCF in 2010

their business members.

Cooperation agreements have been established with:

- ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Association of Latin American Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Central America
- Junior Chamber International
- SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry

UN Procurement Division

WCF's partnership with the UN Procurement Division helps educate chambers and their business members on how to do business with the United Nations. The partnership:

- Identifies new business opportunities for members of ICC WCF;
- Supports the outreach needs and efforts by the UN to increase its vendor database;
- Educates chamber staff and vendors about doing business with the UN procurement system;
- Registers more vendors from countries categorized as developing or as economies in transition in the UN Global Market Place:

www.un.org/depts/ptd



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