



Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The 2021 Year-End Review

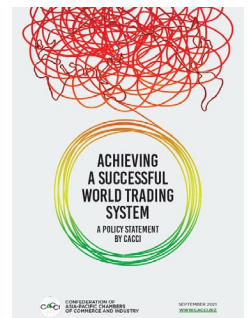


The year 2021 continued to see the COVID-19 pandemic posing an unabated threat to both human health and to prosperity in countries in the Asia Pacific region and globally. The unprecedented crisis remained a major source of economic damage around the world. For business enterprises in particular, the pandemic has generated multifaceted challenges, mostly through lower revenues, particularly in developing economies with poor market architecture, substantially impacting the performance, survival, and growth of businesses in those countries, particularly in those where SMEs play a dominant role in the economy.

However, despite the unusual circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, CACCI managed to undertake activities and implement projects in 2021 that were important and helped further raise the value of the Confederation not only to its members but also to the business community of the region as a whole.

Special mention can be made of the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System” that was started in early 2021 and completed in less than six months. Indeed, the study was one of the significant undertakings of CACCI in recent years and was a major focus of CACCI activities in 2021.

As a regional business association, CACCI strongly believes in the importance of the study since it is not only timely, given that CACCI member countries are now facing a new world order, but will also ensure that CACCI – by focusing on the important issues and raising the right questions - is seen as a serious policy advocate for the business sector (and in particular small business) in its efforts to address the currently complicated trade and investment environment.



The promotion of the results of the study to the widest audience possible and to lobby and have its recommendations adapted will continue to constitute a major part of the activities of CACCI in the next year or so. We hope that, despite the limitations that the ongoing health crisis has placed on its resources, CACCI will continue to pursue activities to further enhance the value of the Confederation to its members and their respective communities, to help rebuild business confidence, to allow us to quickly adapt to the various challenges we are all facing and to maintain our resilience, and to ultimately achieve economic recovery that is robust and sustainable.

As we come to the last stretch of the current year and before we start another journey in 2022, let us review and assess our accomplishments in 2021, and see how we can build on them with the view to making CACCI even more relevant to our members in the year of the Tiger.

Hereunder is a summary report on the activities undertaken by CACCI in 2021.

Summary Report on CACCI Activities in 2021

I. PREPARATIONS FOR THE 35TH CACCI CONFERENCE

1. The CACCI Secretariat coordinated with key CACCI officers on preparations for the 35th CACCI Conference, which was originally scheduled to be hosted by the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) but was later decided to be

held in an online format November 2, 2021 as there was no observed let-up in the COVID-19 pandemic situation thereby continuing to restrict international travel.



2. The two-hour virtual event featured speakers who elaborated on their perspectives on issues surrounding the Conference theme “Sustainable and Resilient Growth Through a Robust World Trade.” The areas of discussion by the invited speakers focused on the following:

- Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic, presented by Dr. Chen Chien-Jen, Former Vice President of the Republic of China (Taiwan); Academician of Academia Sinica (Taiwan); and Academician of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (Vatican);
- Achieving Growth Amidst Disruptions in a Changing Global Environment”, presented by Ms. Priyanka Kishore, Head India and South East Asia Macro Services, Oxford Economics;

- Digital Currencies: Revolutionizing Business and the Global Trading System, presented by Dr. Oriol Caudevilla, FinTech Advisor, Co-Leader of the CBDC and Blockchain Working Groups at the Global Impact FinTech Forum (GIFT);
- Achieving a Successful World Trading System, presented by Dr. Andrew Stoeckel, Honorary Professor, Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis, Australian National University;
- Making the WTO More Adaptable to the Economic and Trade Realities of Today, presented by Ms. Angela Paolini Ellard, Deputy Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

3. Organized in partnership with the Chinese International Economic & Cooperation Association (CIECA) and the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC), the webinar provided the participants the platform to explore what the new normal might look like and prepare for it, to better understand the current landscape they are operating in, and to know what they need to do to resume operations and achieve business recovery. The participants also gained a better understanding particularly on the four core problems faced by the WTO in addressing issues related to the current trading system that the CACCI study has identified, and the fifteen recommendations the study has outlined aimed at making a material difference in the performance of the world trading system.



II. CACCI INTERNAL MEETINGS

Advisory Board Meeting



4. The CACCI Advisory Board, composed of past Presidents and the incumbent President of CACCI, met online on October 26 to discuss policy matters and internal issues of importance and significant consequence to the Confederation.

5. Presided by Advisory Board Chairman Mr. Ken Court from Australia, the virtual meeting was attended by Mr. Harvey Chang from Taiwan, Ambassador Benedicto Yujuico from the Philippines, Mr. Jemal Inaishvili from Georgia, and the incumbent CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi from India. Also in attendance were officers of the CACCI Secretariat led by Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin.

6. Among the issues discussed by the Advisory Board during the meeting was the CACCI officers to serve for the next term, update on the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System”, update on the latest projects funded by the CACCI Foundation, proposed venue for the 36th CACCI Conference in 2022, and the possible membership of the Singapore Manufacturing Federation in CACCI.

93rd and 94th CACCI Council Meetings

7. CACCI held its 93rd and 94th CACCI Council Meetings virtually on October 26, 2021, with the participation of more than half of the Council members composed of representatives from the 27 CACCI Primary Members from 25 member countries from the Asia Pacific region.



8. During the 93rd CACCI Council Meeting, discussions focused mainly on the Director-General's Report, the Financial Report, the Membership Report, and the Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Board.

9. The 93rd Council meeting also endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Board to extend the term of the incumbent officers for one more year until the next CACCI Conference in late 2022 when another election would be scheduled. The reason for the extension was the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic

which did not seem to show any significant improvement.

