



SME e-BULLETIN

(A global update on SME news, events, policies & programmes, roles and activities etc.)

World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises

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WORLD SME NEWS

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ARGENTINA

From today SMEs can access \$ 300 million in soft loans with subsidized credit rate

Starting today (January 5, 2011) SMEs in all sectors can apply for productive projects in over twenty public and private banks, soft loans of two new lines of credit have interest rates subsidized by the Ministry of Industry, which leads Debora Giorgi. The new lines of credit, totaling \$ 300 million, were auctioned between financial institutions and donors to lease in mid-December.

"SMEs have increased access to credit, while the amount of the loans offered are also growing: by 2003 received 18% of \$ 42,000 million and today (January 5, 2011) receive 27% of 163,000 million, which means \$ 36,000 million more credits for SMEs, "Giorgi explained. The minister stressed that "these policies contribute to improving the competitiveness of our SMEs, which are those that give 70% of national employment, and not deleting jobs or lowering wages, as was done in 90. So our young entrepreneurs to gain competitiveness by 5% every year and those SMEs already account for 15% of exports of industrial manufactures. "

Lines available for working capital and productive investment belong to the bonus scheme rates of the industrial portfolio, which subsidizes up to 7 percentage points the interest rate at which loans are granted. In this way, and thanks to the fiscal effort undertaken by the Ministry of Industry, SMEs can obtain financing at competitive rates.

As a remarkable fact, this new section only provides \$ 100 million for operations of leasing for the acquisition of machinery national origin, in amounts up to \$ 800 thousand and terms up to 5 years.

Throughout 2010, the Federal Government, through the SEPYME (Secretariat of the SME and Regional Development), Ministry of Industry, applied nearly \$ 30 million to reclaim the interest rate of more than 15,000 loans for SMEs. The credit quota bidding held last December was the seventh carried out under the bonus scheme SEPYME rates, thus totalling more than 2,100 million pesos tendered in the last two years across all types of entities financial institutions, and companies that benefited the whole country and all sectors of the economy.

Source: Excerpts from <http://www.industria.gob.ar/?p=5658>

DENMARK

New OPS strategy creates clarity for businesses

The Government today (January 11, 2011) published its long awaited overall OPS strategy. A comprehensive approach is necessary and bodes well for the public-private cooperation,

assesses Danish Chamber of Commerce:

"The public sector provides annual tasks for about 90 billion. Million out of a total of approx. 375 billion, which initially may be offered. The potential for increasing the public-private cooperation is enormous and the government's new strategy could help to settle," says CEO Christian T. Ingemann, Danish Chamber of Commerce. "We also liked the strategy aiming to build a consistent review of the competition with the public, in particular in the social areas still occurs at an unfair and incomparably basis", he added.

As part of the strategy the Government will introduce, among other local and regional procurement requirement of 5-8 different areas, and it arouses enthusiasm in the Danish Chamber of Commerce.

Source: Excerpts from

<http://www.danskerhoero.dk/Nyheder/Sider/Ny OPS strategi skaber klarhed for virksomhederne.aspx>

EGYPT

NBAD to Administer Khalifa Fund Loans to SME

Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development and the National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD), the Number One Bank in the UAE, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today (January 12, 2011) to make NBAD an administrator of Khalifa Fund loans.

Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development launched its operations in 2007 to promote and nurture entrepreneurialism and help the development of start-up and existing businesses. The Fund extends credit to small and medium size businesses.

Under the terms of the MoU signed today (January 12, 2011), NBAD would provide credit administrator services of the Fund. The Bank will process the loan application and all the procedures involved in the offering and servicing of Khalifa Fund credit to borrowers.

"Khalifa Fund is establishing a favourable finance and investment environment for SMEs and building a new breed of entrepreneurs in the UAE. Therefore, we are keen on selecting only the best in class partners and very pleased to be cooperating with NBAD, a highly reputable bank with one of the largest network and customers base in the country," said Dr. Ahmed Khlail Al Mutawa, Chief Executive Officer of Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development. "This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) comes to reflect our continuous efforts to build long-term partnership with Abu Dhabi financial institutions to ensure proper financing solutions and minimal rates and administration fees to support and develop SMEs."

