



The 2022 Year-End Review

2022

The year 2022 saw the ongoing pandemic continuing to substantially impact the performance, survival, and growth of economies in both developed and especially developing countries, particularly in those where SMEs play a dominant role in the economy. For business enterprises in particular, the pandemic remained a threat – albeit on a less scale as in the previous two years - in generating multifaceted crises, mostly through lower revenues. This is seen to be worse in developing economies with poor market architecture.

Currently, amid the prospects of a gradually improving Covid19 situation, more and more businesses – including CACCI members - are watching and waiting for conditions to return to normal, while at the same time, they are formulating their strategy for navigating - and for creating new opportunities - in the changing business environment.

As thoughts turn to a world beyond the pandemic and towards the so-called new economy, a strong business sector will be needed for a strong economic recovery and sustainable growth. CACCI strongly believes that chambers of commerce and business organizations will have an important role to play in helping their respective members address the challenges before us. Indeed, the importance of business networking to encourage greater interaction among individual companies and business communities in the Asian region will be crucial to enable us to go forward.



However, for Chambers of Commerce to effectively assume this role, they must recognize that the speed of change for technology, business and society is accelerating. Today most of Chambers of Commerce are facing the acute challenge of adapting to the new realities where customers' needs evolve rapidly, making the customary services increasingly irrelevant.

Member chambers therefore need to review their purpose, structure, and strategy, with the view to enabling their organization not only to survive but also to thrive going forward amidst current changes and challenges in the regional and world markets.

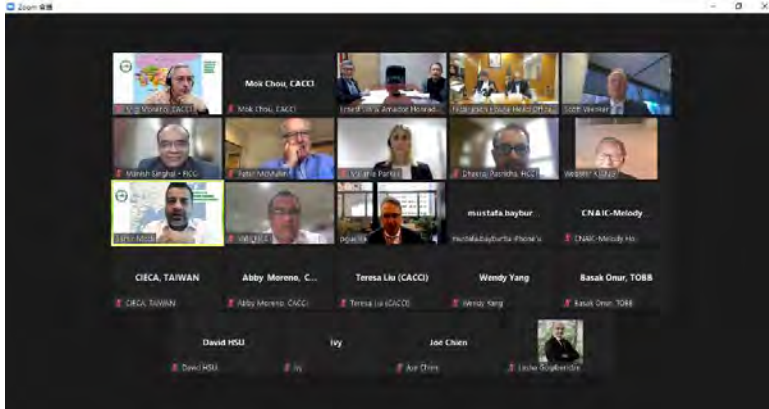
As we set our sights towards 2023, let us review and assess our accomplishments in 2022, and see how we can build on them with the view to making CACCI even more relevant to our members in the years ahead.



Summary Report on CACCI Activities in 2022

Preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference

Planning Committee Meeting



1. Members of the CACCI Planning Committee Meeting convened online on March 10 to discuss preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference scheduled to be held in November 2022 in Melbourne, Australia. Prior to the March 10 meeting, the CACCI Secretariat met twice online with representatives of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the main host

organization, for preliminary discussions on Conference-related matters.

2. Chaired by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi, the March 10 meeting discussed and finalized the Conference dates (November 28-30), the venue (Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre), the Conference theme and topics, and the Conference Program.

3. The meeting participants also reviewed the CACCI activities since its November 2021 Conference, as well as its planned activities for the rest of the year.

Follow-up Meetings

4. The CACCI Secretariat thereafter held several follow-up meetings online with representatives of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry to discuss the status of preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference. Discussions focused mainly on the Conference Program, the suggested speaker line-up, the logistics arrangements (accommodation, registration procedure, etc.), promotional flyer and Conference website, and other suggested activities outside of the Conference.

Promotion of the CACCI Study on “Rebuilding the World Trading System”



5. As part of continuing efforts to promote the CACCI study on “Rebuilding the World Trading System”, CACCI President Mr. Modi on January 17 met with CACCI Vice Presidents to request them to disseminate the study to their constituencies in their respective countries, as well as to their local business communities, relevant organizations, and government officials (particularly trade ministers), and to secure their support in implementing the recommendations contained in the study.

6. The CACCI study was later chosen by Mr. Martin Wolf, associate editor and chief economics commentator at *Financial Times*, to be in his list of the best mid-year reads on economics for 2022. In his review of the study, Mr. Wolf said that at a time when assaults on international trade are pervasive, Dr. Stoeckel “has written a short and compelling pamphlet on how to rescue this foundation of global prosperity. His argument is simple: without strong and independent domestic institutions tasked with distinguishing the national interest in trade from narrow protectionist interests, survival of an open rules-based global trading system is doomed”.

7. Mr. Modi on October 25 issued a press release stating that an ambitious global coordinated action is needed now to tackle the world’s problems. This was the call made by Mr. Samir Modi, President of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), for achieving a successful world trading system. Mr. Modi stressed that an open, non-discriminatory, rules-based multilateral system would do wonders for the world economy. He explained that reform of the world trading system would improve supply chain resilience, lift productivity easing inflationary pressure, ease debt burdens and increase prosperity, providing the resources to address other social and environmental goals like education and climate change.

Review of the Future Growth Strategy of CACCI

8. Taking into account the drastic changes that the world has seen over the past two years,



CACCI President Mr. Modi held a number of online meetings with CACCI Vice Presidents to review the purpose, structure, and strategy of the Confederation, with the view to enabling the organization not only survive but also thrive as a regional business organization amidst ongoing changes and challenges in the regional and world markets.