10. During the 94th CACCI Council Meeting that immediately followed after the 93rd Council Meeting, members approved the proposed Framework of the 2021-2022 CACCI Work Program, passed the proposed CACCI Budget for 2022, and endorsed the restructuring and re-activation plan of the CACCI Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific (YEGAP).



11. Possible venues for the 36th CACCI Conference in 2022 were also considered, namely, Melbourne and New Delhi – with the final decision to be announced before the end of 2021. The creation of a Planning Committee to discuss preparations for the 2022 Conference was also approved.

III. CACCI AWARDS

12. Winners of the various CACCI Awards were also announced during the 93rd CACCI Council Meeting. These included the following:



- For the 9th Local Chamber Awards, Big Chamber Category, the Winner is: CHITTAGONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY from Bangladesh.

- For the 9th Local Chamber Awards, Small Chamber Category, the Winner is: AYDIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE from Turkey.



- For the 8th Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award, the Winner is: MS. YUNA ALEJSANDROVNA NIKISHKINA, GENERAL DIRECTOR OF 000 SPUTNIK, from Russia.

- For the 3rd Asia-Pacific Woman Entrepreneur Award, the Winner is: MS. MUNKHTUVSHIN OYUNDELGER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF MONOLAB LLC from Mongolia.



IV. CACCI STUDY ON “ACHIEVING A SUCCESSFUL WORLD TRADING SYSTEM”

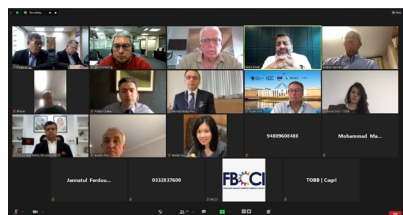
13. CACCI commissioned Dr. Andrew Stoeckel, Honorary Professor, Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis, Australian National University, to prepare the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System”. The study covered the following topics: (a) The world trading system as a public good; (b) The demise of the trading system and WTO; (c) Why this breakdown matters; (d) Why has the breakdown happened; and (e) What to do to fix the system. The study was seen as an opportunity to reposition CACCI as a serious policy advocate for the business sector (and in

particular small businesses) on a global scale.

Steering Committee Formed

14. As part of preparations for the conduct of the CACCI study, a Steering Committee was formed to ensure that the study is conducted in an orderly way and the agreed timelines and expectations are met. Composed of CACCI officers and other selected CACCI members, the Committee played an important role in helping the research to achieve its potential by providing valuable comments and inputs on the substance and coverage of the research study.

15. The Steering Committee convened its first meeting – in an online format – on February 2, 2021. Chaired by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi, the meeting discussed the purpose of the CACCI study, mandates and terms of reference of the Committee, the project approach and timeline, the publicity plan for the study, and the financial support and other support required for the study.



16. The second virtual meeting of the Steering Committee was held on March 2, 2021, from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM, Taipei time. Among others, the meeting considered emerging issues that will have to be considered by the study; reviewed feedback on the CACCI study from regional organizations and from CACCI Primary Members; exchanged views on the Committee members' reactions to the progress of the study; and discussed other relevant issues and concerns they have on the project at this stage.

Special CACCI Council Meeting on the CACCI Study

17. A Special CACCI Council Meeting was held virtually on July 27, 2021 primarily to provide Council members the opportunity to review and comment on the final draft of the CACCI study, and more importantly, to finalize and approve the CACCI Policy Statement based on the full study and the three- page summary to be signed by all Council members. Chaired by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi, the meeting was attended by representatives of 14 CACCI Primary Members, more than a majority of the Council membership, constituting a quorum.

Webinar on the WTO Reforms with the Australian Trade Minister



18. A webinar on the WTO and WTO Reforms featuring The Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment of Australia, was held on October 26, 5pm – 6pm, Canberra time.

19. The one-hour session provided Minister Tehan the opportunity to elaborate on the views and position of his Ministry on the current operation of the WTO and what reforms are necessary and how to achieve them, and to hear the perspectives from CACCI members on the issues at hand.

20. One of the key messages of Minister Tehan to CACCI members was to encourage them to have a dialogue with their respective trade ministers and share with them the recommendations put forward in the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System” with regard to much-needed WTO reforms and how to achieve them, before the ministers head for Geneva to attend the 12th Ministerial Conference on November 30 – December 3.



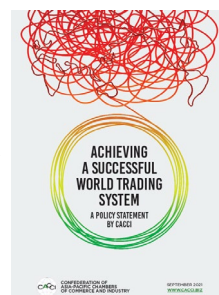
Webinar on the Launching of the CACCI Study on “Creating a Successful World Trading System”



21. CACCI – in partnership with the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry - held a webinar on the launching of the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System” on October 29, 2021.

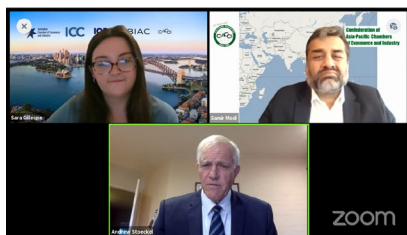
22. With the WTO system now described as being in “crisis,” CACCI has investigated to fix the problems within the WTO and commissioned Honorary Professor Andrew Stoeckel from the Australian National University to undertake this work. The resulting

study identifies four core problems in the current trading system, and suggests 15 recommendations aimed at making a material difference to the performance of the world trading system.



23. The webinar served as the platform to launch and present a summary of the results of the study. The study results were presented by Dr. Stoeckel, followed by a panel discussion with CACCI officers, and other invited experts – including WTO Deputy Director-General Anabel Gonzalez.

