

WCF MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

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Foreword

This membership folder has been designed for chambers of commerce as a guide to better understand and identify how they can access the various services and activities under their membership to ICC and WCF.

Each section has been tailored to align the various portfolio of ICC & WCF's work to assist you with linking it to the various operational areas of your chamber.

Sections have been devised so that you can distribute them to the various staff to brief them on the benefits and services available through ICC WCF to assist them in their everyday tasks.

As you may know, chambers only make up 10% of ICC's total world wide membership. Hence, the World Chambers Federation is your chamber's contact point and specialized division dealing with your daily activities and issues.

This membership folder is a new initiative as part of the restructuring of the membership options now available to chambers.

We would welcome your input and suggestions on topics that you would like to see included in the folder.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rona Yircali', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rona Yircali
WCF Chairman

What is ICC?

ICC is the world business organization, a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world.

The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote an open international trade and investment across frontiers and help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization. Its conviction that trade is a powerful force for peace and prosperity dates from the organization's origins early in the 20th century. The small group of far-sighted business leaders who founded ICC called themselves "the merchants of peace".

ICC has three main activities: rule setting, arbitration, and policy. Because its member companies and associations are themselves engaged in international business, ICC has unrivalled authority in making rules that govern the conduct of business across borders. Although these rules are voluntary, they are observed in countless thousands of transactions every day and have become part of the fabric of international trade.

ICC also provides essential services, foremost among them the ICC International Court of Arbitration, the world's leading arbitral institution. Another service is the World Chambers Federation, ICC's worldwide network of chambers of commerce, fostering interaction and exchange of chamber best practice.

Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. These include financial services, information technologies, telecommunications, marketing ethics, the environment, transportation, competition law and intellectual property, among others.

ICC enjoys a close working relationship with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including the World Trade Organization and the G8.

ICC was founded in 1919. Today it groups hundreds of thousands of member companies and associations from over 130 countries. National committees work with their members to address the concerns of the business in their countries and convey to their governments the business views formulated by ICC.

History of the International Chamber of Commerce

The ICC's origins

The International Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1919 with an overriding aim that remains unchanged: to serve world business by promoting trade and investment, open markets for goods and services, and the free flow of capital.

Much of ICC's initial impetus came from its first president, Etienne Clémentel, a former French minister of commerce. Under his influence, the organization's international secretariat was established in Paris and he was instrumental in creating the ICC International Court of Arbitration in 1923.

ICC has evolved beyond recognition since those early post-war days when business leaders from the allied nations met for the first time in Atlantic City. The original nucleus, representing the private sectors of Belgium, Britain, France, Italy and the United States, has expanded to become a world business organization with thousands of member companies and associations in around 130 countries.

Members include many of the world's most influential companies and represent every major industrial and service sector.

The voice of international business

Traditionally, ICC has acted on behalf of business in making representations to governments and intergovernmental organizations. Three prominent ICC members served on the Dawes Commission which forged the international treaty on war reparations in 1924, seen as a breakthrough in international relations at the time.

A year after the creation of the United Nations in San Francisco in 1945, ICC was granted the highest level consultative status with the UN and its specialized agencies. Ever since, it has ensured that the international business view receives due weight within the UN system and before intergovernmental bodies and meetings such as the G8 where decisions affecting the conduct of business are made.

Defender of the multilateral trading system

ICC's reach - and the complexity of its work - have kept pace with the globalization of business and technology. In the 1920s ICC focused on reparations and war debts. A decade later, it struggled vainly through the years of depression to hold back the tide of protectionism and economic nationalism. After war came in 1939, ICC assured continuity by transferring its operations to neutral Sweden.

In the post-war years, ICC remained a diligent defender of the open multilateral trading system. As membership grew to include more and more countries of the developing world, the organization stepped up demands for the opening of world markets to the products of developing countries. ICC continues to argue that trade is better than aid.

In the 1980s and the early 1990s, ICC resisted the resurgence of protectionism in new guises such as reciprocal trading arrangements, voluntary export restraints and curbs introduced under the euphemism of "managed trade".

Challenges of the 21st Century

After the disintegration of communism in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, ICC faced fresh challenges as the free market system won wider acceptance than ever before, and countries that had hitherto relied on state intervention switched to privatization and economic liberalization. As the world enters the 21st century, ICC is building a stronger presence in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and the emerging economies of eastern and central Europe.

Today, 16 ICC commissions of experts from the private sector cover every specialized field of concern to international business. Subjects range from banking techniques to financial services and taxation, from competition law to intellectual property rights, telecommunications and information technology, from air and maritime transport to international investment regimes and trade policy.

Self-regulation is a common thread running through the work of the commissions. The conviction that business operates most effectively with a minimum of government intervention inspired ICC's voluntary codes. Marketing codes cover sponsoring, advertising practice, sales promotion, marketing and social research, direct sales practice, and marketing on the Internet. Launched in 1991, ICC's Business Charter for Sustainable Development provides 16 principles for good environmental conduct that have been endorsed by more than 2300 companies and business associations.

Practical services to business

ICC keeps in touch with members all over the world through its conferences. As a member-driven organization, with national committees in 84 countries, it has adapted its structures to meet the changing needs of business. Many of them are practical services, like the ICC International Court of Arbitration, which is the longest established ICC institution. The Court is the world's leading body for resolving international commercial disputes by arbitration. A record number of 663 new cases were filed with the Court in 2008.

The first Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits came out in 1933 and the latest version, UCP 500, came into effect in January 1994. These rules are used by banks throughout the world. A supplement to UCP 500, called the eUCP, was added in 2002 to deal with the presentation of all electronic or part electronic documents. In 1936, the first nine Incoterms were published, providing standard definitions of universally employed terms like Ex quay, CIF and FOB, and whenever necessary they are revised. The revised Incoterms, known as Incoterms 2010, will come into effect in the autumn of 2010.

In 1951 the International Bureau of Chambers of Commerce (IBCC) was created. It quickly became a focal point for cooperation between chambers of commerce in developing and industrial countries, and took on added importance as chambers of commerce of transition economies responded to the stimulus of the market economy. In 2001, on the occasion of the 2nd World Chambers Congress in Korea, IBCC was renamed the World Chambers Federation (WCF), clarifying WCF as the world business organization's department for chamber of commerce affairs.

WCF also administers the ATA Carnet System for temporary duty-free imports, a service delivered by chambers of commerce, which started in 1958 and is now operating in 64 countries.

Another ICC service, the Institute for World Business Law, was created in 1979 to study legal issues relating to international business. At the Cannes film festival every year, the Institute holds a conference on audiovisual law.

ICC has also created two special programmes, Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy, known as BASCAP, and Business Action to Support the Information Society, or BASIS. BASCAP was created to connect and mobilize businesses across industries, sectors and national borders in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy while BASIS serves as the voice of global business in the international dialogue that has recently emerged on how information and communication technologies can better serve as engines of economic growth and social development.

The fight against commercial crime

In the early 1980s, ICC set up three London-based services to combat commercial crime: the International Maritime Bureau, dealing with all types of maritime crime; the Counterfeiting Intelligence Bureau; and the Commercial Crime Bureau. A cybercrime unit was added in 1998. An umbrella organization, ICC Commercial Crime Services, coordinates the activities of the specialized anti-crime services.

All these activities fulfil the pledge made in a key article of the ICC's constitution: "to assure effective and consistent action in the economic and legal fields in order to contribute to the harmonious growth and the freedom of international commerce."

How ICC works

Council

The ICC World Council is the equivalent of the general assembly of a major intergovernmental organization. The big difference is that the delegates are business executives and not government officials. There is a federal structure, based on the Council as ICC's supreme governing body. National committees name delegates to the Council, which normally meets twice a year. Ten direct members - from countries where there is no national committee - may also be invited to participate in the Council's work.

National committees and groups

They represent the ICC in their respective countries. The national committees and groups make sure that ICC takes into account their national business concerns in its policy recommendations to governments and international organizations.