CMI Project

9. Subsequently, Mr. Modi and other key CACCI officers met with representatives from



Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Dubai CCI) and business consultant Dr. Adam Bock, Manager of Exvardesur LLC, to discuss how the Chamber Model Innovation (CMI) framework as developed by Dubai CCI could assist CACCI in two major ways, namely: (a) Redefine the value of CACCI to its current and prospective members; and (b) Help CACCI member chambers to focus on businesses’ needs, to become a data driven and resilient organizations, and a more attractive employer for the best talent in the respective market.

10. On September 13, CACCI and Dubai CCI jointly conducted a virtual CMI Workshop for



CACCI officers and CACCI member chambers. Attended by almost 100 representatives from 15 countries, the 1.5-hour webinar aimed to provide a pathway and tangible solutions to enable CACCI member chambers to start innovating continuously while putting their constituencies' needs at the forefront of service development. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi delivered the Welcome Remarks at the webinar, and CACCI Vice President Mr. Peter McMullin served as Moderator.

CACCI Presidential Visits

11. As instructed by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi, the Secretariat wrote to a number of CACCI Primary Members to explore the possibility of receiving a CACCI delegation led by President Modi during the second half of 2022. Members would be advised as soon as the host chamber/s, the date/s of the visit/s, and other relevant arrangements are finalized. The visits aim to provide the visiting delegation the opportunity to meet with leading businessmen and relevant government officials in the host country, and get first-hand information on the country's economic and business conditions, learn the trade and investment policies to encourage foreign investors, and explore areas of cooperation with local businessmen.

Activities of CACCI Product and Service Council

Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific



12. The Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific (YEGAP), which is one of the Product and Service Councils of CACCI, continued to hold a series of meetings during the period as part of its efforts to revitalize the Group and make it more sustainable and effective in achieving its goal of promoting



entrepreneurship in the region.

13. The YEGAP Executive Committee, the Group's governing body, held a number of online meetings since the start of 2022. Chaired by YEGAP Chairman Mr. Mangesh Lal Shrestha, the meetings focused on the planned programs and projects of each of the six YEGAP committees for the next two years or so, as well as on the upcoming YEGAP activities during the 36th CACCI Conference that will be held in Melbourne in November.

14. Each of the six YEGAP committees also held separate meetings to discuss and outline their respective plans for their proposed activities for the year and to provide updates on what they have done thus far. The various committees include:

- Learning and Networking Committee,
- Engagement, Branding & Communication Committee,
- Membership and Partnership Alliance Committee,
- Strategic Planning, Governance and By-Laws Committee
- Policy Advocacy Committee
- Programs & Events Committee.

15. The Executive Committee and the various YEGAP Committees exchanged views on YEGAP activities to be undertaken during the 36th CACCI Conference in Melbourne. Among the items discussed included:

- a. **YEGAP Breakout Session** on Day 1 of the Conference, which introduced YEGAP and talked about what the group has done so far as well as activities for the future and plans for expansion. It also included a discussion on “Taking Asia towards an Entrepreneurship-Driven Recovery.”
- b. **Plenary Session 3** on Day 2 of the Conference, which focused on “Sectoral Strategies for Business Recovery to Ensure Regional Prosperity.” This session invited speakers who shared their perspectives on the need for an analysis of different sectors, their potential for future growth, and the support they need to help them and economies in the region get back on track. The Executive Committee plans to nominate speaker/s to represent YEGAP during this session.
- c. **Oathtaking Ceremony** for the YEGAP Executive Committee which took place during the Gala Dinner on Day 2 of the Conference. It will allow the EC members to affirm their commitment to the duties associated with their role in YEGAP, and to be recognized by CACCI leaders, members, and guests
- d. **MOU Signing** with other young entrepreneur groups from Asia as well as from other regions outlining possible areas of collaboration, including the following:



- ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Council
 - Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs Forum
 - Young Entrepreneurs Association Portugal-China
 - APEC-ECBA Digital Trade Innovation Committee
 - Young Entrepreneurs Organization of the European Union (JEUNE)
 - Libero-American Federation of Young Entrepreneurs
 - China Europe International Business Association (CEIBA)
- e. **Networking sessions** to be conducted with CACCI Officers and Council Members were also considered along with fun social interaction sessions (i.e. wine and dine events), a strategic Executive Committee Meeting to be conducted offsite, site visits, as well as strategic meetings with Australian Government or Australian Young Entrepreneurs groups.



- f. Take active participation in the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Carnival scheduled to held in mid-November 2022 in Cambodia as part of the 2022 ASEAN Summit. The plans included requesting for speaking slot at the Carnival, and signing an MOU with the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Association
- g. Join the CACCI Presidential visits;
- h. Conduct training and mentoring programs – including B2B sessions – with the initial

program called “YEGAP Talks” which would be a one-hour monthly talk show that would feature speakers from among YEGAP officers and members who would share their experience in setting up their businesses, the challenges they encountered along the way and how they overcame them, and advices to budding entrepreneurs on how to succeed in their endeavours. The first three sessions of YEGAP Talks were held as follows:

- July 22 session which featured Ms. Vani Nades, CEO of Emstret, Papua New Guinea
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 - August 19 session, which featured Ms. Khulan Davaadorj, Director, Lhamour LLC, Mongolia
 - September 16, which featured Mr. Mangesh Lal Shrestha, Global Vice President, Growth, Frost and Sullivan, Nepal
- i. Launch several social media platforms as channel for sharing and disseminating information about YEGAP and its activities and attract potential members from the region and from other countries worldwide.