Presentation of the CACCI Study at the ICC International Trade and Prosperity Week

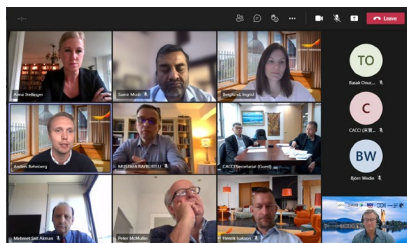


24. This year's ICC International Trade and Prosperity Week (ICC ITPW 2021), which was organized virtually by the ICC United Kingdom on October 18-22, 2021, included a session on the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System”. Held on October 22 at 09:00 AM, London time, the special session was conducted in a fireside chat format and featured CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi; Dr. Andrew Stoeckel from the Australian National University who was commissioned by CACCI to undertake the study; and Ms. Sara Gillespie from ICC Australia.

Donations Sought for the CACCI Study on World Trading System

25. CACCI solicited donations from CACCI members to help cover the funding required to conduct the CACCI study on “Rebuilding the World Trading System”. Follow-up solicitation letters were sent to the heads of CACCI Primary and Affiliate Members requesting for their financial support to complete the study. Their suggestions of companies or individuals who might be approached to seek their interest in becoming sponsors of this project were also sought. Additional funding would be required to assist in ensuring that the final report can be launched in a way that will have a policy impact at the global level.

Meeting with the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise Executives



26. CACCI officers on May 7, 2021 met with executives of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise (Svenskt Näringsliv) to explore possible areas of collaboration between the two organizations, particularly on their common goal of assisting the WTO set in place the necessary reforms for promoting a cross-border trade based on principles and rules. The Confederation of Swedish Enterprise is Sweden's largest and most influential business federation representing 49 member organizations and 60,000 member companies with over 1.6 million employees.

27. During the May 7 meeting, the two sides expressed hopes that both organizations will support each other's efforts on reforming the WTO and will be willing to provide advice and inputs to ensure that the collective voices of business from the Asian region and from around the world can shift the WTO reform agenda where governments have not.



V. RESTRUCTURING OF YEGAP



28. Starting in April, the CACCI Secretariat organized a series of Zoom meetings with leaders of Young Entrepreneur Groups in CACCI member countries (e.g., Nepal, the Philippines, Taiwan) to discuss and finalize the vision, mission, and by-laws of CACCI's Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific (YEGAP), and exchange views on possible activities to be undertaken by the group in the next five years to ensure a stable and sustainable growth and development of youth entrepreneurship in the Asia-Pacific region.

29. Subsequently, members of the YEGAP Executive Committee led by its Chairman Mr. Mangesh Lal Shrestha met virtually with CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi and YEGAP Founder and Former Chairperson Ms. Anna Marie Periquet on October 18, 2021 from 2:00PM to 3:00PM, Taipei Time. The meeting aimed to provide the YEGAP Executive Committee the opportunity to brief Mr. Modi and Ms. Periquet on its efforts over the previous six months to restructure YEGAP with the aim of making it stronger, stable, and sustainable in the years ahead and place the Group in a better position to pursue its objective of promoting entrepreneurship in Asia-Pacific countries.

30. Thereafter, Mr. Lal Shrestha launched the restructured YEGAP during the 94th CACCI Council Meeting held virtually on October 26, 2021. In his presentation to the Council, Mr. Lal Shrestha outlined the efforts made by the YEGAP Executive Committee to further strengthen the Group by, among others, redefining its vision, mission, core

values, tag line, and theme for the next two years. He also identified the activities it plans to undertake in line with its vision and mission, and the various committees formed to implement these activities. All these were endorsed by the CACCI Council.

31. The CACCI Secretariat later requested all CACCI Primary and Affiliate Members to nominate representatives to YEGAP in order to get their support in making the Group a more effective platform for “igniting the entrepreneurial spirit” among CACCI’s young members and help it achieve an “entrepreneurship-driven recovery” of the region’s economies.

VI. CACCI BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT SUMMIT



32. CACCI, in cooperation with the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association (CIECA), Taiwan; the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, Taiwan (CNAIC); and the Importers & Exporters Association of Taipei (IEAT); jointly conducted the first virtual CACCI Business and Investment Summit on June 4, 2021 which was attended by some 130 delegates from 24 countries.

33. With the COVID-19 pandemic triggering economic and social shocks globally, sparing no nation from its devastating multi-dimensional impacts, CACCI held the Summit aiming to explore business and investment opportunities in the region. CACCI member chambers in Bangladesh, Taiwan and Vietnam were requested to invite: (a) relevant government agencies to make presentations on the business outlook and investment opportunities in their respective countries, and (b) foreign investors in their respective countries to make testimonials on their experience and operations in the country.

34. Opened by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi and moderated by Ms. Kristy Hsu, Director, Taiwan ASEAN Studies Center Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research, Taiwan, the two-hour virtual Summit featured the following speakers from the three countries, respectively: Bangladesh - Mr. Mohammad Hasan Arif, (Joint Secretary), General Manager (Administration & Finance), Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA); Mr. Shekar N. Rajashekar, Managing Director and Sub-Cluster Head, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, Citibank; Taiwan - Mr. William Tang, Director, InvesTaiwan; Mr. Brett D. Aaron, CEO, BABI International Corp.; Vietnam - Ms. Hoang Thanh Tam, Head of the Investment, Promotion Division, Foreign Investment Agency, Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam; Mr. Brian Chen, Partner of KPMG/Director of The Council of Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam.

35. The speakers’ presentations all indicated that, despite being impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the economies of Bangladesh, Taiwan and Vietnam show positive outlook as they begin to regain their footing and show signs of recovery. This encouraging prospect is attested to by recent economic forecasts released by the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). “Given such an optimistic outlook, now is the time to invest in the region,” CACCI President Mr. Modi concluded in his Welcome Remarks.

