

## Modernising Trade in the Indian Ocean Rim Conference

# Draft 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 (WGWE) 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) 100<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Modernising Trade Conference</b></p> <p>09:30 17:15</p>	<p><b>IORBF</b></p> <p>08:30 12:30</p>	<p><b>WGTI</b></p> <p>08:30 17:00</p> <p>registered only</p>	<p><b>WG WEE</b></p> <p>08:30 17:00</p> <p>registered only</p>	<p><b>UN Women Research Workshop</b></p> <p>09:30 15:30</p> <p>registered only</p>
	<p><b>ICC Event</b></p> <p>13:30 17:00</p>			
<p><b>Networking Cocktail</b></p> <p>19:00</p>	<p><b>IORBF / WGTI / WGWE Plenary</b></p> <p>17:30-19:00</p>			

## DRAFT AGENDA

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**Day 1: Monday 17 June 2019**

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### **Modernising Trade in the Indian Ocean Rim Conference**

07:30-09:30

Registration of Participants

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09:30-10:00

#### **Opening**

Welcome Address by South African Government

Greeting by Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe, Secretary-General of IORA

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10:00 -11:15

#### **Session 1: Opportunities and Challenges for Trade and Investment in the Indian Ocean Rim**

Chaired by South Africa *[Name TBC]*

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  
*[Name TBC]*

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

Presentation by the World Bank *[TBC]*

Discussion

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11:15-11:30

*Coffee Break*

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11:30-12:45

#### **Session 2: Promoting Trade Facilitation**

Chaired by Australia or UAE *[Name TBC]*

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 from South African private sector: on trade facilitation *[TBC]*

Discussion

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12:45-13:45

*Lunch*

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13:45-14:45

**Session 3: Tools for promoting regional trade**

Chaired by Mauritius

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

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*

Discussion

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14:45-15:15

*Afternoon Tea*

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15:15-17:00

**Session 4: Tools for Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment**

Chaired by Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry or India  
*[Name TBC]*

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

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17:00-17:15

**Conference Wrap-Up**

Summary of the day's proceedings

*Ms Nola Watson, Board Member, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

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19:00

**Networking cocktail hosted by the Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia – for all participants**

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**Day 2: Tuesday 18 June 2019**

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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, WGWE).

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**Day 2: Business meetings (open to all)**

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**Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF) Meeting**

08:00-08:30 Coffee and Registration of Participants  
Attendees include nominated IORBF delegates, and anyone as observers

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08:30-12:30 **IORBF meeting**

23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

*Host: Ms Judi Nwokedi, Chair of IORBF; Senior Vice President of AREVA, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director, Tourism Investment Corporation Limited*

Detailed IORBF agenda to be circulated separately.

Includes group photograph at 09:15.

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12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

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13:30-17:00 **Side event:  
International Chamber of Commerce: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

A regional event hosted by the ICC, which includes:  
Opening and keynote addresses  
Panel one: Stop the rise in global inequality  
Panel two: Make climate change everyone's business  
Closing

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17:00-17:30 Break

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17:30-19:00 **Plenary meeting of IORBF, WGTI and WGWE**

Chaired by South Africa  
*Mr. Victor Mashabela, Deputy Director General, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa*

A meeting to identify common objectives of private sector and business representatives in promoting trade and investment and women's economic empowerment within IORA.

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

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

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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, Deputy Director General, 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

Presentation by South Africa: Discussion of the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Trade and Investment

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10:30-11:00 *Coffee Break*

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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.

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12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

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

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

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15:00-15:30 *Coffee break*

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

Chaired by South Africa  
*Mr. Victor Mashabela, Deputy Director General, 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.

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17:30-19:00

**Plenary meeting of IORBF, WGTI and GWEE**

Chaired by South Africa

*Mr. Victor Mashabela, Deputy Director General, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa*

A meeting to identify common objectives of private sector and business representatives in promoting trade and investment and women's economic empowerment within IORA.

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

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

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

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

Presentation by UAE on Women's Financial Inclusion  
*[Name TBC]*

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

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

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

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

Promoting women's entrepreneurship is at the heart of IORA's WEE agenda. This session will take stock of where we are, and explore in more detail specific initiatives such as the IORA Women's Business Forum and promotion of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs).

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*

Brief recap from ACCI on Tools for Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment (Session 4, Day 1)  
*Mr Bryan Clark, Director, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

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*

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12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

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13:30-15:00

**Session 3: Taking Forward the Work Plan**

Chaired by a Member State *[TBC]*

With the WGWEЕ 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.

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15:00-15:30

*Coffee Break*

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15:30-17:00

**Session 4: WGWEЕ role, composition and next steps**

Chaired by Mauritius (WGWEЕ role, composition) and Australia (next steps)

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

*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 WEЕ for 2019-20 (two-year term of current Coordinating Countries expires end 2019); finalise discussions on the WGWEЕ 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.

Presentation by Mauritius on what successful gender mainstreaming looks like in IORA, and whether IORA is on track.

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

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17:30-19:00

**Plenary meeting of IORBF, WGTI and WGWEЕ**

Chaired by South Africa

*Mr. Victor Mashabela, Deputy Director General, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa*

A meeting to identify common objectives of private sector and business representatives in promoting trade and investment and women's economic empowerment within IORA.

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**Wednesday 19 June 2019**

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**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.

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