16. Young entrepreneurs from Iran on July 5, 2022 met virtually with officers of the CACCI Secretariat to introduce themselves, as well as to have a greater understanding about CACCI and its activities, to convey their expectations for joining the Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific (YEGAP), and to know the planned activities of YEGAP in the months ahead and how they can actively participate in them. YEGAP is one of the Product and Service Councils of CACCI

which aims to promote entrepreneurship not only among CACCI member countries but also in countries outside the Asia Pacific region.

17. YEGAP held an orientation session for its new members on August 24. During the session, the new members were given an introduction on CACCI and on YEGAP, and had the opportunity to introduce themselves as well as to elaborate on their reasons for joining YEGAP and their expectations from their membership in the group.



18. YEGAP issued a position paper entitled “**Sustainability and Social Parameters in Textiles and EV Industry in South and South-East Asia**” at the end of the 36th CACCI Conference. In the paper, YEGAP:

- a. reviewed progress in six diverse CACCI member countries (Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam) on a sector-agnostic basis and on the basis of two specific sectors to reflect real economy, namely, the textile sector (which is a major employer and has important social impact) and the electric vehicles (EV) sector (which has significant multiplier effect across many segments)
- b. Identified impediments to cross-border trade, receipt of foreign investments, and ESG finance

- c. Reviewed approaches of the surveyed countries towards ESG.
- d. Analyzed the textile industry's challenges in: (i) adopting more sustainable practices; and (ii) improving social aspects of operations
- e. Analyzed the electric vehicle industry's challenges (i) in doing business by lack of policy support; and (ii) in promoting social aspects.
- f. Covered specific policy interventions that may be needed to allow entities in the textiles and EV sectors to expand operations in different markets and to be eligible to receive foreign investments.

Asian Council on Water, Energy and Environment



19. The Asian Council on Water, Energy, and Environment (ACWEE) under the chairmanship of Mr. Gyanendra Lal Pradhan from Nepal, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iranian Society for Green Management (ISGM), which is registered under the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCMA). The signing ceremony was held virtually on August 23, with ISGM President Mr.

Mohammad Emami signing the cooperation document on behalf of ISGM

20. The ISGM has been active on green intelligence, carbon footprint calculation, water footprint calculation, green hospital, green hotel, green industry, product life cycle assessment, as well as expert training, green assessor and issuing green certification for organizations. The ISGM has also tried to strengthen the green culture in Iran by holding national and international conferences and producing books and articles.

21. Under the MOU, ISGM and ACWEE agreed to



- a. Facilitate interaction between their members in order to encourage strategic alliances and networking among themselves.
- b. Jointly develop and promote training and capacity-building programs to enhance the professional and institutional capability of their members and other institutions that share the same objectives.

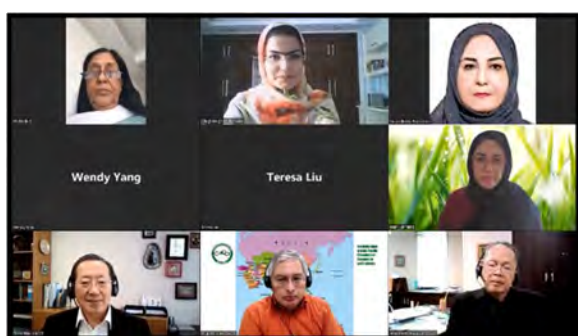
- c. Co-organize, collaborate, and assist each other in conferences and forums on water, energy and environment and related topics and issues.
- d. Explore other areas of cooperation such as information exchange, publications, research

and studies and other appropriate endeavors deemed beneficial to their respective members.

22. Subsequently, the ACWEE and ISGM coordinated on training programs that they plan to jointly conduct in the near future for the benefit of their respective members.

23. In addition, CACCI accepted the invitation of ISGM to be a Partner Organization of the Green City International Conference originally organized by ISGM to take place October 11-14, 2022 in Tehran, Iran. CACCI members - including ACWEE Chairman Mr. Gyanendra Lal Pradhan -were invited to attend the four-day event. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled due to the ongoing protest movements in the country.

CACCI Women Entrepreneurs Council



24. Mrs. Mukta Nandini Jain, Chairperson of the CACCI Women Entrepreneurs Council (CWEC), met virtually with key officers of the Khorasan Razavi Businesswomen Association (KRBWA) led by Chairwoman Mrs. Azar Kianinejad on August 26 to discuss possible areas of cooperation. Also in attendance were officers of the CACCI Secretariat headed by Director-General Mr. David Hsu.

25. KHBWA is interested to know more about CWEC and learn from the experiences of women entrepreneurs from CACCI member countries in running their businesses and how address the challenges currently faced by business women in Iran. Mrs. Jain proposed, as an initial activity, the holding of an online webinar between the two organizations and have the opportunity to meet with each other and exchange views on areas of mutual concern. Mrs. Kianinejad also extended an invitation to Mrs. Mukta and members of the CWEC to visit Khorasan Razavi to allow face-to-face meetings and know each other better.

26. Founded in 2013, KHBWA works under the umbrella of the Khorasan Razavi Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture, which is a provincial member of Iran Chamber of Commerce Industries Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), a CACCI Primary Member. KHBWA deals with empowering businesswomen and women entrepreneurs in Khorasan Razavi province, which is located in the North East part of Iran.

Asian ICT Council



27. Mr. James Chiao, CEO of Smart City Consulting Co. Ltd. and Chairman of Asian ICT Council of CACCI, participated virtually as Guest Speaker during the first day of the three-day “2022 Transformation Summit” organized by Cebu IT BMP. Organization on July 13-15, 2022 in a hybrid format.