VII. DESIGNATED PORTFOLIOS OF CACCI VICE PRESIDENTS



36. The incumbent CACCI Vice Presidents agreed to take lead role in initiating and implementing programs and projects for their designated portfolios during the rest of their term in office.

37. Following the 92nd CACCI Council Meeting held online on November 20 last year, the incumbent Vice Presidents were requested to indicate which of the CACCI activities they prefer to be responsible for to help achieve CACCI’s objectives of promoting the interest of CACCI members. After sorting out their indicated preferences, CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi have assigned each of the CACCI Vice Presidents to take the lead in the following CACCI activities:

(a) Policy advocacy;

(b) Participation in Inter-governmental organizations involved in regional cooperation (e.g., ASEAN, APEC, etc.);

- (c) Strengthening of relationships with other regional and international business organizations (ICC, Eurochambres, etc.);
- (d) Promoting trade and investments among CACCI member countries;
- (e) Information exchange program (publications, social media, etc.);
- (f) Membership expansion; and
- (g) Annual Council meetings and Conferences.

38. Each of the Vice Presidents was thereafter requested to propose programs and projects for his designated portfolio.

39. The CACCI Secretariat joined a Zoom meeting on March 16 with the officers of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) to exchange views on the proposed activities that CACCI Vice President and TOBB President Mr. Rifat Hisarciklioglu plans to undertake as part of his portfolio to promote closer relationship between CACCI and other international business organizations not only in Asia-Pacific but outside the region as well.

VIII. WEBINAR ON INCOTERMS 2020



40. CACCI on 6 October 2021 organized a half-day online webinar on Incoterms 2020, the flagship rulebook of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) which defines the responsibilities and obligations of contract parties in relation to delivery of goods.

41. Conducted by ICC Registered Trainer and well-known international trade finance expert Mr. Pavel Andrlé, the webinar drew a total of 67 registered participants from various CACCI member countries. Through this webinar, the participants - mainly exporters, importers, traders, specialists in logistics, cargo insurance, bankers and many other interested business people - learned how to keep themselves or their customers safe by knowing the right and most adequate advice/solution to the specific needs and therefore being protected against technical risks and ambiguities which frequently arise when using Incoterms in daily practice.



IX. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (ICC) AND THE ICC WORLD CHAMBERS FEDERATION

ICC WCF Chair's Circle



42. Former CACCI President and current member of the CACCI Advisory Board Mr. Jemal Inaishvili from Georgia has been invited to be a member of the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF) Chair's Circle.

43. The invitation was extended to Mr. Inaishvili by Mr. Peter Mihok, Honorary Chair of the ICC WCF and Chair of the ICC WCF Chair's Circle, and Mr. Hamad Buamin, Chair, ICC WCF. He was invited in his capacity as former member of the WCF General Council during his term as President of CACCI from 2014-to 2018. As a transnational chamber, CACCI is a permanent member of the WCF General Council, the governing body of the WCF.

44. The ICC WCF Chair's Circle was founded with the aim of ensuring a continuous engagement with the WCF network and provide support, guidance, and advice to the WCF Chair on issues of strategic importance of the success of the WCF.



ICC's Chamber Network



45. CACCI joined the Chambers Connect established by the International Chambers of Commerce World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF). Chambers Connect provides a way for chambers of commerce and industry to communicate with their peers and learn more about their activities. It is a new platform

exclusively for chambers to quickly connect with other chambers from around the globe, and read up on the latest network updates and more. CACCI was chosen by ICC WCF as Chamber of the Month for the month of April 2021 due to its active posting in the platform.

46. CACCI co-hosted a webinar with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) on July 28 to introduce the relatively new Chambers Connect platform to CACCI member chambers. The webinar explained the features of Chambers Connect, ICC WCF's online community platform exclusively for chambers of commerce worldwide. This new tool aims to support ICC WCF in its work to unite the global chamber network.

47. The webinar kicked off with the opening remarks delivered by Ernest Lin, Director- General of CACCI. After the rules of the meeting were established, ICC Project Manager Julie Sonladuangchanh gave an introduction of the platform's main functionalities. This was accompanied by a demonstration of how to put up and edit content on its many sections, including news, events, documents, special projects, and even videos.

48. Abby Moreno, Senior Officer at CACCI, provided a few comments on CACCI's experience using the Chambers Connect platform. She stated that the platform had been a great supplementary venue for getting out news on CACCI and its activities.

WCF General Council Meetings



49. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi attended the first meeting this year of the General Council of the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF) held virtually on May 18, 2021. Mr. Modi represented CACCI which is a Permanent Member of the General Council, the governing body of the ICC WCF. During the meeting, Mr. Modi discussed the ongoing CACCI study on "Achieving a Successful World Trading System".



50. Mr. Modi was also invited to attend the second meeting for 2021 of the ICC WCF General Council held on November 22, 2021 in Dubai to represent CACCI. Unfortunately, as he was unable to travel to Dubai at that time, he had to join the meeting online instead.

12th World Chambers Congress



51. The ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF) invited CACCI members to participate in the 12th World Chambers Congress held on November 23-25, 2021 in Dubai. The Congress is a global forum for chamber leaders and their business members to share best-practices, exchange insights, develop networks, address the latest business issues, and discover new areas of innovation.

52. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi was invited to be member of the Board of Judges to select winners of the World Chambers Competition, a major feature of the Congress. Mr. Modi assisted in evaluating the nominations under the "Best Digital Project" category.



53. Dr. Andrew Stoeckel also represented CACCI in the Business Leaders Dialogue held on November 25 as part of the Congress Program during which panelists discussed the need for reforms in the WTO. Dr. Stoeckel presented the CACCI study on "Achieving a Successful World Trading System" and its 15 recommendations.