The Chairmanship and Executive Board

The Council elects the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for two-year terms. The Chairman, his immediate predecessor and the Vice-Chairman form the Chairmanship. The Council also elects the Executive Board, responsible for implementing ICC policy, on the Chairman's recommendation. The Executive Board has between 15 and 30 members, who serve for three years, with one third retiring at the end of each year.

Secretary General

The Secretary General heads the International Secretariat and works closely with the national committees to carry out ICC's work programme. The Secretary General is appointed by the Council at the initiative of the Presidency and on the recommendation of the Executive Board.

Commissions

Member companies and business associations can shape the ICC stance on any given business issue by participating in the work of ICC commissions. Commissions are the bedrock of ICC, composed of a total of more than 500 business experts who give freely of their time to formulate ICC policy and elaborate its rules. Commissions scrutinize proposed international and national government initiatives affecting their subject areas and prepare business positions for submission to international organizations and governments.

What is WCF?

World Chambers Federation (WCF) was established by ICC in 1951 to be the advocate of its chamber of commerce members worldwide. WCF is a non-political, non-governmental body representing the interests of all local, national, regional, bilateral and transnational chambers of commerce and industry.

WCF strengthens links between chambers, enabling them to improve performance as well as discover new products and services to offer their members. Chambers represent companies of all sizes, particularly small-to medium-sized enterprises, the backbone of any true world business organization. WCF promotes and protects the chamber of commerce as an essential intermediary between business and government and between business and the general public. The web site of WCF is www.worldchambersfederation.com

Objectives

- to encourage cooperation between chambers throughout the world
- to provide a forum where leaders of chambers can communicate with each other and collaborate on matters of mutual interest, whether in solving problems or realizing opportunities
- to promote the concept of chambers as essential intermediaries between business and government, and between business and the general public
- to facilitate the role of chambers as local business support agencies
- to promote collaboration between chambers so as to extend the range and improve the effectiveness of the services that chambers provide
- to ensure the administration of the international customs guarantee chain set up for the operation of the ATA Carnet System functioning under the ATA Convention and/or the Istanbul Convention of the World Customs Organization (WCO), and of any other chamber-based international chains which may be set up
- to assist upon request, the establishment of chambers or the strengthening of existing chambers, especially in developing countries and emerging economies
- to encourage chambers and their members to cooperate in activities of ICC.

Key Activities

World Chambers Congress

Held every two years in different regions of the world, the World Chambers Congress creates the personal networks that chamber executives worldwide need to truly exchange expertise and experience. This sharing of knowledge on a permanent basis is a core objective of the Congress. The Premiere World Chambers Congress was held in Marseille in 1999. The second Congress was held in Seoul, 7-8 June 2001 resulted in over 800 participants of 271 chambers from 85 countries. The 3rd World Chambers Congress was held in Quebec, 15-17 September, 2003. The 4th Congress was held in South Africa 20 – 22 June 2005. The 5th World Chambers of Commerce was held in Istanbul, 4 – 6 July 2007 and gathered a record number of 1700 delegates from 118 countries. The 6th World Chambers Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur, 3-5 June 2009, with the 7th World Chambers Congress held in Mexico on 8-10 June 2011. **The 8th World Chambers Congress will be held in Doha, Qatar, 23-25 April 2013.**

World Chambers Network (WCN)

WCN mobilizes the worldwide network of chambers of commerce to work together at one Internet location – www.worldchambers.com. WCN is the platform for our global chamber network, supporting chamber's international trade activities. WCN provides chambers and their business members a range of business information to help in their overseas activities, including WCN's GBX service, providing business opportunities and introductions with other chamber members around the world. Over 12 000 chambers are listed in the WCN Chamber of Commerce Directory.

ATA Carnet System

WCF administers the ATA Carnet System and its international guarantee chain, according to the conventions on temporary admission of goods, developed by the World Customs Organization (WCO). The ATA carnets are extensively used in most parts of the world and in 2008, some 165,000 Carnets were issued worldwide, covering goods valued at almost US\$ 20 billion.

Currently, 66 countries use the ATA Carnet for temporary admission of commercial samples, professional equipment and goods destined for international trade fairs and similar events.

WCF General Council officer bearers

WCF Chair

Rona Yircali (Turkey)

President, Balikesir Chamber of Industry; Past President, Union of Turkish Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB)
Ankara

WCF Deputy Chair

Peter Mihok (Slovak Republic)

President, The Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry Bratislava; Vice President, Eurochambres

WCF Vice Chairs

Mahendra Sanghi (India)

Past President, the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
Mumbai

Tan Sri Mustafa Mansur (Malaysia)

President, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers
Kuala Lumpur

Lorenzo Ysasi Martínez (Mexico)

Past President, Mexico City Chamber of Commerce
Mexico City

Prince Sifiso Zulu (South Africa)

Past President, Durban Chamber of Commerce
Durban

Hamad Buamim (United Arab Emirates)
Director General, Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Dubai

Mick Fleming (United States of America)
President, American Chamber of Commerce Executives
Alexandria

Honorary Chairman **Avijit Mazumdar (India)**
Chairman, Til Limited; Past Chair WCF
Calcutta

WCF Working groups **Peter Bishop (United Kingdom)**
ICC WCF-World ATA Carnet Council (WATAC)
Deputy Chief Executive, London Chamber of Commerce,
London

Lee Ju Song (Singapore)
Chair, Certificate of Origin Task Force
Deputy Director, Singapore International Chamber of
Commerce

Georges Fischer (France)
WCN working party
Chairman, World Chambers Network; Manager, International
Networks, Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Paris

WCF Director **Anthony Parkes**

WCF team **Laurence Bottier Heiderscheid**
ATA Carnet Manager

Sabrina Chibane
ATA Carnet Assistant

Hélène Kolmodin
Executive Assistant

Luz Rodriguez
Project Manager

Stéphanie Vieilledent
Project Assistant

Transnational Chambers of Commerce

A Transnational Chamber of Commerce is a group of chambers defined by a geographical region, an economic grouping, a shared culture or language. Transnational Chambers can be found in most regions of the world. WCF is responsible for ICC's relationship and partnership with all chambers of commerce.

Transnational chambers of commerce play a very important role in ICC's global network. Where such relationships are very close, ICC WCF often signs Memorandums of Understanding and Co-operation Agreements, reinforcing the closeness of our ties. ICC currently has active agreements with the Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce & Industry (CACCI), Asean Chambers of Commerce & Industry (ASEAN-CCI), the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Association of Latin American Chambers of Commerce & Industry (AICO), the Federation of Central American Chambers of Commerce (FECAMCO), SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Junior Chamber International (JCI). These chambers also have a permanent seat on the WCF General Council.

WCF also has very close ties with other transnational groups including the Association of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce (ASCAME), Eurochambres and the Islamic Chambers of Commerce. Countries which do not participate as a member in other transnational chamber groups, like Canada, the USA and China, plus Russia, have had long-term relationships with ICC for many years and are included as special members of the WCF board.

To foster ties and awareness amongst these chambers, WCF created the Transnational Chambers of Commerce Board in 2002. This annual gathering serves as a means for this special group of chambers to learn more about their peers' latest programmes and developments, to increase partnerships and foster networks between their institutions, and explore common areas of interest and projects.