28. Mr. Chiao, who also serves as Chairman of the Smart Cities Committee of the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association (CIECA), spoke on the important role of smart city solutions in

shaping the future of a city, and outlined areas where Taiwan – through its links to many experts not just in the country but in other regions as well - can help in providing the right and tailor-made smart city solutions for Cebu. At the end of the session, Cebu City Mayor Mike Rama said he would connect with Mr. Chiao to seek his assistance in making the Philippine’s second largest metropolis a Smart City just like Taipei and other cities in Taiwan.



29. Thereafter, the CACCI Secretariat coordinated with Mr. Chiao on preparations for the webinar on **“Smart Solutions for Better Business: Is Your Enterprise Future-Ready?”** which took place on October 4, 2022. The webinar, which was co-hosted by the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association (CIECA-Taiwan), Importers Exporters Association of Taipei (IEAT), and Taiwan Smart Solutions (TSS), aimed to introduce successful cases of smart solutions in various fields of business. Experts were invited to present various smart solutions applicable to business and provide the opportunity to discuss potential collaboration among businessmen in the Asia-Pacific region.

CWEC

30. **Mrs. Mukta Nandini Jain**, Chairperson of the CACCI Women Entrepreneurs Council (CWEC) from India, contributed an article for the December issue of the monthly newsletter of the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF). The article described the various activities and program of CACCI aimed at empowering women to make them important contributors to sustainable economic growth.

Collaboration with Other Regional and International Organizations

Participation in B2o Indonesia 2022



31. CACCI once again took an active role in the B2o Indonesia Summit 2022 scheduled to be held in Bali, Indonesia on 13-24 October 2022, with Indonesia as host. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi was invited to serve as a member of the Digitalization Task Force that conducted meetings and formulate recommendations on the digitalization transformation of B2o members countries that were later submitted to the G2o Summit Meeting in on 13-14 October.

B2o Summit Indonesia 2022



32. CACCI Vice President Mr. Peter McMullin from Australia attended the B2o Summit Indonesia 2022 held in Bali, Indonesia on November 13-14 representing CACCI. Organized by the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the two-day event brought together global business leaders to make policy recommendations to the G2o to address key challenges for businesses around the world. Known as the business arm of the G2o, the B2o is the official G2o dialogue forum for the global business community.

33. The theme for this year's Summit was 'Advancing Innovative, Inclusive, and Collaborative Growth'. The B20 aims to achieve this through making policy recommendations to G20 countries on seven key policy areas, including trade and investment; energy, sustainability, and climate; digitalization; finance and infrastructure; future of work & education; integrity and compliance and women in business.

Meeting with ICC Centre of Entrepreneurship Indonesia



34. Executives and staff of the CACCI Secretariat attended the online meeting organized by the ICC Center of Entrepreneurship (CoE) on February 15, providing them an opportunity to meet with the team in charge of the Jakarta hub of CoE. Both sides took the occasion to introduce their respective organizations to each other, and to discuss possible areas of collaboration moving forward, particularly those aimed at promoting the development and growth of SMEs and in fostering the spirit of entrepreneurship in the region, especially among the young people.



35. Subsequently, the team of the Jakarta Hub of the CoE invited the CACCI Secretariat officers to join its Steering Committee meeting held on July 7, 2022. The Steering Committee discussed its planned activities for the rest of the year, and explored with the CACCI officers on participation of CACCI members or possible collaboration between the two organizations in undertaking these activities.

36. The ICC CoE harnesses ICC's network of national committees and chambers of commerce in over 100 countries to run capacity building programmes, trainings, and community workshops to address the challenges facing entrepreneurs and SMEs. It established its first Asia Pacific hub in Jakarta, Indonesia on October 25, 2021.

Participation in ICC-Google SME Survey



37. The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) invited CACCI to participate in its **"SME Southeast Asia Exports Survey"** jointly conducted with Google. Launched in late March, the survey aimed to identify and understand the barriers and exporting needs of SMES in the region and examine the role that technology can play in enabling and expanding SME exports.

38. The aggregated results would be used to provide actionable, data-driven recommendations which would open up new opportunities for SME exports in the region. Among these opportunities, ICC plans – in collaboration with the ICC Centre of Entrepreneurship in Jakarta – to design and offer training modules to empower SMEs to enhance their export capacity and competitiveness

Participation in the Joint Business Councils Meetings held by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council

39. Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council, represented CACCI in the Joint Business Councils' (JBC) Meeting held online on February 14, 2022, as well as on September 19. During these meetings, each of the JBC Members was given the opportunity to report on their ongoing and upcoming activities to support the ASEAN-BAC programs. For his part, Mr. Abraham informed the meeting of recent and planned activities of CACCI. He also identified areas on which CACCI can jointly work with other JBC members.

UIA Associations Roundtable in Brussels



associations and experts.

40. CACCI was invited by the Union of International Associations (UIA) to in the UIA Associations Round Table Brussels 2022 held on May 20 in Brussels. The Roundtable featured presentations on common challenges faced by peers working in international

41. The UIA is a research institute and documentation centre, based in Brussels. Non-profit, apolitical, independent, and non-governmental in nature, UIA has been a pioneer in the research, monitoring and provision of information on international organizations, international associations and their global challenges since 1907. CACCI is listed in UIA's Yearbook of International Organizations. Every year, it contacts CACCI to request for any updates on information about CACCI contained in the Yearbook.