MOU Signing with ICC



54. CACCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF). Originally scheduled to be conducted on site in Dubai during the 12th World Chambers Congress, the signing had to be postponed for a later date as Mr. Modi had to cancel his trip to Dubai at the last minute due to unexpected developments.

55. The MOU sets an updated collaborative working arrangements between ICC and CACCI that will keep in principle the tenets and spirit of the earlier MOU earlier signed by both organizations on December 3, 1984. The MOU identified possible areas of cooperation between CACCI and ICC, viz:

- (a) Participation in each other's events
- (b) Information sharing
- (c) Trade finance
- (d) Promotion of entrepreneurship
- (e) SME development
- (f) Technology transfer
- (g) Policy advocacy
- (h) Network Expansion

Meetings with ICC Secretary-General



56. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi, along with executives of the CACCI Secretariat, on June 29 and later on September 17, met with Mr. John Denton, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and members of ICC staff. Mr. Modi and Mr. Denton discussed possible areas of future cooperation that would further strengthen their working relationships that formally started when the two organizations signed a Memorandum of Agreement way back in 1984. Mr. Modi also took the opportunity to solicit the support of ICC in the ongoing study being undertaken by CACCI on “Rebuilding the World Trading System.” The two leaders agreed to conduct follow-up meetings in the months ahead.

Participation in Workshop of ICC Centre of Entrepreneurship

57. The ICC extended an invitation to YEGAP members to join its community workshop held on September 9, 3:00 PM Taipei time (9:00 AM CET). The ICC Centre of Entrepreneurship's first Asia Pacific hub was set to open in Jakarta, Indonesia on October 25 and that workshops are typically conducted ahead of such openings. Community Workshops are an online open platform to listen to and consult with SMEs, entrepreneurs and young people on the future of the Asia Pacific region and transforming entrepreneurship as a driver to build together.

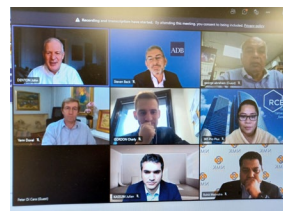


58. CACCI nominated Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council, to be a Speaker at the workshop. During his presentation, Mr. Abraham introduced CACCI and its activities, and in particular elaborated on the various programs of CACCI in promoting the development and growth of SMEs and in fostering the spirit of entrepreneurship in the region, especially among the young people.

59. The ICC Centre of Entrepreneurship expressed its keen interest in conducting more meetings with CACCI – through the Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific (YEGAP) - in the near future to exchange ideas on how the two organizations can work together to achieve their common objective of promoting entrepreneurship in CACCI member countries.

ICC Trade Now Event

60. The ICC invited CACCI members to participate in the webinar it organized on November 30, with the support of CACCI, in the context of ICC Trade Now, ICC's dedicated global campaign to connect micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to innovative trade finance solutions. The webinar, entitled “ICC Trade Now Event – Trade Finance in Asia: Harnessing Digital Solutions to Empower Asian SMEs to Trade Now” took place on November 30. It aimed to provide a forum for all relevant stakeholders to assess the challenges and opportunities linked to trade finance in Asia and to start shaping a collective response that can foster both intra-Asian and inter-regional trade.



61. CACCI nominated two speakers for the panel discussion on “Addressing the trade finance gap in Asia: challenges and opportunities for SMEs,” namely, Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council from Singapore, and Ms. Yvonne Bada, Trade Product Management, Global Transaction Banking Group, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. from the Philippines, member of the Asian Bankers Association, one of the Product and Service Councils of CACCI.

X. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CONFERENCE ON NGOS (CoNGO)

CoNGO Statement on NGO Access to the UN Endorsed by CACCI



62. The Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) endorsed the Statement issued on November 30 by the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the United Nations (CoNGO), of which CACCI is a member under the Roster Category, on “ NGO Access to and at the United Nations in the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic”.

63. According to the CoNGO Statement, facilitating and enhancing the participation of NGOs in the United Nations System is central to the mission of CoNGO. Working to ensure that NGOs have adequate and regular access to UN meetings, conferences, special events and documentation has been a prime CoNGO function throughout its 72 years of existence. NGO access to and at the UN is a major channel through which NGOs assert their voice and exercise their agency throughout the UN System, contributing their expertise, commitment, energy, and substantive input to policy-making processes.

CoNGO’s Newly-Created NGO Committee on Language & Languages

64. CACCI joined as one of the inaugural and constituting members of the newly-established “NGO Committee on Language and Languages” organized by CoNGO. The Committee aims to give its attention to UN language policy, to the work of interpreters and translators, to the use of language in the field, and to numerous other aspects of language, among them also the preservation of endangered languages and the promotion of language learning. The Committee is expected to cover both language use at the UN (sexist language, the language of hate, the language of peace, human rights language) and the use of languages at the UN (provision of translation and interpretation, documentation, outreach to speakers of other languages, parity among languages, protection and promotion of indigenous languages, etc.).



XI. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ASEAN BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Participation in the 17th JBC Meeting of the ASEAN-BAC



65. CACCI Deputy Director-General Mr. Amador Honrado participated in the 17th Joint Business Council (JBC) Meeting organized in an online format by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) on February 2, 2021. Chaired by YB Siti Rozaimeriyanti Abd Rahman, ASEAN-BAC Brunei Darussalam, the meeting discussed the 2021 Brunei Chairmanship Priorities and Calendar, updates on the continuing initiatives of the JBCs, report on the ASEAN-BAC Projects, ASEAN Secretariat updates, and updates by JBC and Partner Champions. CACCI is an Associate Member of the JBC of the ASEAN-

BAC.

Participation in the 18th JBC Meeting of the ASEAN-BAC

66. Representatives from CACCI joined the 18th Joint Business Council Meeting held virtually on September 2, 2021 by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC).