Transnational Chambers of Commerce – Delegates

1. American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE)
2. Association of Southeast Asian Nations
3. Association of Balkan Chambers (ABC)
4. Association of Black Sea Zone Chambers of Commerce & Industry
5. Association of SADC Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCCI)
6. Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce & Industry (ASCAME)
7. Baltic Sea Chambers of Commerce Association (BCCA)
8. Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC)
9. Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC)
10. Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Russian Federation
11. China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC)
12. Commonwealth Business Council (CBC)
13. Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
14. Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI)
15. Conférence Perm. des Chambres Consulaires Africaines & Francophones (CPCCAF)
16. Eurochambres

17. Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Central America (FECAMCO)
18. Federation of Gulf Cooperation Council Chambers (FGCCC)
19. Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FEWACCI)
20. Forum of the Adriatic & Ionian Chambers of Commerce (FAIC)
21. General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture (GUACCI)
22. Iberoamerican Association of Chambers of Commerce (AICO)
23. Islamic Chambers of Commerce & Industry (ICCI)
24. Junior Chamber International (JCI)
25. Network of Northern Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations (NNCCBA)
26. Network of the Insular Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the European Union
27. Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PACCI)
28. SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SACCI)
29. Union of African Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Agriculture & Professions (UACCIAP)
30. Union of Chambers of Commerce & Industry of the Indian Ocean (UCCIIOI)
31. U.S. Chamber of Commerce

How can your chamber get more involved in our daily work?

WCF members are eligible to serve on WCF General Council, our equivalent to your chamber's executive board. The General Council sets the strategic direction and development of WCF services.

Council members come from:

- all parts of the world
- large and small chambers
- public and private law chambers
- developed and developing countries
- chamber members and chamber executives

The WCF General Council sets up ad-hoc working groups to deal with specific issues arising from the WCF programme of action. These include:

- World Chambers Network
- certificates of origin
- chamber training program
- chamber publications and guidelines

All member chambers are encouraged to participate in our various projects.

All WCF Chamber members will receive on a regular basis a copy of the WCF General Council Executive Summary. Copies of the Executive Summaries surrounding task force activities are available on request.

WCF chamber members are encouraged to respond to the WCF Chamber Surveys. These greatly assist the WCF in researching potential new activities to assist your chamber in its daily work as well as networking our chamber members together to find solutions to common issues and problems.

Chambers and policy development

Chambers of commerce are active in many areas of economic and trade policy development, playing an important role in bringing the voice of business to governments at a local, regional and national level.

Chambers can also be involved in the development of international policy issues through their participation in ICC Commissions. These specialized working bodies prepare ICC policy statements, codes, rules and other policy instruments, which are respected throughout the world. This work makes ICC the key business interlocutor of the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and other intergovernmental organizations.

Some 2500 business executives from 88 countries, including many representatives of chambers of commerce, serve on ICC commissions and other working bodies.

ICC's policy work can also be used as a foundation and benchmark for the lobbying work chambers do with their own local governments.

ICC Policy Commissions cover the following subjects:

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arbitration • Banking Technique and Practice • Commercial Law and Practice • Competition • Corporate Responsibility and Anti-Corruption • E-Business, IT and Telecoms • Economic Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Energy • Financial Services and Insurance • Intellectual Property • Marketing and Advertising • Taxation • Trade and Investment Policy • Transport and Logistics |
|---|--|

For further details on the work of these Commissions, please consult the ICC Programme of Action 2011. If you would like to be involved in any of these groups, please contact ICC International Headquarters at: wcf@iccwbo.org

How your Chamber can benefit from ICC publications and products

ICC Services, Publications – ICC’s publishing arm- is the main public source of information about ICC policies and expertise. Its authors are the business experts who draft ICC trade rules, standard terms and model contracts. They explain how to get the most out of these trade and financial mechanisms and the pitfalls to avoid.

ICC publications: a means of income – a service to businesses

A key feature of your chamber’s membership to ICC WCF, either via your membership to your local ICC National Committee or as a direct member, is its access to the complete range of ICC’s publications at preferential prices. By offering our chamber members substantial discounts on ICC’s series of publications, we provide your chamber with the opportunity to use these publications as a key asset, a potential new sizeable income source for your chamber.

Many chambers around the world already take advantage of this key feature of their membership to ICC – are you?

ICC publishes international rules (Incoterms, UCP, model commercial contracts), guidelines, and reference works. All these publications are available to ICC WCF chamber members to support your chamber’s work in facilitating international trade and business. We offer a wide range of books covering the areas of banking techniques, commercial practice and international arbitration.

Distributing ICC publications in your country

Chamber members are invited to promote and sell ICC publications published in the official English or French language, when available. There are also occasions to translate and sell some titles in national languages. Such applications should be made in writing to ICC Services, Publications, which handles ICC copyright.

For more information please contact the ICC Publications team at pub@iccwbo.org.

ICC Publications produces promotional materials which are available free of charge from pub@iccwbo.org. For more information, please go to the ICC Business Bookstore at www.iccbooks.com and have a look at the section “Promotional Items”.

- ***Discount to chambers***

Direct chamber members receive a **20% discount** on most titles published by ICC Publishing. This allows you to retail ICC publications locally at the recommended retail price.

The discount may vary from country to country, where an ICC national committee exists.

Audience/target of ICC Publications

Key users of ICC Publications are

- Banks (heads of trade finance, documentary credits operations departments),
- companies, import/export firms,
- lawyers and arbitrators,
- freight forwarders,
- chambers of commerce,
- academics,
- libraries, and
- students.

As ICC documents form a foundation of internationally recognized trade standards, they can also be used as resource materials for seminars and conferences organized by your chamber.

Electronic bookstore

ICC books are sold over the Internet to customers around the world. The ICC Business Bookstore can be accessed at www.iccbooks.com.

You can place a hyperlink from your chamber's website to ICC Books. If your chamber wishes to retail in this manner, special arrangements can be made to support you in this activity. Contact pub@iccwbo.org for further information.

For more details on ICC Services, Publications, please contact: pub@iccwbo.org



ATA Carnet System

The ATA Carnet system is an international Customs document which allows for the duty and tax-free temporary import and export of goods for up to one year.

The ATA Carnet operates under international customs conventions administered by the World Customs Organization (WCO). A World ATA Carnet Council administers the international chain of guarantee.

Each country in the ATA system has a single guaranteeing body approved by the national customs authorities and WCF. The guaranteeing organization is entitled to issue Carnets and to authorize local chambers on the national territory to deliver Carnets on its behalf. In major trading nations, dozens of local chambers have that authority.

The ATA international guarantee chain provides reciprocal guarantees assuring customs administrations that duties and taxes due in case of misuse of Carnets will be paid – for example the sale instead of re-export of the goods.

Over the past 50 years the Carnet System has spread from a few western European countries to cover most of the industrialized world and a growing number of emerging economies with 160 000 Carnets issued every year covering goods valued at about US\$ 20 billion.

The ATA Carnet system is a perfect illustration of how close cooperation between business and customs can facilitate international trade.

For more information go to: <http://www.atacarnets.org>



World Chambers Network (WCN)

The World Chambers Network (WCN) is the official “chamber” portal dedicated to electronic international trade. WCN's unique platform is a vital business tool which offers promotion, verification and trust services, which:

- helps foster open and comprehensive exchange of business information on companies, products, services, markets and resources
- establishes an electronic commerce network that links chambers of commerce, companies and their customers from around the world, and
- enables each participating chamber of commerce to serve as a unique content provider and become an electronic commerce facilitator for its local companies

Businesses

WCN is your key to being a successful business. Our global network helps companies of all sizes expand their local, regional, national and worldwide markets. Through your local chamber of commerce services, your business will find new trade opportunities and partners worldwide.

Chambers of Commerce (including Boards of Trade)

WCN mobilizes the worldwide network of chambers of commerce to work together within one Internet location. WCN is the only website designed by chambers of commerce, for chambers of commerce worldwide, focusing on its daily role in facilitating international trade. The WCN site provides a platform for exchange amongst chambers to better serve and promote their SME members worldwide.

WCN is led by ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF) and the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIP) – a partnership which benefits from a capacity to "think global and act local." Businesses benefit from the global network of chambers of commerce working together within a common global standard and platform to deliver business facilitation services.



WCN features include:

Chamber Corner - Chamber Corner is the back-office of the WCN platform where chambers of commerce and boards of trade all around the globe can update their data and have access to and benefit from a wide range of affinity and other programmes, services and tools to be delivered to their members. “Chamber corner” is the meeting point for satisfying the need for close, mutual and multilateral cooperation between Chambers.