Collaboration with IORA

42. CACCI followed up with the Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) – now hosted by Bangladesh- on possible areas of cooperation between CACCI and IORA. They gave a positive response, expressing their interest to work together with CACCI on activities for the mutual benefit of their respective members, including the promotion of youth entrepreneurship in the region through the work of YEGAP.



Leadership Summit 2022 Held by IORBF



43. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi was invited to be a speaker at the Leadership Summit 2022 organized by the Indian Ocean Rim Business Foundation (IORBF) – under the chairmanship of CACCI Vice President Mr. Sheikh Fazle Fahim - on 20-21 November 2022 in Dhaka, Bangladesh focusing on the theme **“Roadmap for Post-Pandemic Progress”**.

44. In his speech, Mr. Modi stressed the need for business organizations to define strategies to adopt to the changing global markets – how to build a more resilient organization; how to gain access to new markets and uncover new investment and business opportunities; how to network with and build strategic alliances with each other; and how to play greater role in the region's economic growth and development. To help members address all these challenges while at the same time take advantage of the opportunities they offer, regional business associations such as CACCI and IORA must provide services that will enable their constituencies to expand beyond their territories and reach out into the global market.

Supporting Organization of SIEW



October 25-28, 2022, SIEW provided a platform for the discussion of key energy issues and their impact on Asia. It featured expert views and insights on the energy transformation in ASEAN, diving into the opportunities and challenges in energy investment, innovation and integration.

45. CACCI once again agreed to be a Supporting Organization of this year’s Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW), an annual platform for energy professionals, policymakers and commentators to share best practices and solutions within the global energy space. Held on

NGO Committee on Language and Languages

46. CACCI was invited to attend the May 18 meeting of the NGO Committee on Language and Languages organized by the Conference on NGOs (CoNGO), an association of NGOs worldwide with consultative status in the United Nations, of which CACCI is a member.



47. The session followed a dialogue between NGOs and UN agency staff with representatives from UNESCO on Multilingual Education, International Decade of Indigenous Languages, World Atlas of Languages, and the Multilingual Initiatives of UNESCO. A business meeting of the Committee also took place, during which Mr. Francis M. Hult was elected as Committee Chairman. CACCI is a constituting member of the Committee, which 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.

Participation of Mr. Modi in the WCF Meetings



48. Mr. Modi attended the first and second meetings for 2022 of the General Council of the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF) held virtually on May 17, 2022 and face-to-face in Paris on November 7, 2022 in Paris, respectively. He also served in the Board of Jurors to select the winning bid to host the 2025 World Chambers. Mr. Modi represented CACCI which is a Permanent Member of the General Council, the governing body of the ICC WCF.

Participation in Events Organized by Member Chambers or Other Organization



Partner Organization for the CNAIC Business Forum on Regional Economic Integration

49. CACCI partnered with the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC, its Primary Member in Taiwan, in co-organizing a Business Forum on “**Global Economic Outlook and Regional Economic Integration**” held in a hybrid format on March 15. Invited speakers and panelists exchanged views on the prospects of regional economic integration in 2022 and the role of regional trade agreements such as the CPTPP and RCEP in

charting the global deployment of businesses. CACCI invited speakers from Australia, Japan, and Singapore

TOBB Roundtable in Antalya, Turkey



50. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi was invited to join the roundtable on **“Green Economy for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth”**, as part of the “Antalya Diplomacy Forum” organized by The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) on March 11-13, 2022.

Philippine Investment Forum in Taipei



PHILIPPINE TRADE & INVESTMENT CENTER TAIPEI

PTIC Taipei is the commercial affairs section of the Manila Economic and Cultural Office and the representative office of the Philippine Department of Trade & Industry in Taiwan

51. Officers of the CACCI Secretariat led by Director-General Mr. David Hsu were invited to participate in the Philippine Investment Forum jointly organized by the Philippine Trade & Investment Center Taipei and the Board of Investments of the Philippines on

October 24, 2022. Held at the Grand Ballroom of Marriott Hotel, the two-hour Forum featured high-level officials from relevant Philippine government agencies who made presentations on priority industries for investment in the Philippines that might be of interest to Taiwanese investors. Discussions focused mainly on the Science, Technology & Innovation (STI)-centered industrial policy of the Philippine Department of Trade and Industry which aims to accelerate the development of globally competitive and innovative industries with strong linkages to domestic and global value and supply chains.

Seminars on Incoterms 2020

52. The CACCI Secretariat coordinated with CACCI Primary and Affiliate Members on their interest to host two-day seminars on International Trade Terms 2020 (Incoterms 2020) in 2022 under a cost-sharing arrangement. By attending the seminars, participants

will be able to: (1) get a further understanding on the main aspects of contract of sale, related risks, main problematic issues; (2) familiarize themselves with trade terms as per Incoterms and above all with new revision Incoterms 2020 – their practical impact on international trade and finance; and (3) learn about the relationship of payment terms to trade terms



Global Diaspora Business Summit



53. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi was thereafter invited to be a speaker at the ASEAN Legal Alliance Conference and Global Diaspora Business Summit 2022 jointly organized on 24 November 2022 in Singapore by the ASEAN Legal Alliance and the GA Group headed by Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council.

54. Mr. Modi shared his views and insights on issues surrounding the event theme **“Emerging from the Pandemic to a New Normal”**, particularly on the role that chambers of commerce and regional business organizations such as CACCI can play in helping their respective

members address the challenges before them, and in strengthening their effort to emerge from the pandemic environment to a so-called New Normal.

Appointment of New CACCI Director-General



55. After years of service to CACCI, Mr. Ernest Lin announced his intention to retire from his role as Director-General. Effective April 1, 2022, the role was filled by Mr. Da-wei (David) Hsu.