The meeting discussed recent and ongoing projects of the various members of the Joint Business Council (JBC).

67. Representing CACCI at the meeting were Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council, and Mr. Bryan Clark, Director, Trade & International Affairs at the Australian CCI. A copy of the media release on the CACCI study on “Rebuilding the World Trading System” was subsequently submitted to the ASEAN-BAC Secretariat.

Participation in the 6th ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Carnival

68. The ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Council (AYEC), established by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) to be the official voice of young entrepreneurs in the ASEAN policy-making process, invited CACCI to attend the 6th ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Carnival (AYE Carnival) held virtually on November 18-21, 2021. The AYE

Carnival is a gathering of young entrepreneurs from AYEC association members and its Dialogue Partners. Focusing on the theme “Reimagining Business in the New Paradigm”, the 6th AYE Carnival called for businesses and young entrepreneurs to overcome disruptions brought by COVID-19 through digitalization, leadership, collaboration and inclusive involvement of women in addressing the challenges of the times as businesses adapt to the so-called new normal.



69. As part of the 6th AYE Carnival, the AYEC also invited CACCI to the 1st ABAC-AYEC Policy Dialogue Forum held November 19, 2021. The ABAC-AYEC Policy Dialogue Forum served as a platform for young entrepreneurs to engage with senior business leaders in ASEAN in dialogue on business challenges, insights collectively to empower and enable young entrepreneurs from across ASEAN countries to contribute to taking ASEAN to greater heights together. Carrying the theme “Agility, Adaptability & Innovation: Paving the Path Forward towards Business Recovery”, the first edition of the Policy Dialogue Forum aimed to collectively discuss key enablers to recovery.

XII. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES

UN DESA’s Call for Submission of Projects in Line with SDGs



70. CACCI responded to a second call of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) for examples of good practices, success stories and lessons learned that could be replicated or scaled up to put the world back on track towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

71. CACCI’s submission was the program entitled “Preliminary Study and Research for Moving Palau Towards a Carbon Neutral Tourism Industry.” The program aimed to facilitate a carbon-neutral and sustainable tourism industry in Palau by building a carbon footprint calculator, allowing visitors to the country to offset the carbon footprint of their trip, and to support regional carbon offset projects. It sought to combat climate change and encourage the sourcing of locally-grown foods for the tourism industry, and help improve food security, support women food producers and strengthen the tourism value chain.

72. The program was an initiative of and being implemented by the Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (Taiwan ICDF), which is one of the Strategic Partners of CACCI.

Joint CACCI - ICDF Taiwan Webinar on the Adaptation of the SMEs to the Post-Pandemic World

73. CACCI and the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) jointly conducted a webinar on the adaptation of the SMEs to the post-pandemic world on July 9, 2021 which attracted more than 400 views on the live broadcasting. As a side event of the 2021 UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF), the one-hour webinar invited stakeholders from the regional, national, and local aspects to share their insights and innovative solutions for the sustainable development and resilience of SMEs, and to explore how to build an enabling environment for SMEs development in the post COVID-19 era.



74. Moderated by Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of CACCI SME Development Council, the webinar started with Opening Remarks by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi and TaiwanICDF Secretary General Amb. Timothy Hsiang. In their Remarks, both Mr. Modi and Amb. Hsiang recognized the importance of SMEs to the socio-economic development and emphasized the need to help them cope with the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Amb. Hsiang added that by so doing, they can also support the SDG goals that the UN has been encouraging and promoting around the world.



75. The HLPF side event webinar featured four panelists who provided their valuable insights on SME adaptation from different angles:

a. Mr. Suri Kathpalia, Former Managing Director of S&P, who shared his ideas on how to design supportive policies to help SMEs rebound beyond the COVID-19 crisis;

b. Mr. Alex Shyy, Deputy Secretary General, TaiwanICDF, who elaborated on how to catalyze cross-sector resources through the Official

Development Aid (ODA) network for SMEs development;

c. Mr. Robert Kraybill, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Impact Investment Exchange Singapore (IIX), who explained how micro-finance institutions provide solutions to advance SMEs; and

d. Ms. Jyoti Vij, Deputy Secretary General, FICCI, who made a presentation on how and what measures FICCI takes to create opportunities for SMEs in the changing environment. In the Panel Discussion Session, Mr. Abraham led the panelists to take questions from the floor which included the cross-sector collaboration and good practices for the Asia-Pacific region.

XIII. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

AFRADEC



76. CACCI agreed to sign an MOU defining the proposed principles and basis for increased cooperation between the Confederation and the Afro Asia-Pacific Council (AFRADEC), which is composed of companies and institutions from Africa and the Asia-Pacific rim which are engaged in international trade and governance. Headquartered in

Toronto, Canada, AFRADEC has offices and representations in some other locations in Africa, North America and the Asia-Pacific.

IORA

77. The CACCI Secretariat wrote a letter to Mr. Sheikh Fazle Fahim, Immediate Past President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) to seek his assistance in linking CACCI with the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in his capacity as incoming Chairman of the IORA Business Federation.



XIV. PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS ORGANIZED BY CACCI MEMBERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

ACD's 1st Virtual Conference Organized by TOBB



78. The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) invited CACCI members to participate in the 1st Virtual Conference of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of the Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Member Countries held on January 20 2021, from 10:00 hrs. to 13:00 hrs. Turkey time.

79. The ACD was established as an intergovernmental forum in 2002 to develop cooperation between Asian countries and improve the competitiveness of Asia at the global level. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of 35 ACD member states meet annually to discuss ACD developments, issues of regional cooperation and ways to enhance and solidify Asian unity. Turkey is a current Chair of the ACD for the term 2019-2020.