The Khalifa Fund aims for Abu Dhabi to become a major investment and development hub and to assist to the expansion of Emirati-owned businesses and industries.

"NBAD is committed to the development and progress of Abu Dhabi and the achievement of Abu Dhabi Vision 2030, the blueprint of sustainable growth in the Emirates. Therefore, we are looking forward to strengthen our partnerships with Abu Dhabi's institutions to facilitate strategic programmes that are essential in realising Abu Dhabi Vision 2030," said Saif Al Shehhi, the Senior General Manager of Domestic Banking Division at NBAD. "Medium and small enterprises are a significant pillar of the economy and its growth, and we are honoured to promote entrepreneurial spirit in Abu Dhabi and the wider UAE."

"NBAD and the Khalifa Fund pursue the common goal of cultivating and promoting entrepreneurial spirit and the growth of Small and Medium sized businesses," said Haitham Al Refaie, the Head of Business Banking Group at NBAD. "By catering to the demands of

SMEs, NBAD's Business Banking Group is fulfilling a major role as well as ensuring that the financial system is functioning and expanding smoothly". Mr. Al Refaie said.

Source: Excerpts from http://www.nbad.com/news/news_detail.php?ID=2139

INDIA

SEBI mulling setting up of SME Exchanges

Market regulator SEBI today (January 12, 2011) said that it is looking into the idea of setting up SME Exchanges even though no bourses have formally approached it.

"We are very keen on that (SME Exchanges)...We have initiated the process. Finally it is in the hands of the exchanges to decide whether they want to create a separate platform for SMEs," SEBI Chairman, C B Bhave, said on a sidelines of a function here.

On January 5, 2011 BSE Chief Executive Officer, Madhu Kannan, had said that the country's premier bourse would announce the launch of its SME Exchange within a fortnight.

"We have made a number of presentations to the regulator and a few more are awaited. Within the next couple of weeks we will be able to have a clearer picture on this and then we will be able to announce the roll out date," Kannan had said.

The BSE, along with NSE and privately-promoted MCX SX are keen on setting up SME Exchanges since SEBI floated the idea in June last year. However, none of these exchanges have applied formally for a licence with the SEBI. The government and capital markets watchdog mooted the idea of a separate exchange for small and medium enterprises last year, as the existing exchanges are too costly for them.

Proposed SME bourses will allow small companies to get listed at a lower cost and raise smaller amount of money from the primary markets. This will also force these companies to adopt better corporate governance practises and in turn will get cheaper funds from capital market as well as from banks.

Source: Excerpts from <http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/sebi-mulling-setting-up-sme-exchanges-bhave/121970/on>

JORDAN

CBJ defines SMEs eligible for loans at lower interest rates

A day after the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) issued regulations to licensed banks to reduce interest rates on loans to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), the CBJ on Wednesday (January 12, 2011) defined the business entities eligible to benefit from the regulations as companies whose total assets are less than JD1 million (Jordanian Dinar, national Currency of Jordan) or whose annual sales volume is less than JD1 million, provided that they are not public shareholding, insurance or financial brokerage companies. Small companies must also have 5-20 workers.

As for medium-sized companies, their total assets must be between JD1 million to JD3 million and they should have 21 to 100 employees, under the CBJ regulations. On Tuesday (January 11, 2011), the CBJ requested banks to reduce the interest rate on loans extended to SMEs by 1 per cent than that offered to best clients, on the condition that extended credit facilities do not exceed JD1.5 million. Also, credit facilities extended by one bank or more must not be used for paying off any companies' outstanding credit.