56. Mr. Hsu was most recently Director at the Professional Training Center of Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA). Over the years, he has served in various official capacities at the MOEA, and had been posted in various countries both in and outside the Asian region. He was the Economic Director at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Jordan from 1992 to 1995; Commercial Director of TECO in Toronto from 2000 to 2008; Economic Counselor of the Taiwan Embassy in Panama from 2002 to 2006; Economic Director at the TECO in India from 2009 to 2013; and Director of the Economic Division at the TECO in Malaysia from 2018 to 2020.

57. In Taiwan, some of his most notable positions at the MOEA include serving as Director of the International Cooperation Department from 1997 to 1998; as Director of the Small & Medium Enterprises Administration in 2006 to 2008; as Director of the Bureau of Foreign Trade from 2008 to 2009; and as Deputy Director General of the Bureau of Foreign Trade from 2013 to 2018.

Meetings of CACCI Director-General with Relevant Organizations

Courtesy Call on Mr. Y. C. Tsai, Director General, Department of International Cooperation and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Taiwan

58. CACCI Director-General Mr. David Hsu made a courtesy call on Mr. Y. C. Tsai, Director General, Department of International Cooperation and Economic Affairs, MOFA, Taiwan on April 22. Accompanied by former CACCI Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin and CTBC Financial Holding Company Consultant Mr. Joseph Huang, Mr. Hsu, as the new CACCI Director-General, briefed Mr. Tsai on CACCI's proposed activities and work plan for 2022 and the two sides exchanged views on how to enhance bilateral cooperation

Call on CNAIC Secretary General Mr. James Shi Chu

59. CACCI Director-General Mr. David Hsu, accompanied by former CACCI Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin, visited Mr. James Shi Chu, Secretary General, The Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, Taiwan (CNAIC) on April 29. Mr. Hsu, as the new CACCI Director-General, discussed with Mr. Chu possible areas of cooperation between CACCI and CNAIC for 2022.

Meetings with Representatives in Taiwan of Other Countries

60. CACCI Director-General Mr. David Hsu paid visits to the embassies of Thailand, Mongolia, Malaysia, Australia, Korea, and Hungary during the period. The purposes of these meetings included: (1) to get a further understanding on each country's latest economic development; (2) to introduce to them each country's participation and involvement in CACCI's activities;

and (3) to request for their strong support of CACCI's activities and increase the cooperation and interaction between CACCI and these countries:



- a. Thailand Trade and Economic Office – Mr. David Hsu, former CACCI Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin and CTBC Financial Holding Company Consultant Mr. Joseph Huang met with Mr. Twekiat Janprajak, Executive Director, Thailand Trade & Economic Office, on May 3.
- b. Ulaanbaatar Trade and Economic Representative Office in Taipei - Mr. David Hsu, accompanied by CTBC Financial Holding Company Consultant Mr. Joseph Huang and CACCI Senior Officer Ms. Wendy Yang, made a courtesy call on the Mongolian Representative Mr. Zolzaya Lkhagvasuren on June 7.
- c. Malaysian Friendship and Trade Centre, Taipei - Mr. David Hsu, accompanied by former CACCI Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin paid a visit to Ms. Sharon Ho Swee Peng, President of Malaysian Friendship and Trade Centre, Taipei on June 20. Thereafter, on September 15, Mr. Hsu joined the luncheon meeting hosted by CTBC Bank for representatives of the Centre, namely, Director Ms. Syakella Zakaria, Director for Economics Ms. Syajaratud Durri Abdullah, and Director of Trade Ms. Aninawati Saleh. Among others, Mr. Hsu and the Malaysian officers shared their views on how to get Malaysian business organizations more actively involved in CACCI activities.



- d. Australian Representative in Taiwan - Mr. Hsu and other CACCI Secretariat executives called on Ms. Jenny Bloomfield, Australia's Representative in Taiwan, on September 21, 2022. The visit CACCI Secretariat executives briefed Ms. Bloomfield on CACCI and the participation of Australian businessmen in its activities through the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). They also took the opportunity to inform Ms. Bloomfield of the upcoming 36th CACCI Conference to be held on November 28-29, 2022 in Melbourne, Australia with the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry as the host organization.

- e. Korean Mission in Taipei - Mr. Chung Byung-Won, Representative of the Korean Mission in Taipei met with CACCI Secretariat officers led by Director-General Mr. David Hsu on September 23, 2022 at the former's office. Mr. Byung was briefed by Mr. Hsu on CACCI and its various activities to help promote networking and business cooperation among businessmen in the region , and the active role played by the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry – one of the founding members of CACCI – in achieving this objective.

Mr. Hsu also informed Mr. Chung of the CACCI Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific (YEGAP) in which Mr. Michael Lee, a young businessman from Korea, is actively involved as Chairman of its Membership and Partnership Alliances. He likewise took the occasion to invite Mr. Chung to attend the 36th CACCI Conference to be held on November 28-29, 2022 in Melbourne.



- f. Hungarian Trade Office in Taipei - Mr. Balázs Szabó, Investment and Trade Director at the Hungarian Trade Office in Taipei warmly received CACCI Secretariat executives led by Director-General Mr. David Hsu on October 21 to discuss possible areas of cooperation between the two organizations.

Mr. Hsu took the opportunity to introduce CACCI and the Asian Bankers Association (ABA) to Mr. Szabó, who expressed interest in the activities of CACCI and ABA and the potential for the two organizations to help businessmen from Hungary and from CACCI member countries to connect with each other explore business opportunities in banking and other industry sectors.