Chamber Directory - The Internet's most complete registry of chambers, providing hyperlinks to their web sites.

Business Opportunities (GBX) - Chambers list their members' business opportunities on a database with an easy-to-operate search facility.

ChamberTrust - The business-to-business-verification seal which allows companies around the world to easily find potential new business partners whose existence, profile, products and services have been verified by a Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber e-Vault - A secure 'cloud computing' infrastructure with multiple levels of encryption to store copies of your electronic files and documents

Online Market - A collection of online platforms grouping boutiques from all around the world allowing any company, even micro-companies, to develop its “B to B” online sales.



Chamber Directory

The WCN Chamber of Commerce Directory is the only official database of over 12,000 chambers of commerce and boards of trade from all around the world which have a membership of more than 40 million businesses. The World Chambers Federation (WCF) manages the WCN Chamber Directory.

The WCN Chamber Directory is designed to strengthen the global chamber of commerce movement by centralizing the vast size, scope and strength of this global business network.

A Chamber listing in the Directory will contain the key information on the chamber including the address, telephone, facsimile, email and web address. Data on when the chamber was established, number of staff and number of members are also contained as part of the Chamber profile. Details on the Chief Executive as well as a WCN contact (usually the staff member responsible for international business inquiries) are also found within the Directory. This is very useful as it allows a chamber's staff to interact instantaneously with one another and contact directly their counterparts in another country with ease as they plan business trips or require information and assistance for a member company.

Each chamber is responsible for their own listing. Each Chamber receives their own individual ID and password, which allows them to update their contact information at anytime.

To update your Chamber's entry in the WCN Chamber Directory:

1. Go to www.worldchambers.com, click on "**Chamber Corner,**" and then "**Chamber Corner for Chamber Directory**"
2. Click on "**Login**" and enter your personal ID and password (mentioned in the letter). Please be as specific as possible on the services you deliver: it is the key to obtain better contacts!
3. At this time, your chamber has the option to join WCN' GBX Business Opportunity Service. Your members can buy and sell with other chamber members from around the world. See our GBX factsheet and GBX success stories for further details.

If your Chamber is not listed in the WCN Chamber Directory:

1. Go to www.worldchambers.com and click on "**Chamber Corner,**" and then "**Chamber Corner for Chamber Directory**"
2. Click on "**New Registration**" and **complete all data fields**
3. Click on "**Submit**" and your listing is sent to WCF for approval and placed online
4. Following your entry being placed online, your Chamber will receive its personal ID and password.

Important reminder: monitoring of the site shows that out of the connections coming to the home page, one third goes to the Directory! When looking for a contact abroad, Chambers are indeed the first step! So it is of crucial importance that Chambers keep their data complete, relevant and updated.



Business Opportunities (GBX)

GBX is an easy-to-operate search tool which provides a platform to showcase business opportunities. This service brings to your members the global chamber brand, traffic and visibility of WCN and its qualified audience: companies interested in export/import and partnerships from all around the world.

Whether it is for trade leads in imports, exports, investor or joint partner search, contract bidding or search for representation in foreign markets for a business, GBX has a decade-long track record of delivering!

Why should your chamber participate?

GBX brings a new service to you to offer your members. You publish these opportunities free of charge using your own (free) custom entrance supplied by the WCN upon signup, but you can also charge for the service, for example if you bundle it with other affinity programmes you offer!

GBX, along with ChamberTrust, is also an ideal tool to create chamber and business clusters, i.e. for a given geographic agglomeration of several neighboring chambers in an economic development zone, and/or by industry type!

Why do your chamber members need it?

GBX allows for greater global exposure and allows your members to find new business opportunities, seek/offer trade leads and find new partners in new markets.

Your member companies can place their opportunities directly online and be networked and do business with chamber member companies around the world.

A company that places a business opportunity online, will follow these steps:

1. Enter the website at <http://gbx.worldchambers.com>
2. Click on Publish your opportunity in GBX
3. Fill in the form

You will be given the choice within the posting form, of posting via a Chamber validating GBX in your country or if there isn't one, via GBX Central. When the opportunity is validated, it will be activated and appear in the GBX database. The Chamber validates the business opportunity to ensure the quality of the opportunities within the database. All opportunities are validated by the local Chamber of Commerce or by the GBX Central before becoming available to the public.

For more information please go to:

http://gbx.worldchambers.com/wcn_chamber_corner_GBX.asp



GBX Success Stories

Many companies have found their international business partners by advertising their business opportunities via the Global Business Exchange (GBX) on the World Chambers Network. These are just some of our success stories:

- A Spanish broker, specialising in sales, marketing, and logistics for a do-it-yourself (DIY) hardware chain in Spain, was searching for new suppliers from Europe. One of their first new business deals was with the Export Department of a Slovenian company.
- "Ahhhhh, chocolate" from Western Australia received many new business inquiries from around the world.
- A Dutch company found a new supplier from China for all types of fairground amusement toys, particularly plush toys.
- A Czech wholesaler of car tires received a reply from a Chinese company that wishes to supply the products for the Czech market and established business relations with the company. With the advertisement, the Czech company also developed business ties with Durban, South Africa.
- A Swiss company found a supplier of elegant ladies watches, including gift boxes, from China.
- A manufacturer of personal conference phones found distributors in Mexico and in Italy, and gained new US market information.
- The Czech manufacturer of air fresheners found a buyer in Australia through advertising his business opportunity on GBX.
- A joint venture in the production of bicycles was formed between a Czech bicycle company and a Macedonian firm. Co-operation on marketing activities for all types of bicycles was developed as a result of the opportunity. Furthermore, the Macedonian company, through this contact, found a Czech agent for buying and selling agar, food and industrial equipment.
- A Belgian company found new business leads following their advertising of tailor-made wooden packing.
- A London Chamber received new leads for one of its opportunities "Language Translation."
- A Swedish firm specializing in system insulation packaging machines found a buyer in India.



ChamberTrust

ChamberTrust is the only “B to B” verification seal designed to establish a foundation of trust in electronic international trade. This is a search engine, specifically dealing with companies, their products and their activities.

In addition, ChamberTrust includes other major benefits such as no-extra-cost publishing of company press releases at the 'Global Media Room.'

Why should your Chamber participate?

ChamberTrust is an affinity programme, a new revenue generating service for Chambers, bringing direct benefits to your business members. It is the ultimate tool to help bring your members (and non-members) legitimacy to their online presence.

By participating in the programme, Chambers can increase the range of practical (and revenue generating) services available to their existing members and attract new members.

Why do your members need it?

Verification by a Chamber of the objective information about a company (existence, ownership of website, products and activities, etc...) brings that company the following advantages:

- exposure of the WCN site
- impact of the trust attached to the verification by a Chamber
- major marketing benefits via the included 'Global Media Room' publishing service

For more information, please visit

http://chambertrust.worldchambers.com/wcn_chamber_corner_CT.asp

or e-mail gfischer@worldchambers.com



Chamber-eVault

WCN Chamber-eVault is a totally secure infrastructure to store copies of electronic files, documents, e-mails, contracts or even documents related to contract preparation...and, thus, retains elements of proof in case of a dispute. Documents are encrypted with encryption keys held at the ICC.

Why should your chamber participate?

There are two ways for your chamber to get involved in the deployment of this secure “electronic safe:”

- promote Chamber-eVault and encourage your members to subscribe,
- open your own Chamber-eVault account to keep copies of your electronic documents, but also to provide a new service: create a local storage space for those who need to prove date of deposit,

Why do your members need it?

The world becomes more and more virtual and companies tend to increasingly use electronic online negotiations, even in international trade. Chamber-eVault provides a totally secure infrastructure to store copies of electronic files and documents as elements of proof... just in case!

And for those depositing in your own Chamber-eVault, it will serve as proof of the date of creation of intellectual property, whether it be professional (software, web design, etc) or artistic.