Source: Excerpts from <http://www.jordantimes.com/index.php?news=33434>

MALTA

ME in cross-border services pilot project

Malta Enterprise is participating in a European pilot project through which all the procedures and all other information businesses require when setting up in another EU country is readily available online, thereby facilitating start-up and touchdown services as well as increasing the transparency for businesses and particularly SMEs.

The pilot project, entitled Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services (SPOCS), seeks to improve the competitiveness of European businesses by reducing the legal and administrative barriers they have to overcome when setting up in another Member State. With a focus on improving efficiency, electronic procedures and information provided under the pilot project are interoperable across borders, and amongst others list the corresponding documents businesses would need when these differ between Member States.

Having been launched in May 2009, when it comprised 13 partners from seven EU Member States, the pilot project is now being enlarged – pending some final contractual arrangements – to include 29 partners from 16 participating countries, thereby increasing not only the geographical coverage of the project but also its visibility and sustainability.

The SPOCS project is expected to pave the way for the next generation of Points of Single Contact (PSC) for business across Europe, as required by the Services Directive, and indeed builds on the solutions developed in the various Member States as they implement this Directive.

The Services Directive aims at facilitating the exercise of freedom of establishment for service providers and the free movement of services while maintaining a high quality of services, thereby releasing the untapped growth potential of services markets in Europe. Under the Directive, PSCs have been set up in each member state to act as a single contact point where SMEs can easily obtain information, submit applications and get a response without having to deal with a multitude of authorities at different levels.

As from 2010, Malta Enterprise – which is representing Malta in the SPOCS pilot project – has been designated as the PSC for Malta. In addition, Malta Enterprise has signed 20 service level agreements with the various government departments and agencies to give its clients a more efficient and professional service. Malta Enterprise is currently working to sign a further three service level agreements that would enable it to provide most of the services required by businesses in one place, effectively setting up the one stop shop which shall be located at the Corporation's new premises in Gwardamangia later this year.

Source: http://www.maltaenterprise.com/News_Details.aspx?ID=221

NIGERIA

FG commits N75b to Small and Medium Enterprises

The Federal Government of Nigeria has committed about N75 billion (\$500 million) to boost the growth of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Small and Growing Businesses (SGBs) in the country. The minister of finance, Olusegun Aganga who disclosed this in Abuja on Monday (January 10, 2011) said the 23 Industrial Development Centres (IDCs) under the management of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) were being considered as launch pads for immediate take off of the industrial

cluster parks.

He said a nation-wide capacity development program for SMEs and SGBs, which had been designed and to be coordinated by the Enterprise Development Services of the Pan-African University (a sister institution to the Lagos Business School), had been put in place. The fund, domiciled with the Bank of Industry (BOI), he said was specifically for the purpose of lending to SMEs and SGBs, at single digit interest rate.

In 2010, President Goodluck Jonathan approved over N200 billion revival fund for the hitherto moribund textile sector of the economy.

Aganga said that the government was determined to rejuvenate the economy, especially the SME and SGBs in the country. "These monies will be channelled directly to SMEs and SGBs via the BOI on terms suited to improve the competitiveness of the sector with no reversion to moral hazard," he said

"The Federal Government is actively seeking ways to leverage this seed capital to fund viable businesses in the sector. I would like to add at this point that, it is important that businesses pay back monies borrowed from banks on time; we will have zero tolerance for non-performance of loans by businesses.

"The government recognizes that SMEs and SGBs are likely to benefit significantly from targeted interventions aimed at reducing the cost of doing business in certain sector value chains and economic clusters... the Bank of Industry (BOI) is working with international development partners notably the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to help fix some of the market infrastructure failures in our industrial parks.

"Over the next few years, BOI will invest in equipping these industrial parks with necessary shared amenities and services such as access roads, electricity, water, sewage, telecoms and security. SMEs and SGBs will have considerably enhanced efficiency and increased global competitiveness as the cost of using the facilities and services are jointly borne by enterprises located within the parks," he said.