Assistance in Setting up Meeting of FPCCI and KCC Officers



61. The CACCI Secretariat helped arrange a meeting between Mr. Khurram Tariq Sayeed, Former Vice President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), and officers of Kowloon Chamber of Commerce (KCC) led by CACCI Vice President and KCC Chairman Ernest Ka Lok Yuen. The meeting took place at the KCC headquarters in Hong Kong on May 25.

62. Various proposals to increase trade and investment among CACCI Chamber members as well as bilateral trade between Pakistan and Hong Kong came under discussion. Mr. Sayeed identified Real Estate and IT sectors as having great potential for investment in Pakistan. He once again extended FPCCI's invitation to visit Pakistan to further enhance interaction between CACCI member chambers and FPCCI.

Meetings of the Joint Business Council of ASEAN BAC



63. Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council (2nd from left, bottom), represented CACCI in the 19th Joint Business Councils' (JBC) Meeting held online on February 14, 2022 at 09:00 AM, Cambodia Time. Among others, the meeting was briefed on the Program – under the theme “Addressing Challenges Together” - of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce as this year’s Chairman of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC). Each of the JBC Members was also given the opportunity to report on their ongoing and upcoming activities to support the ASEAN-BAC programs. For his part, Mr. Abraham informed the

meeting of recent and planned activities of CACCI. He also identified possible areas on which CACCI can jointly work with other JBC members.



64. Mr. George Abraham also represented CACCI at the 20th Joint Business Councils (JBC) Meeting held virtually on September 9, 2022. The meeting provided opportunity to JBC members to provide updates to the ASEAN Business Advisory Council on their recent and upcoming activities. Mr. Abraham briefed them mainly on preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference to be held in Melbourne, the activities of its various Product and service Councils such as the YEGAP and the Asian ICT Council, the Workshop on Introduction to the Chamber Model Innovation jointly held with the Dubai Chambers, participation in the B2o Indonesia activities as well as in other events conducted by other organizations.



Survey on Members’ Supply Resources



65. CACCI conducted a survey among its member chambers to gather information on who among them are in a position to supply raw materials and/or finished products currently required by other members. The survey was undertaken in light of the fact that the supply chain crunch brought about by the pandemic has inevitably resulted in shortages and increases in raw material prices and shipping costs.

CACCI Publications

66. The CACCI Secretariat continued to publish its monthly newsletter CACCI Profile, the semi-annual CACCI Journal of Industry and Commerce, as well as newsletters of some of its CACCI Product and Service Councils, including the CACCI Women Entrepreneurs Council, the Asian Council on Tourism, the Asian Council on Health and Education, and the Asian Council on Food and Agriculture



Monthly Meetings with ICC WCF



67. The CACCI Secretariat continued to hold monthly online meetings with representatives of the ICC World Chambers Federation to update each other on their recent, ongoing, and planned activities for the year, and identified possible areas for collaboration.



Meeting with Singapore Manufacturing Federation

68. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi called on Mr. Lennon Tan, President of the Singapore Manufacturers Federation (SMF) at the SMF headquarters in Singapore on November 23. He was accompanied by Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council. Mr.



Modi and Mr. Abraham briefed Mr. Tan and his colleagues on CACCI and its activities, and encouraged them to take an active part in the various meetings, events and programs held by CACCI for the benefit of its member chambers and other businessmen in the region as a whole.



The 36th CACCI CONFERENCE

68. The 36th CACCI Conference was held on November 28-29, 2022 in Melbourne, Australia. The 2022 annual gathering of CACCI members carried the theme “**Emerging Powerhouses: How Chambers of Commerce Will Define the New Economy**”. Invited speakers shared their views on strategies that businesses may pursue for navigating – and creating new opportunities – in the post-pandemic business and global market environment, and how chambers of commerce play a leadership role in achieving these objectives

69. The full-day Conference proper was divided into four Plenary Sessions, focusing on the following topics:

- a. **Plenary Session One** addressed the topic “*The Evolving World Trading System: Implications for Business*”- This session discussed how chambers of commerce can position–themselves as global players in influencing the emerging trade system. Speakers shared their views on ways in which the world trading system, beginning with the WTO which is at its center, can better serve the needs of today’s private enterprise, and how understanding and addressing these concerns will not only be beneficial for productivity and living standards across the world, but also would encourage private enterprises, especially smaller firms, to become more active participants and advocates for trade.
- b. **Plenary Session Two** focused on “Asian Business: Leveraging New Technologies to Drive Transformation and Growth”. Invited speakers examined opportunities presented by new technologies to make businesses – especially SMEs - more innovative, more efficient, less costly, increase their access to finance, and be more responsive to the changing needs of customers. They also highlighted the strengths of Asia-Pacific countries in driving innovation for sustainable and inclusive economic growth and point out how *Chambers of Commerce can be a leading player in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship*.
- c. **Plenary Session Three** carried the theme “*Sectoral Strategies for Business Recovery to Ensure Regional Prosperity.*” Invited speakers shared their perspectives on the need for an analysis of different sectors, their potential for future growth, and the support they need to help them and the economies in the region get back on track. They also

elaborated on the importance of a stronger collaboration between governments and businesses to enable economies to address many of the challenges and ensure a sustainable and inclusive recovery. Central to this will be the role Chambers of Commerce in the region can take in helping achieve this objective.

d. Plenary Session Four dwelt on the topic “*Building Back Better: Creating a Business Model for a Resilient Future*” It featured business leaders who elaborated on their views on how to capitalize on the new momentum of recovery and growth post-pandemic, how to accelerate the innovation they have tapped, and how to optimize their businesses for the new global reality. They shared their perspectives on how a company must have its radar tuned to changes in the external environment and quickly react to refine or reinvent its business model. The session also addressed how Chambers of Commerce can support businesses across the Asia-Pacific through cross-sector partnerships, and how CACCI can play a role in influencing policy decisions at all levels to create a business environment capable of meeting future challenges.