For more information: http://evault.worldchambers.com/wcn_chamber_corner_EV.asp or e-mail gfisher@worldchambers.com



Online Market

WCN Online Market is a collection of online platforms, grouping boutiques from all around the world and allowing any company, even micro-companies, to develop its “B to B” online sales.

This platform has several segments, ranging from WCN-hosted special markets such as 'micro businesses' arts and craft cluster in our GBX to hosted ChamberPortal solutions. Also, as of spring of 2011, we will have free-standing WCN Online Market boutiques for the local, regional, or international level.

Why should your Chamber participate?

WCN Online Market can be a revenue generating service for chambers, directly targeting the needs of small companies who have no website of their own. You can use it on three levels:

- use an existing market such as WCN GBX's micro business arts and craft cluster (no cost for chambers or participating businesses)
- build your own local/national market: host online shops of your member (and non-member) companies, in local language and local currency;
- bring international trade oriented companies to the WCN Online Market... and do not forget to add trust to their international presence with the ChamberTrust programme.

Why do your members need it?

WCN Online Market brings your companies the following advantages either for free or at a very low price:

- global visibility and exposure on the WCN site
- a turnkey online shop, where they can display a catalogue including up to 150 of their products
- easy-to-use features to modify and update catalogues and follow up on their activity
- comprehensive listing and indexing in search engines



Advertisements

The World Chambers Network (WCN) is the only official global platform for Chambers of Commerce dedicated to developing trusted “e-international trade,” linking 12,000 chambers of commerce from around the world into one central site.

WCN attracts 200-250 000 visitors/month, **interested and/or engaged in international trade**, and is ranked regularly among the top 5 sites in the world by Google Top Business Directories.

40% of our users come from Asia, 25% come from the Americas, and 35% from Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Make the most of this extraordinary quality exposure and be seen by other global companies and organizations active in international trade and investment! Banner advertising on WCN is suitable for chambers, trade associations and companies who wish to promote a product, a service or an event.

The average “click through” rate for existing banners is over 7000/month (this is between 1,5 and 2%, which means that your banner could be displayed some 350 000 times/month!)

Banners start at € **1 200** per month and € **10 000** per year. Banners can be purchased by the month, tri-monthly, or by year, according to your needs. Discounts of up to 60% for ICC chamber members, NGOs and trade organizations.

To place your banner advertising on the World Chambers Network, please email:
anthony.parkes@iccwbo.org

You can also promote your city, your region or your country to the world! Our “Discover” programme allows an extensive corporate promotional campaign on the World Chambers Network site.

To learn more about the “Discover” programme **please email:**
gfischer@worldchambers.com



Make the most of WCN services

The World Chambers Network (WCN) is the official “chamber” portal dedicated to electronic international trade. WCN's unique platform is a vital business tool which offers promotion, verification and trust services, which:

- helps foster open and comprehensive exchange of business information on companies, products, services, markets and resources
- establishes an electronic commerce network that links chambers of commerce, companies and their customers from around the world, and
- enables each participating chamber of commerce to serve as a unique content provider and become an electronic commerce facilitator for its local companies

“Search, promote and verify” are the key words to remember for chambers and companies using WCN suite of services. In order to take advantage of these opportunities, we invite you to:

- 1) Update your Chamber profile in the Chamber Directory. We also encourage you to invite the chambers of commerce in your regional network to verify their chamber in the Chamber Directory and make their profiles as up to date as possible. This listing is free.
- 2) Promote your companies business opportunities by activating your GBX Business Opportunities account.
- 3) Register to deliver our ChamberTrust service. ChamberTrust is the only “B to B” verification seal designed to establish a foundation of trust in electronic international trade. It is the ultimate tool to help bring your chamber’s business members (and non-members!) legitimacy by verifying their online presence.



About Us

Managing Institutions

ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF)

WCF was established by ICC in 1951 to be the advocate of its chamber of commerce members worldwide. While each chamber represents a group of companies of mostly small- and medium-sized enterprises, WCF strengthens links between these chambers, enabling each to improve performance and discover new products and services to offer their members. WCF promotes and protects the role of the chamber as an essential intermediary between government, businesses and the general public.

WCF represents the interests of all local, national, regional, bilateral and transnational chambers of commerce and industry. Members include chambers of commerce and industry, chambers of manufacturers, chambers of economy, and bilateral chambers of commerce. WCN's secretariat is located at the World Chambers Federation.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

ICC is the World Business Organization™ representing enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote trade and investment across frontiers and help businesses meet challenges and opportunities of globalization. ICC global business rules and standards apply to millions of international B2B transactions every day.

Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris (CCIP)

CCIP is one of the world's largest Chambers with over 400,000 members and 3800 employees, and a pioneer in the use of electronic services for digital trade. The CCIP offers a range of services adapted to company requirements at every stage of their life: creation, development (international trade, innovation ITC use...) and selling out.

Complementary to its support services, CCIP has a significant advocacy activity, defending interests of companies located in Paris and its surrounding suburbs. It is also very heavily involved in education and training of youngsters and adults: its business and vocational training centers are recognized among the best in France and in Europe. The CCIP is a public body led and managed by 84 elected officials: CEOs of companies of all sizes and in all fields of activity (trade, industry, services).

1999 Marseille

8th
WORLD
CHAMBERS
CONGRESS

2001 Seoul
2003 Quebec City
2005 Durban
2007 Istanbul
2009 Kuala Lumpur
2011 Mexico
2013 Doha

World Chambers Congress

The World Chambers Congress is organized by ICC's World Chambers Federation. Held every two years in different regions of the world, the World Chambers Congress is the only international forum for chamber executives worldwide to share best-practice experience, develop networks and learn about new areas of innovation from other chambers as they face the challenge of remaining relevant to companies in their region.

The 1st World Chambers Congress held in the city of Marseille in September 1999 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the foundation of the Marseille-Provence Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the oldest chamber in the world. Each congress builds upon the success of the last. The 2nd Congress in Seoul, June 2001 gathered chamber leaders from over 85 countries and the 3rd Congress in Quebec City, September 2003, brought together over 1300 participants. The 4th World Chambers Congress in Durban, South Africa (20-22 June 2005) was the first WCF congress on the African continent. Co-hosted with the Durban Chamber of Commerce & Industry, this congress gathered over 850 delegates from 88 countries. The 5th World Chambers Congress, in Istanbul, Turkey, gathered a record number of 1600 delegates from 104 countries. The 6th World Chambers Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, gathered over 1000 delegates from 100 countries. The 7th World Chambers Congress was held in Mexico, 8 – 10 June 2011, with 1200 delegates from 105 countries. Mexico City National Chamber of Commerce, Services and Tourism was co-host for this event.

Such results have firmly established the World Chambers Congress as the premier international event for chambers, to reach out and build relationships, with their colleagues from all over the world.

The 8th World Chambers Congress will see the event return to Africa – Middle East region. The local host for this congress is the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Congress will be held 23-25 April 2013.

Chambers in all regions are already registering their interest to host #the Congress, right up to 2021 when it will come back to the respective regions.

The Congress addresses at a practical level how chambers can serve, strengthen and support their member companies. Key themes of the Congress include:

- chamber management and financing issues;
- developing new chamber services;
- IT and e-business for chambers;
- special needs of chambers in developing countries;
- chamber partnerships- local, regional, national & transnational;
- chambers working with government;
- chambers working for SME's;
- attracting members;
- chambers and their communities;
- chamber branding and accreditation;
- chambers and young entrepreneurs;

Congress speakers include chamber of commerce, business and government leaders.

World Chambers Competition

Chambers of Commerce from all around the world compete for honours on the occasion of the World Chambers Congress.

The World Chambers Competition is organized by the ICC World Chambers Federation (WCF). It is the only global awards programme to recognize the most innovative projects undertaken by chambers of commerce and industry from around the world.

The Competition provides a unique opportunity for chambers to

- Showcase originality and ingenuity
- Demonstrate determination to strengthen SMEs
- Improve services provided to members

Chambers of all kinds – from bilateral, local, regional and national to public and private law – can enter the Competition.