ASIA COOPERATION DIALOGUE

Lunch for Taiwan Representative in India

80. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi hosted lunch on March 8, 2021 for key officers of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in India led by Ambassador Baushuan Ger and of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). The lunch served as an occasion for Mr. Modi and the FICCI officers to formally welcome Ambassador Ger to India, and to discuss possible areas of cooperation between their respective organizations.



Attendance in the Smart City Summit and Expo in Taipei

81. Executives of the CACCI Secretariat attended the Opening Ceremony of the Smart City Summit & Expo (SCSE) held on the morning of March 23, 2021. Organized by the Taipei Computer Association, the 2021 SCSE ran for four days from March 23 until March 26.



82. The SCSE is today considered Asia’s largest smart city fair. This year, nearly 1,000 booths were set up aimed at boosting business opportunities in domestic smart city industries. The 2021 event featured the following online activities (all of which were designed to drive Taiwan towards the goal of becoming the global supply hub of smart city solutions.):

- a. B2B networking – The online B2B matchmaking platform offered both individuals and groups the opportunity to meet with each other either online or onsite.
- b. Smart City Mayors’ Summit - Mayors from around the world were invited to share their experiences
- c. Sustainable City Forum - The forum brought together smart solutions in renewable energy, energy efficiency, or eco-mobility.
- d. World Telecom Smart City Conference – Global operators shared their experiences and ideas on how to deal with the challenges and opportunities
- e. World System Integrator Conference - System integrators from Southeast Asia shared state-of-the-art ideas and strategies to modernize infrastructures through digital technologies
- f. AI50 – This showcased innovative AI application cases around the world aiming to accelerate the integration and application of AI and IoT in smart cities

Attendance in the Taiwan Fashion Week 2021



83. CACCI Deputy Director-General Mr. Amador Honrado attended the Opening Ceremony of the Taiwan Fashion Week held on March 11, 2021 at the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park in Taipei.

84. Organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of China (Taiwan) with the sponsorship of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Education, the Taiwan Fashion Week aims to garner global presence for Taiwan’s fashion industry and as a platform for Taiwanese designers to demonstrate their creativity to the global community. It works with the film and media sector, as well as the art industry to gain more hands-on experience in building Taiwan as a fashion brand, bringing Taiwan’s haute couture to the world, generating new momentum for the industry to grow.

85. Featuring “sustainability” as its theme, this year’s Taiwan Fashion Week was being hailed as the world’s first physical fashion week to have a live audience amid the coronavirus pandemic. The event showcased the best of Taiwan’s autumn/winter collections from notable local fashion brands, highlighting elements of “function, sustainability, cross-border collaboration, diversity, and the humanities.”

FICCI LEADS 2021

86. CACCI was invited by FICCI to be an Institutional Partner for the LEADS 2021, one of FICCI’s largest global thought leadership initiatives.



87. Held on September 14-15 in a hybrid format, the inaugural session of LEADS 2021 set the tone for two days of intense deliberation bringing together government and business leaders from Asia, Europe, Africa, Americas, and the Pacific, to share their vision on reimagining the world through resilient Leadership, economic Excellence, and Adaptability of business models, built on pillars of Diversity and Sustainability.

Lunch Meeting with Philippine Trade Representatives in Taipei



88. Executives of the CACCI Secretariat led by Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin met with the officers of the Philippine Trade & Investment Center Taipei headed by Trade Representative and Director for Commercial Affairs Mr. Michael Alfred V. Ignacio during lunch on April 20, 2021. The two sides updated each other on ongoing and upcoming activities of their respective organizations, and exchanged views on possible activities that they can collaborate on for mutual benefit in the months ahead.

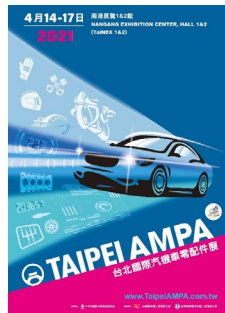
CACCI Joins Celebration of the Republic Day of India in Taipei

89. CACCI Secretariat executives led by Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin joined India-Taipei Association Director-General Mr. Gourangalal Das and his wife during the official reception held on March 29, 2021 in Taipei in celebration of the Republic Day of India.



90. Top officials of the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) also graced the special occasion. In his remarks, Mr. Das said that the event signified the close relationship between the people of India and Taiwan, and their growing connection in various spheres. He pledged to bolster Taiwan-India ties by enhancing bilateral cooperation in the fields of education, investment, and healthcare.

Taipei AMPA 2021



91. CACCI representatives attended the Taipei International Automobile & Motorcycle Parts & Accessories Show (AMPA) held on April 14-17, 2021 at Taipei Nangang Exhibition Hall 1. Supported by the automobile aftermarket industry, the show took place both virtually and physically, where worldwide industry peers could still meet and get business done from afar.

92. Keeping up with the latest global trend while maintaining the overall traditional services in the industry, the physical AMPA 2021 focused on electric vehicle and aftermarket services. The global supply chain for the EV ecosystem and parts production was on full display throughout the exhibition. Over 380 exhibitors were expected to be at the show, exhibiting in 730 booths.

93. The AMPA 3-in-1 show is organized by Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), co-organized by Taiwan Electrical & Electronic Manufacturers' Association (TEEMA), Taiwan Transportation Vehicle MFRS Association (TTVMA), Taiwan Automotive Research Consortium (TARC), Taiwan Rubber & Elastomer Industries Association, and supported by Nippon Auto Parts Aftermarket Committee.

Creative Expo Taiwan 2021



94. CACCI Secretariat officers joined the Creative Expo Taiwan organized by the Ministry of Culture (MOC) of the Republic of China (Taiwan), in partnership with Taiwan Design Research Institute (TDRI), from April 16th to April 25th in 2021. The theme of this year's Creative Expo was "Supermicros." It explored the "relationship between belief and data, so as to convey the value of mutual trust and culture."