70. The two-day gathering of CACCI members also included a special session on “**Discover Business Opportunities Through CACCI,**” that featured special presentations by selected CACCI member chambers or other invited regional business organizations on business conditions and opportunities in their respective countries or regions. The presenters included representatives from the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce from Taiwan, the Bogota CCI representing the Pacific Alliance, the Federation of Pakistan CCIs, and the Indian Rim Ocean Business Forum.

71. The gathering also saw the convening of two meetings of the CACCI Council, which is the governing body of the Confederation consisting of representatives from each of the 27 Primary Members (national chambers from the 25 member countries). The highlight of the meeting was the election of a new set of CACCI office-bearers who will serve for the next two years from 2023 to 2024. The newly-elected officers include the following:

<u>President</u>	Peter McMullin Chairman, McMullin Group	Australian CCI
Vice Presidents	Hiroshi Oshima President, Sembikiya Fruit Co.	Japan CCI
	Henry Kao Chairman, I-Mei Foods Co. Ltd.	CIECA
	Ernest Yuen Chairman, Kowloon CC	Kowloon CC
	Alireza Yavari Deputy President, Int’l Affairs, ICCIMA	Iranian CCIMA
	Sheikh Fazle Fahim Chairman, Euro-Petro Product Ltd.	FBCCI
	Khurram Sayeed	FPCCI

Former Vice President of FPCCI
CEO/Director M/s. Planet Energy Ltd.

Pradeep Kumar Shrestha
Managing Director, Panchakanya Group

FNCCI

Rifat Hisarciklioglu
Chairman, Eskihisar Group of Companies

TOBB

Honorary Treasurer Dr. Leslie Wong
Permanent VP, KCC

Kowloon CC

Budget Commission Morris Li
Chairman, CTBC Bank

CNAIC

Sheikh Sultan Rehman
CEO, S.R. Twisting, SR Enterprises
and Success Route

FPCCI

Peter McMullin
Chairman, McMullin Group

Australian CCI

72. The latest winners of four CACCI Awards were also formally presented their trophies during the Gala Dinner of the Conference. These included the following:

Aydin Chamber of Commerce from Turkey

9th Local Chamber Award,
Small Chamber Category

Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry
from Bangladesh -

9th Local Chamber Award
Big Chamber Category

Ms. Yuna Aleksandrovna Nikishkina
General Director, ooo Sputnik (Russia)

8th Asia-Pacific Young
Entrepreneur Award

Ms. Munkhtuvshin Oyundelger
CEO, Monolab LLC (Mongolia)

3rd Asia-Pacific Woman
Entrepreneur Award

73. Special citations were also presented to the following CACCI Officers:

- a. A Distinguished Service Award was given to Mr. Ken Court, outgoing Chairman of the CACCI Advisory Board, in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments during his tenure in CACCI in various capacities, including as CACCI President from 1988 to 1990, as CACCI President Emeritus since 2010, and as Chairman of the CACCI Advisory Board since 2013.
- b. The title of President Emeritus was conferred on former CACCI Presidents who have remained active in CACCI even after their term as President has ended. The conferees included:
 - Mr. Harvey Chang from Taiwan, who served as CACCI president from 2006 to 2010

- Amb. Benedicto Yujuico from the Philippines, who served as CACCI President from 2010 to 2014
 - Mr. Jemal Inaishvili from Georgia, who served as CACCI President from 2014 to 2018
74. At the end of the Conference, Outgoing CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi issued a statement on the world trading system:
- On the World Trading System
- a. CACCI said that ambitious global coordinated action is needed now to tackle the world's problems, noting that international trade accounts for over 30 percent of global GDP, yet it is beset with rising barriers to commercial exchange, multiple agendas being pursued, the resort to trade sanctions for political outcomes, and supply chain uncertainty.
 - b. CACCI stressed that the time has come for a new Bretton Woods type compact to reset the way sovereign nation states can cooperate for mutual benefit, explaining that since the original Bretton Woods agreement was established the multilateral system, especially the WTO, has been eroded under the weight of mission creep, lack of compliance with international rules (some of which are contradictory), and an inability to deal with new issues in a new digital age.
 - c. CACCI observed that an open, non-discriminatory, rules-based multilateral system would do wonders for the world economy, adding that while plenty of leaders and policymakers will readily mouth these words, rarely do they drill down into what their implementation means and why they are so important.
 - d. Reform of the world trading system would improve supply chain resilience, lift productivity easing inflationary pressure, ease debt burdens and increase prosperity providing the resources to address other social and environmental goals like education and climate change. "That is why root-and-branch reform in a new Bretton Woods style agreement is needed as top priority", CACCI said, adding that "Piecemeal tinkering and tweaking current arrangements will not do what is required given the dimension of the world's problems".
 - e. CACCI concluded that trade is simply commerce across borders and chambers of commerce know what is required to enhance the buying and selling of goods and services, after all, they live and breathe commerce every day. It is time governments listened to those ideas because a better world with higher living standards would be the result.
75. The CACCI Council agreed to hold next year's 37th CACCI Conference in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce as host, at a date and venue to be decided later.

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