Since its inception in 2003, the Competition has generated an array of case studies demonstrating entrepreneurial diversity and inspiring other chambers. More than 70 dossiers from 42 countries were received for the 2011 Competition. Entries come not only from developed countries but also from developing and least developed countries.

Each Competition incorporates new categories to provide chambers with the chance to share their development of unique and novel ideas with their peers around the world.

Previous finalists and winners of this increasingly popular event have experienced a significant impact on their local and national profile, and on their influence, due to the recognition received for their participating projects.

Through the World Chambers Competition WCF continues to fulfil its mission; to encourage chamber excellence and dynamism while fostering information exchange and business development.

Since 2003, 22 organizations and chambers have won a Competition award. From networking to membership recruitment, 20 projects promoting industry and community work have been rewarded.

For more information on the competition, please go to:

www.worldchamberscompetition.org



ICC Commercial Crime Services

Overview

ICC Commercial Crime Services has saved companies and individual investors billions of dollars in potential fraud and theft through its ability to recognize early warning signs. That skill has been developed over almost 20 years at the forefront of the fight against commercial crime.

CCS offers services that can be tailored or combined to meet individual needs for company security and protection. Whatever the security problem, CCS can help.

Bureaux within CCS deal with maritime and trading crime, product counterfeiting, financial malpractice, and all other forms of commercial crime. A special cybercrime unit tackles crimes affecting electronic commerce and keeps companies informed about this fast-evolving field of criminal activity.

CCS puts its own extensive resources at the disposal of its members, while working closely with law enforcement agencies. It cooperates with customs authorities under a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Customs Organization. It works closely with the UN International Maritime Organisation and with INTERPOL. The international reach of CCS takes the fight against commercial crime to every corner of the globe. Its services can be tailored or combined to meet individual needs for company security and protection.

The first responsibility of CCS is to its members and those who enlist its services. The organization's discretion can always be relied upon. Often, the specialized bureaux can identify vulnerable points in corporate defences against commercial crime and help management to stop a costly scam without exposing the company to damaging publicity.

CCS has greater reach than similar organizations and can react faster for a number of reasons:

- Unencumbered by bureaucracy, CCS responds swiftly to alerts anywhere in the world.
- CCS acts on its own initiative, needing no go-ahead from government or law enforcement agencies.
- CCS enjoys the confidence of senior police and customs officers of many nations.

CCS Services

ICC Commercial Crime Services (CCS), a specialized division of the ICC, is a non-profit making membership organization based in London and Kuala Lumpur.

CCS is made up of three specialized bureaux and a cybercrime unit which together cover all aspects of commercial crime. All provide up-to-the-minute advice on criminal methods and how to counter them.

- ◆ **ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB)**

Set up in 1981, IMB combats all types of maritime and trade crime, including documentary credit fraud, charter party fraud, cargo theft and the deviation of ships. IMB's regional office in Kuala Lumpur is also the home of the Piracy Reporting Centre which responds immediately to acts of piracy and collects evidence for law enforcement agencies.

- ◆ **ICC Commercial Crime Bureau (CCB)**

CCB Provides specialist advice in respect of financial instrument and investment frauds to banks and financial regulators.

- ◆ **ICC Counterfeiting Intelligence Bureau (CIB)**

CIB assists companies in preventing counterfeiting of their products. It carries out investigations, provides intelligence and monitors counterfeiting worldwide.

- ◆ **ICC Cybercrime Unit**

The unit carries out investigations, devises security procedures and keeps abreast of developments in this rapidly changing area of crime.

Commercial crime is growing faster than international trade. Frauds are more complex and involve larger sums than ever before. New scams are constantly encountered.

How can you chamber and the Commercial Crime Service work together?

Selected member companies of your chamber may be interested in the various services of the ICC Commercial Crime Services.

With its three specialized bureaux and a cybercrime unit, company membership can be all-inclusive or selective and companies, as part of their membership, are free to choose the specific services that best suit their requirements.

All CCS members have access to a centralized database. They are entitled to receive bulletins and special reports and are invited to attend training courses, seminars and workshops.

Members can exchange information with CCS and its bureaux in total confidence, and are asked to respect the confidentiality of information they receive. This mutual trust between CCS and its members is one of the organization's most valued assets.

Chambers of commerce, who are direct members of ICC WCF, that inform their members of the services provided by the CCS and encourage them to take up direct membership, are offered 10% commission from the CCS membership fee for introducing one of its member companies to this special field of activity.

More information:

<http://www.icc-ccs.org/main/index.php>

Dispute Resolution Services

ICC International Court of Arbitration

ICC responds to business needs at each stage of contractual activities, from the negotiation and drafting of commercial contracts to the resolution of disputes.

Chambers of commerce around the world encourage their member companies to use ICC model contracts and documents as part of their daily business, which include ICC arbitration as the means of solving international business disputes.

By using ICC services and documents such as Incoterms, rules for documentary credits, model contracts, codes, and ATA carnets, companies diminish the risk of misunderstandings that can give rise to a dispute.

Should a business difference or a dispute arise, ICC proposes a wide range of flexible and user-friendly dispute resolution services that can be used by companies everywhere in the world, irrespective of the size of the company, its location and its sector of activity.

ICC proposes four main services for the resolution of disputes: arbitration, ADR (amicable dispute resolution), expertise, and DOCDEX, used for disputes arising out of the use of documentary instruments. The texts of the rules that govern those services and other useful information are found in the following web sites:

www.iccarbitration.org, www.iccadr.org, www.iccexpertise.org, and www.iccdocdex.org

Key characteristics of ICC dispute resolution

- All ICC dispute resolution services are administered by a dedicated staff located in Paris, at the ICC International Secretariat. However, the location of the Secretariat has no effect on the place where the different proceedings can be held, as all ICC dispute resolution mechanisms may take place anywhere in the world.
- The international nature of ICC dispute resolution enables the parties to develop methods that are truly transnational. Indeed, proceedings can be held in the language or languages of choice, and ICC rules are drafted in a way that all legal traditions and cultures are respected.
- Impartiality, high standards of quality and flexibility are among the key characteristics of ICC dispute resolution services.

ICC Arbitration

The ICC International Court of Arbitration, created in 1923, is the world's foremost institution for the resolution of commercial disputes.

Model ICC Arbitration Clause

The decision to refer to ICC arbitration should a dispute arise, is one that is made during the early stages of an international contract, when parties are still negotiating terms, and long before there is any hint of conflict. The parties decide that, should problems arise, they will settle their differences through arbitration under the ICC Rules of Arbitration.

ICC recommends the following standard clause:

"All disputes arising out of or in connection with the present contract shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with the said Rules."

Secretariat of the International Court of Arbitration

An international secretariat of more than 40 lawyers and support staff take care of ongoing work. The Secretariat of the International Court of Arbitration is separate from the Secretariat that deals with ADR, expertise, and DOCDEX services, although both respond to the Secretary General of the International Court of Arbitration.

For more information on the International Court of Arbitration, please contact:

Secretariat, ICC International Court of Arbitration

Tel +33 1 49 53 28 78

Fax +33 1 49 53 29 33

Email arb@iccwbo.org



Certificates of Origin – Mission Statement

Background

A Chambers' role in the issuance and attestation of Certificates of Origin and other trade documents is both unique and vital to the facilitation of international trade, especially in an increasingly differentiated rule of origin trading environment that lacks international certification standards.

Objective

As such, there is an urgency to reinforce and enhance the unique position of Chambers of Commerce as the natural agent in the issuance and attestation of Certificates of Origin and to use the ICC World Chambers Federation's global stature and platform to develop and harmonize certification standards and procedures that will benefit traders and customs administrations.

This is being achieved through the following strategies.

Strategies

1. Coordinated and vigorous lobbying of international and national governments and agencies through ICC structures.
2. Raising the credibility of Chambers' trade document functions through:-
 - (a) the setting up of an international CO certification procedure standards and guidelines for the issuance and attestation of Certificates of Origin
 - (b) the establishment of an international accreditation of Chambers' staff through an international CO Training Programme.
 - (c) helping Chambers in identification and use of advanced technologies in the delivery of Certificates of Origin and trade documents.