Source: <http://www.worldstagegroup.com/worldstage/index.php?&id=1644&active=news>

SON promises to assist SMEs

The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) says it will give priority to the development of the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) sector to boost export. Its Director in the Eastern Zone, Mr Bede Obayi, disclosed this in Lagos when he said SMEs are veritable tools for the country's economic development. "SON is placing high priority on the development of SMEs as veritable vehicles for poverty eradication, jobs creation, rural development and sustainable livelihood," he said.

According to him, most of the SMEs products can easily meet the required standard if the products are subjected to necessary parameters and analysis. "The problem we have with most of the operators is the failure to present their products for test. They prefer to produce and put their goods on the market shelves," he said. Obayi said testing such products could even reduce the production cost, have a comparative niche and attract right pricing.

"We have discovered several instances where some products were even over-laced with expensive chemical whereas the cheaper ones can serve the same purpose. Operators should not be afraid of subjecting their products to analysis. It will be to their benefit in the long run,"

he said. According to him, large manufacturing companies know what to do to achieve standard and SMEs should be educated to subject their products to test.

He said SON had strengthened its efforts on mentoring firms to achieve standard and increase productivity. "SON has a mechanism to monitor large and small manufacturing firms to meet standards. We decided to put the initiatives in place to encourage the operators to do the right thing and enable the products to compete favourably at the international market," he said.

Source: Excerpts from <http://thenationonlineng.net/web3/business/industry/24523.html>

PHILIPPINES

IP Philippines to launch info campaigns on IP protection among SMEs

The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IP Philippines) will launch this year more information campaigns among small and medium enterprises (SMEs) designed to promote the importance of protecting intellectual assets in their businesses. IP Philippines Director General Ricardo Blancaflor in an interview said companies should bear in mind that if they would become successful but they did not protect their brands, they have everything to lose.

"We expect more (trademarks and patent) filings from them," he said. "We have to increase awareness among our SMEs. There are several treaties we have to accede to not only because we have actually signed them, but also to give us better footing with those we do business with," he said.

Blancaflor is optimistic his office will achieve this year an increase in IP filings across trademarks, inventions and patents. "We have been increasing for the last 10 years," he said. "I would attribute that to our expansion in the provinces."

IP Philippines has satellite offices in Cebu City, Davao City, Angeles City in Pampanga, Legazpi City, Baguio City, Iloilo City and General Santos City. The agency will establish another satellite offices in Cagayan de Oro and Tuguegarao in Cagayan this and next month to make its services accessible to more regions. Blancaflor said they would automate many of their systems in order to provide the people faster and better services and also transparent system.

Moreover, he said they are asking Congress to pass the law on copyrights that would enable the country properly promote copyrights and eventually protect Philippine ingenuity including traditions, history and culture. "Sometimes we forget that more than enforcement, there are other ways of protecting IP rights. We are also concentrating on amending our own internal rules on the judicial processes available to those who would like to seek remedy with us," he added.

Blancaflor said IP Philippines likewise continues to build on the framework of partnership with the government. "But there are other activities which our people are doing other than just accepting filings. In Cebu, we are active in engaging the universities; we feel that R&D (research and development) are future based on universities," he said.

Source: <http://www.pia.gov.ph/?m=1&t=1&id=10718>

NEWS FROM UN AGENCIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

OECD

OECD Economic Survey of Sweden to be published on 20 January 2011

The OECD's latest economic survey of Sweden, to be published on Thursday January 20, 2011, looks at further improving the monetary and financial policy framework and tackling long-term unemployment.

Among other subjects discussed is the cost-effectiveness of climate change policies. The survey will be available to journalists in English on the OECD's password-protected website at 09:30 a.m. Paris time (08.30 GMT) for immediate release.

A presentation of the survey, open to the media, will be made by OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría at 09:00 the same day at Rotundan, the Prime Minister's Office, Rosenbad, Stockholm.

The event will be introduced by Swedish Finance Minister Anders Borg. For further information about the event journalists should contact Daniel Valiollahi at the Finance Ministry press service tel. +46 72 225 4547.