95. Highlighting Taiwan's environment, handicrafts, cuisine, and culture, the Expo took place at two historic areas: "Design & Craft" (Songshan Cultural and Creative Park) and "Licensing" (Taipei Expo Park EXPO DOME), as well as one cultural concept exhibition area (Huashan 1914 Creative Park) in Taipei, to "form a trading platform connecting cultural centers and local stores of great potential."

Support for SIEW

96. CACCI was invited by the Energy Market Authority of Singapore (EMA) to support the Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW) 2021 held on October 25-29 at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore.



97. Organized by the EMA, SIEW 2021 was a hybrid event with both onsite and online streaming elements. Featuring the theme of "Advancing the Energy Transition," the five-day event is an annual platform for energy professionals and policymakers to discuss and share best practices and solutions within the global energy space. It aims to foster a robust exchange of views and perspectives among thought leaders and industry professionals in the energy industry, even as safe management practices are adhered to.

Meeting with PTIC Officers



98. CACCI Secretariat officers met virtually with representatives of the Philippine Trade and Investment Center in Taipei (PTIC) on July 22, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the new PTIC Trade Representative and Director of Commercial

Affairs, Mr. Anthony B. Rivera, who would be replacing outgoing Director Mr. Michael B. Ignacio. At the time of the meeting, Mr. Rivera was still in the Philippines, but he said that he expected to arrive in Taipei in early August. The CACCI Executives affirmed the ties between CACCI and PTIC, and said that the two organizations would continue cooperating with each other in future endeavors.

FICCI Invitation to EXPO 2020

99. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) invited CACCI members to join the FICCI-CACCI Business Delegation to Expo 2020 it organized on November 23-25, 2021 in conjunction with the 12th World Chambers Congress.



100. Hosted by Dubai, UAE from October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, Expo 2020 is expected to see millions of people from around the world meet and take advantage of the opportunity to work towards a shared and sustainable future under the promise of “connecting minds, creating the future”. The six-month long event also showcases innovation, inspiration, and the most brilliant talents from 192 countries in one futuristic destination.

The 47th PBC&E and the Chamber Management Forum of PCCI



101. The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) invited CACCI members to join the 47th Philippine Business Conference and Exposition (PBC&E) held virtually on November 17-18, 2021

102. Focusing on the theme “Innovation.ph: Economic Recovery for All,” the 47th PBC&E brought together local business and government leaders for a dialogue on policy reforms, fresh actions, and a new mindset on how the Philippines rise from the ravages wrought by the Covid-19 pandemic.

103. In addition, the event featured International Meeting Rooms for business-to-business matching, Networking Rooms for government partners such as the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and for lending institutions specializing in MSME financing.

104. PCCI also invited CACCI President Mr. Modi to be a Resource Speaker on the topic “International Best Practices in Chamber Management” during the Chamber Management Forum held on November 16, 2021. Mr. Modi shared his perspectives on Strategies for membership recruitment and retention, chamber operations and services, and financing the chamber.



Global Biz With PEZA Forum



105. CACCI members were invited by the Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO) in Taiwan to participate in the “Global Biz with PEZA” Forum organized virtually by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) on November 24, 2021.

106. Focusing on the theme: “Doing Business in PEZA: Investment Opportunities for the Taiwanese Business Community”, the Forum aimed to explore partnership with potential Taiwanese investors - as well as investors from other countries - and brief them on doing business in the Philippines particularly in the PEZA Economic Zones. In addition, the forum served as a venue for existing locators to be updated on the PEZA’s programs and incentives.

Networking with Trade Representatives of CACCI Member Countries in Taiwan



107. A lunch was hosted on November 16, 2021 by CACCI Director-General and CTBC Financial Holding Corporate Relations Department Senior Vice President Mr. Ernest Lin for Indonesian Trade Representatives in Taiwan led by Director of Trade Department Mr, Sulistyono of the Indonesian Economic and Trade Office to Taipei. They were joined by other officers of CACCI, CIECA and CTBC Commercial Bank.

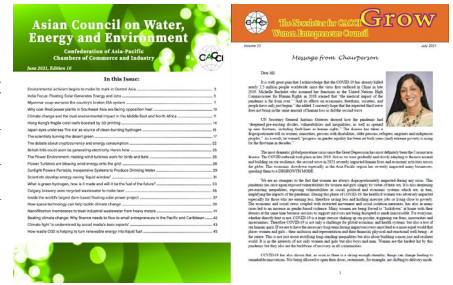
108. CACCI Director-General and CTBC Financial Holding Corporate Relations Department Senior Vice President Mr. Ernest Lin on November 23 hosted lunch for Mr. Anthony V. Rivera, newly appointed Director for Commercial Affairs, Philippine Trade and Investment Center Taipei (PTIC Taipei). Also attending the lunch were



other officers and staff of the PTIC Taipei, the CACCI Secretariat, and CTBC Financial Holding Co. Ltd.

Newsletters of the CACCI Product and Service Councils

109. CACCI published the latest editions of the newsletters of CACCI Product and Service Councils, including the Asian Council on Tourism; CACCI Women Entrepreneurs Council; Asian Council on Health and Education; Asian Council on Food and Agriculture; Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific; Asian Council on Water, Energy and Environment; Asian Council on Contracting and Construction; and Asian Textiles and Garments Council.



2021 Quarterly Reports of CACCI Pivotal Persons

110. The CACCI Secretariat evaluated the 2021 quarterly activity reports of the CACCI Pivotal Persons summarizing their activities during the period concerned. They were evaluated in terms of their effectiveness in promoting CACCI awareness among the member chambers' constituencies and in their participation in CACCI activities and special projects.