Programme of Action 2011

- Reinforce the role of chambers as competent authorities in the delivery of Cos, the issuance of preferential Cos and the acceptance of electronic COs.
- Development of a series of international training programmes to enhance and raise the level of chambers' professionalism and competency in CO issuance.

International Partnerships

Chambers of Commerce play a pivotal role in the development of the private sector. To enhance their management and service capabilities so that they can stimulate and foster private sector development, WCF has fostered strong ties with multilateral organizations. In addition to develop programmes of assistance and training for chambers from developing and least developed countries. WCF has also facilitated closer partnership between these organizations and local chambers of commerce, opening up a range of new partnerships and business opportunities.

United Nations Procurement Division (UNPD)



At the 6th World Chambers Congress in Kuala Lumpur (2009), WCF signed a Cooperation Agreement with the UNPD to help small and strategic small to medium sized businesses around the world to become suppliers to the UN and their purchasing needs.

World Bank

Thanks to WCF close ties with the World Bank Group, many chambers of commerce participate as the World Bank's Private Sector Liaison Offices in more than over 100 locations around the world. This a network of local contacts facilitate small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) access to The World Bank Group (WBG) products and services and strengthen the interaction between the WBG and the private sector.



In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the World Bank and ICC included a resolution to strengthen intermediary business associations. Chambers of Commerce from 13 countries now work more closely with local World Bank representatives on areas of mutual interest. These countries are Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Romania, Uganda, Vietnam and West Bank/Palestine.

United Nations Development Program



UNDP and WCF have a long-term relationship of assisting chambers of commerce from developing countries. ICC recent Letter of Intent with the UNDP will see WCF working closely on climate change activities, particularly of small and medium sized enterprises (SME) from targeted chambers of commerce in developing countries from all over the world.

One of the ICC World Chambers Federation's effective mechanisms for the exchange of chamber best practice and experience is the World Chambers Congress. Chambers from Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Dubai, Ethiopia, Ghana, Macedonia, Mozambique, Nepal, Peru, Republic of Congo, Samoa, South Africa, Uganda and Yemen.

European Commission



Asia Invest – WCN ChamberTrust Program

Helping chamber members do business internationally, the South Asia cluster for electronic international trade, worked with chambers in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri-Lanka to provide local Chambers with know-how and tools in the ICT domain in order to increase their capacity in delivering new (or more efficient) services. This project helped facilitate business opportunity

publishing, deployment of the ChamberTrust electronic trust seal and of the Chamber-eVault system.

Leonardo da Vinci Multilateral Projects 'Transfer of Innovation'

Pathways to Skills Transfer

This project produced a number of tools for the construction sector and the recognition of foreign qualifications as well as identified training gaps, to help develop new educational programmes aimed at encouraging cross-border employment. WCF worked with chambers and partner organizations from Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom in showcasing this study worldwide.



Since 2003, CIPE, the Center for International Private Enterprise, with assistance from US Aid, has sponsored Chambers from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kyrgyz Republic, Malawi, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Romania, Tanzania and Yemen attend the World Chambers Congress.



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

Chambers of Commerce from Argentina, Cambodia, Congo, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Russia, Senegal, South Africa, Venezuela and Vietnam were supported by CIDA to attend the 3rd World Chambers Congress in Quebec, September 2003.



ADB assisted chambers leaders from **Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Thailand and Vietnam** attend the 2nd World Chambers Congress in Seoul, June 2001 so that they could learn from their fellow chambers, new methods and ways to support the private sector.

WCF would be pleased to assist your chamber in developing its ties with aid agencies within your region to develop programmes with your chamber.

Please contact Anthony Parkes, Director, World Chambers Federation for further details at aps@iccwbo.org

WCF – ITC Publications

From the mid- 1980s until 1996, ICC WCF cooperated with the International Trade Center (ITC) on a series of chamber publications. These publications are still available from WCF and are currently being revised.

- **Organization and structure of chambers of commerce**
This publication describes the administrative structure essential for the functioning of a chamber of commerce and industry at various stages of its development. It takes into consideration a chamber's needs in a developing country and stresses services that aim at expanding foreign trade. Part One discusses a chamber's administrative structure in relation to its tasks, minimum staff requirements, and the stages of growth that will enable it to handle its members' needs. Part Two discusses certain practical aspects of the implementation of the activities described in "Income-Generating Activities of Chambers of Commerce".
- **Chambers of commerce under public and private law**
This publication aims at enabling chambers of commerce in developing countries to compare the different systems of chambers of commerce common in the West (mainly West Europe) and to obtain an insight into the principles on which these systems are based.
- **Income generating activities of chambers of commerce**
Chambers of commerce obtain their main financial support from membership fees. The study discusses the differences in this respect between chambers of commerce established under public law and those set up under private law. It also addresses other income generating activities that many chambers must obtain.
- **Making the most of trade fairs – how chambers of commerce can assist members in participating in international trade fairs**
Chambers of commerce, trade associations and similar bodies can play an important role in increasing the benefits to their members – and their country as a whole – of participating in international trade fairs and exhibitions. This guide provides step-by-step guidelines for planning and carrying out joint participations. In addition, by studying the guide, an officer of a chamber should be better able to counsel individual companies on how to participate on their own. As an add to counseling, a number of check lists and guides are included.
- **Preparation of publications and public materials – guide for chambers**
This publication covers the preparation of publications and allied publicity materials, with particular reference to the outlook of chambers of commerce in developing countries – discusses reasons for disseminating information, information role of chambers of commerce, information media, role of the information officer; press releases, press conferences; publishing a periodical, publications to meet specific needs, a handbook and leaflets on how to export, a chamber's official directory of members; includes check-lists of points to consider each case.
- **Trade information services of chambers of commerce**
This publication on established services within chambers of commerce, to provide trade-related information – discusses information needs in international trade, role of chambers of commerce; types of information sources; information acquisition, processing, storage; dissemination; helping companies to interpret and use information effectively; organization

and management of trade information service, evaluation; also gives a check-list of points to consider when setting up a trade information service within a chamber of commerce, and a list of information needs with typical sources.

- **The role of chambers in trade facilitation**

This publication describes the background and the importance of international trade facilitation; identifies the special advantages it offers for developing countries; describes its main elements and how it is organized; identify trade facilitation functions already handled by chambers of commerce and suggest ways in which these can be improved; suggest how chambers in developing countries can promote the establishment of an independent facilitation body and co-operate with it when established.

- **The role of chambers in import management**

This publication aims specifically at showing how chambers of commerce can be more responsive to the needs of the importers among their members, particularly those small or medium-sized industries. Issues covered include the chambers' role; harnessing in-house skills; specialized advisory services; training courses/seminars/workshops and information services.

- **Chambers of Commerce – services to SME's**

This publication is divided into seven sections. Section 1 gives an introduction on the role and problems of SMEs. Section 2 is about common functions and aims of chambers of commerce and industry. The comprehensive chapters 3 and 4 present a broad range of chamber service to SMEs. While chapter 3 deals with more general service related to the domestic sector, chapter 4 presents specific services related to foreign trade. Chapter 5 gives concrete suggestions for introducing new services to SMEs by describing different mechanisms for implementation. Chapter 6 presents case studies of chamber services to SMEs which have been implemented successfully by chambers of commerce and industry around the world as well as practical advice for implementation.