A Policy Brief with the main conclusions will be freely accessible in pdf format (in English and French) on the OECD's web site at www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/sweden.

The study will be sent by e-mail on request only. In asking to receive the Survey under embargo, journalists undertake to respect the OECD's embargo procedures. Requests to receive the survey by e-mail under embargo or to obtain a password to access the website should be sent by e-mail to embargo@oecd.org.

Source: Excerpts from http://www.oecd.org/document/46/0,3746,en_21571361_44315115_46890734_1_1_1_1,00.html

UNESCAP

Low Job Growth and Unstable Exchange Rates Threaten Global Recovery, says UN Report

All indicators point to a weaker than originally predicted economic growth in the coming years with world economy expanding by 3.1 per cent in 2011 and 3.5 per cent in 2012 -far from sufficient to enable recovery of the jobs lost because of the crisis says a new United Nations report.

The "World Economic Situation and Prospects" (WESP) projects that while developing countries continue to drive the global recovery, their output growth is expected to drop to 6.0 per cent during 2011-2012 - down from 7.0 per cent in 2010 - because of the slowdown in the advanced countries and phasing out of stimulus measures. However, Developing Asia, led by China and India, continues to show the strongest growth performance, but some moderation (to around 7 per cent) is expected in 2011 and 2012.

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Chief Economist for the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), will introduce the report and present the key findings at a press conference at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 18 January at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand (FCCT) in Bangkok.

The report focuses on key factors such as the lack of employment growth as the weakest link of the economic recovery, as well as volatility in currency markets generating additional macroeconomic uncertainty which could further jeopardize the recovery.

The report also addresses the five major policy challenges that must be addressed to prevent a double dip recession and move towards a more balanced and sustainable global recovery. These include additional fiscal stimulus; redesigning stimulus efforts to directly stipulate job growth; finding greater synergy between fiscal and monetary stimulus; making sure that sufficient financial assistance is readily available to developing countries; and finding ways to come to credible and effective policy coordination among major economies.

Source: <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2011/jan/n01.asp>

WIPO

Global Anti-Counterfeiting and Piracy Congress to Meet in Paris

WIPO Director General Francis Gurry will be joined by his counterparts at INTERPOL, Mr. Ronald K. Noble, and the World Custom's Organization (WCO), Mr. Kunio Mikuriya, as well as France's Minister of Economy, Mrs. Christine Lagarde, at the opening of the Sixth Global Congress on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy in Paris on February 2, 2011 to address the question of building respect for intellectual property in a balanced and sustainable way. A number of ministers from around the world are expected to attend the Congress, in addition to other top government officials and corporate leaders.

Hosted by France's National Industrial Property Institute (INPI - *Institut national de la propriété industrielle*) and chaired by WIPO, the Congress is co-convened by INTERPOL and WCO, in co-operation with the world's business community represented by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) through its BASCAP (Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy) initiative, and the International Trademark Association (INTA). The Congress is being held under the High Patronage of the President of the French Republic.

Under the theme "Building Respect for IP: Sustainable Solutions to a Global Problem," discussions at the Global Congress will focus on a balanced approach to combating counterfeiting and piracy, including with a view to underscoring the link between building respect for intellectual property and sustainable development. Overall, the Congress will seek to create a better understanding of the elements underlying the trade in illegitimate goods, and to discuss sustainable solutions to stop it.

Discussions will be wide-ranging – from the growing menace associated with internet trade to the role of corporate responsibility in nurturing respect for IP. It will be anchored in the theme of the Congress, to find sustainable solutions that take account of the role and rights of stakeholders, as well as the cost to them, of fighting counterfeiting and piracy.

The Global Congress has become a leading global forum for building cooperation to enhance public awareness – and concerted action – to successfully confront counterfeiting and piracy. It brings together government ministers and policy-makers, business leaders, senior law enforcement officials, judges and lawyers, stakeholders from intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), consumer groups and members of academia.

Details of previous meetings and the Sixth Global Congress, including the program and list of speakers, are available at www.ccapcongress.net

Source: http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2011/article_0001.html

WORLD BANK

Developing Countries Are Driving Global Growth, but Risks Remain

The world economy is moving on from a post-crisis bounce-back phase of recovery to slower but still solid growth this year and next. Global GDP, which expanded by 3.9% in 2010, is expected to slow to 3.3% in 2011, according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects 2011.

Most of the developing world has weathered the financial crisis well, and, by the end of 2010, many emerging market economies had recovered or were close to resuming the growth potential they had attained prior to the crisis.

"On the upside, strong developing-country domestic demand growth is leading the world economy, yet persistent financial sector problems in some high-income countries are still a threat to growth and require urgent policy actions," said Justin Yifu Lin, the World Bank's chief economist and senior vice president for development economics.

Developing country growth of 7% in 2010, and 6% in 2011 is projected, which is more than twice the rate projected for high-income countries. Most low-income countries saw trade gains in 2010 and, overall, their GDP rose 5.3% in 2010. This was supported by a pick-up in commodity prices, and to a lesser extent in remittances and tourism. Their prospects are projected to strengthen even more, with growth of 6.5% in both 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Restructuring ahead for ECA, high-income countries

In many high-income and developing European and Central Asian economies, growth has been modest given the size of the 2008 downturn. As a result, despite two years of aggressive fiscal and monetary policy stimulus, unemployment remains high and aggregate growth is being held back by necessary post-crisis restructuring. Estimates of potential output suggest that most of the remaining spare capacity in the global economy is concentrated among high-income and developing Europe and Central Asian countries.

Short-Term Risks for Developing Countries

Developing countries face three main short-term risks—tensions in European financial markets, large and volatile capital flows, and a rise in high food prices.

Full-scale financial turmoil, while viewed as unlikely, could threaten recovery in developing as well as developed countries. With so much at stake, regulators and international policymakers are determined to avert such an outcome.

Capital flows to developing countries (especially to nine middle-income countries^a) picked up in 2010, in part because persistent low interest rates in certain high-income countries led investors to seek higher yield in developing countries. Net international equity and bond flows to developing countries rose sharply in 2010, rising by 42% and 30% respectively, with nine countries receiving the bulk of the increase in inflows. Foreign direct investment to developing countries rose a more modest 16% in 2010, reaching \$410 billion after falling 40% in 2009. An important part of the rebound is due to rising South-South investments, particularly originating in Asia.

Overall the capital flows trend is a positive development, but, unless such flows are well managed, they can destabilize movements in exchange rates, commodity prices, and asset-prices. Of the nine countries that received the bulk of capital flows, several have seen their real-effective exchange rates rise by 20 or more percent since January 2009. Many have introduced various financial and regulatory measures to limit inflows and upward pressure on

currencies, but these have not always worked as desired.

Commodity price volatility, especially in terms of food, could constitute the third risk to developing country growth. Further disappointing agricultural crop news, or an escalation in energy prices, could cause real food prices in developing countries to rise substantially – potentially cutting into the meager budgets of poor families in low income countries. However, while international food prices have risen recently, the GEP says that, in real terms, the increase is much less than in nominal terms. Real prices at the moment are still somewhat lower than the peak in 2008. Thus, while the current situation isn't as severe as during the earlier food and fuel crisis, careful monitoring and vigilance are required, since the likelihood of a more serious problem cannot be ruled out.

Beyond 2012: Focusing on Structural Challenges

For the longer-term, countries need to shift focus from short-term crisis management toward measures that address underlying (and difficult to resolve) structural challenges. These include:

- Implementing credible plans for restoring fiscal sustainability
- Shifting the emphasis from broad-based demand stimulus measures toward fiscal measures that facilitate the re-employment of displaced workers
- Completing the re-regulation of the financial sector
- Pursuing policies that permit exchange rates to gradually adjust in-line with fundamentals
- Reducing the volatility of major reserve currencies in order to sustain confidence

Source:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22806935~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

SME EVENTS/ TRAINING PROGRAMMES

World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2011

Davos-Klosters, Switzerland: January 26 – 30, 2011

The Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos-Klosters is perhaps best known to the world at large simply as "Davos". It is much more than a simple get-together of global leaders from many fields in a Swiss ski resort, however.

The Annual Meeting provides a rethinking of our systems and exploration of strategies and solutions that have positive transformational implications. For more than four decades, the Annual Meeting has provided leaders from industry, government, academia, civil society and the media with an unrivalled platform to shape the global agenda and catalyse solutions at the start of each year.

For further details, please visit: <http://www.weforum.org/en/events/AnnualMeeting2011/index.htm>

2nd Global Economic Summit on Trade & Investment 2011

Mumbai, India: January 27-29, 2011

World Trade Center, Mumbai, jointly with All India Association of Industries, is organizing the 2nd Global Economic Summit (GES2011) on Trade and Investment focusing on SMEs during January 27-29, 2011. This Summit will feature Conference, SME Expo and B2B meetings. More than 200 foreign delegates from over 30 countries are expected to be present at the Summit.



The Conference will focus on the government policies for promotion of bilateral trade, enterprise development worldwide, technology development among SMEs, cluster approach, financing options, skill development and other pertinent issues.

SME Expo 2011 will showcase the SMEs, International trade and investment opportunities and the various verticals which facilitate economic growth. The expo will facilitate technology transfers, establishing joint ventures, licensing of knowhow and commercialization of innovative technologies to enhance productivity, provide quality, conserve energy, be cost effective, ensure industrial safety, maintain environmental integrity and achieve global competitiveness of SMEs. The Expo will have participation from governments of various countries as well as SME business worldwide and will feature sectors such as agro-food processing, engineering, auto components, chemicals, textiles/garments, leather etc.

For further details, please visit: www.globalsummit2011.com



World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME), an international NGO established in 1980 and headquartered in India, has been spearheading the cause of SMEs around the world for the past 30 years. Over the years, it has emerged as one of the leading Organisations in articulating the concerns of SMEs at different national, international and regional fora and espousing the cause and development of SMEs around the globe. It has members and associates in different countries and it enjoys consultative status with all concerned agencies in U.N. system such as Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, UNCTAD, ITC, WIPO, UNIDO, UNESCO, WCO and ILO. It also cooperates actively with several inter-governmental and international organizations such as OECD, ICSB, APEC etc. It has Permanent Representatives and Senior Advisors at some important stations worldover.

FEEDBACK

SME e-Bulletin attempts to keep abreast its readers with latest information on various developments taking place in SME sector around the globe. If you have any news/information on the issues related to Government policies & programs and latest developments in the SME sector i.e. technology and innovations, success stories, case studies, research and methods, planning and programs, training and developments, finance and management, and marketing that you would like to share with the world SME community, please do send those to us.

We always welcome your valuable feedback/comments on the SME e-Bulletin to further enhance our services on information dissemination. Hence, please send us your valuable guidance and meaningful articles as a regular contribution to SME e-Bulletin and our website in the larger interests and benefits of SMEs worldover.

You will be glad to know that we have decided to give sponsorship opportunity to use our magazine and website for their promotional activities, which includes display of banners, logos & URL link on our website and exclusive four-coloured write-up and advertisements in WASME News Magazine.

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback/comments, ideas/suggestions or queries

Head

Documentation & Publication Division
World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises
Plot No. 4, Institutional Area, Sector - 16 A, Noida,
Gautam Budh Nagar - 201301, Uttar Pradesh, India
Tel: +91-120- 4216284, 4216283, 2515241,
Fax: +91-120- 2515243, Email: doc@wasmeinfo.org

For all general inquiries or requests, please drop an email at feedback@wasmeinfo.org or visit WASME website <http://www.wasmeinfo.org>