Other Chamber guides are available from WCF to assist your chamber and its staff on a wide range of chamber activities and service issues. Please find more information at:

<http://www.iccwbo.org/wcf/index.html?id=45406>

A member of



Guidelines Concerning Use of WCF Membership Button by Chambers

Conditions of use are as follows:

1. The full ICC WCF logo must be used in one of the official colours as determined in the logo guidelines.
2. The logo must appear in conjunction with the words 'A member of' printed directly above the full logo in text form only (and not as part of the logo design). See attached example.
3. The logo, including text, can be used on letterheads but can only appear at the foot of the page.
4. The logo, including text, can be used on annual reports and some other non-commercial publications such as newsletters.
5. The logo, including text, can be used to show affiliation on member websites.
6. The logo must not be used on any business cards or identification.
7. The logo must not be used as part of any commercial product/service or publication - including conference programmes, publication documents - or for their promotion.
8. The logo must not be used in relation to any dispute resolution mechanism for example on a page of a document setting out the different services offered by the Chamber when this list includes a dispute resolution activity.

Agreement concerning use of ICC-WCF membership button

The International Chamber of Commerce (“ICC”), domiciled at 38 Cours Albert 1er, 75008 Paris, hereby authorizes _____ (“the User”) to use the attached graphic design (“ICC-WCF Membership Button”) to indicate its membership of ICC and its World Chambers Federation (“WCF”) subject to the conditions below.

The User hereby agrees to the conditions below with respect to the use of the “ICC-WCF Membership Button”.

The User acknowledges that ICC is the owner of the trademarks “World Chambers Federation”, “ICC”, the ICC logo (ICC with globes), and the combination of these elements in the “ICC-WCF Membership Button” and hereby agrees to the following conditions:

1. The ICC-WCF Membership Button may be used only in the authorized form, colours , resolution and proportions indicated in the attached , including the phrase “ A member of” in the position indicated and the symbol ® indicating that the “World Chambers Federation “ and the ICC logo as registered trademarks.
2. None of the individual elements in the ICC-WCF Membership Button may be used separately without the express authorization of ICC.
3. Authorization to use the ICC-WCF Membership Button does not in anyway imply any authorization to act for or make contracts for ICC.
4. The ICC-WCF Membership Button may only be used in the following instances:
 - a) on the User’s letterheads, and only at the foot of the page;
 - b) on the User’s annual reports and other non-commercial publications such as newsletters;
 - c) on the User’s website to show affiliation to ICC and WCF.
5. The ICC-WCF Membership Button may not be used
 - a) on business cards or other identification;
 - b) as part of any commercial product, publication or service, or for their promotion (including but not limited to conference programs, brochures, and material relating to the User’s arbitration and other business dispute resolution services).

c) in relation to any dispute resolution mechanism for example on a page of a document setting out the different services offered by the Chamber when this list includes a dispute resolution activity

6. Authorization to use the ICC-WCF Membership Button will be withdrawn automatically if:

a) the User ceases to be a member of ICC-WCF or of any of its National Committees;

b) the User breaches any of the conditions of use set out in this agreement.

ICC reserves the right to withdraw this authorization at any time at its discretion.

Please, note that the ICC-WCF Membership logo will be sent to you by email upon the receipt of this Agreement completed.

Signed in two original copies:

On behalf of ICC

On behalf of _____

Name:

Name:

Position:

Position:

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:

ICC World Chambers Federation (WCF) Bylaws

PREAMBLE

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), *the world business organization*, represents enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world.

The World Chambers Federation (WCF) represents ICC's chamber of commerce members worldwide. WCF was first established in 1951 as the International Bureau of Chambers of Commerce (IBCC).

WCF's mission and structure are described in the following articles.

ARTICLE 1 - ORGANIZATION

1.1 The name of the organization is the ICC World Chambers Federation (WCF). WCF is a non-political, non-governmental body representing the interests of local, regional, national, bilateral and transnational chambers of commerce and industry.

1.2 The role of the WCF is:

- to promote and protect the concept of chambers of commerce as essential intermediaries between business and government, and between business and the general public;
- to provide assistance in the establishment of chambers of commerce or the strengthening of existing chambers, especially in developing countries and emerging economies;
- to encourage cooperation between chamber organizations throughout the world, so to extend the range and improve the effectiveness of the services that chambers provide;
- to provide a forum where chamber leaders can communicate with each other and collaborate on matters of mutual interest, whether in solving problems or realizing opportunities;
- to facilitate the role of chambers of commerce as local business support agencies;
- to administer the ATA guarantee chain (according to Article 5);
- to initiate and/or participate in any appropriate chamber-based international service chains;
- to encourage chambers of commerce and their members to cooperate in activities of ICC.

1.3 The ICC International Secretariat shall provide the secretariat for WCF.

ARTICLE 2 - MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Membership of the ICC World Chambers Federation shall be open to all properly constituted chambers of commerce and industry in the world, whether at a transnational, national, bilateral, regional, and local or specialist level.
- 2.2 The process for applying for membership of WCF shall conform to the ICC Constitution.
- 2.3 In countries where an ICC national committee exists, applications for membership of WCF shall be submitted through the ICC national committee. In countries with no ICC national committee, applications shall be made directly to the ICC World Chambers Federation.
- 2.4 In the event that an ICC national committee cannot accept a chamber membership, WCF Secretariat together with ICC International Secretariat, shall work with the national committee concerned to provide an alternative mechanism for the application.
- 2.5 All chamber memberships shall be submitted to the WCF General Council for confirmation.
- 2.6 The status of each chamber member within the WCF shall be that of an individual member and such membership shall not confer any membership rights on any individual organizations that are affiliated to the said group or association.
- 2.7 Where an ICC national committee or ICC WCF Secretariat or the General Council itself, doubt the validity of a chamber membership application, the General Council, in consultation with the national committee where relevant or the ICC WCF Secretariat, shall have the authority to accept or decline the application for membership.

Decisions will be based upon, but not limited to:

- the applicant's compliance with any statutory or legal definition of chambers of commerce in force in the applicant's nation of origin,
 - the applicant's membership of any recognized national network of chambers of commerce in the country in which it is located.
- 2.8 Membership of WCF shall be subject to payment of fees and subscriptions at the time of joining and renewable annually thereafter, in accordance with the practice of national committee or ICC WCF Secretariat. ICC WCF Secretariat may decide to offer potential members different WCF subscription and membership category levels.
- 2.9 Membership of WCF shall lapse if due fees and subscriptions are not paid, according to the practice of the ICC national committee or ICC.
- 2.10 If a member changes its status, or fails to comply with these Articles, or in any other way hinders the work of the WCF, the General Council of WCF in consultation with ICC or the relevant ICC national committee, can decide that this organization will no longer be a member of WCF.

ARTICLE 3 - GENERAL MEETING

- 3.1 ICC World Chambers Federation shall hold a general meeting at least every two years to which all members shall be invited. These meetings may coincide with a World Chambers Congress.
- 3.2 A written report from the Chair of WCF shall be presented at each general meeting outlining the activities and achievements of the WCF since the last general meeting.
- 3.3 If any votes are to be taken at a general meeting, each member attending shall be entitled to one vote. The Chair of WCF may also allow voting by proxy or writing. Decisions are taken by a simple majority.

ARTICLE 4 – GOVERNANCE

4.1 WCF General Council

- 4.1.1 The WCF General Council determines the policies and programmes of the ICC World Chambers Federation.
- 4.1.2 The WCF General Council is convened by the Chair of WCF.
- 4.1.3 The General Council shall consist of chamber delegates from all WCF member countries.
- 4.1.4 WCF chamber members shall be invited to vote for candidates to fill 20 places of the General Council. All members of WCF shall be entitled to nominate candidates for election, provided these candidates are willing to serve and able to attend the General Council's meetings. Members shall be elected for a term of three years, twice renewable.
- 4.1.5 If there are more nominations than vacancies, members of WCF will be asked to elect from the eligible candidates by means of a postal or electronic ballot. Each member shall have one vote.
- 4.1.6 Each country will be entitled to one candidate to be voted onto the WCF General Council. Where there is more than one nomination from a country, the WCF members from that country shall elect their representative. The ICC national committee, where existing, shall assist WCF in this election process. Additional General Council members may be co-opted from the countries of those elected candidates.
- 4.1.7 The ex-officio members of the General Council shall be the WCF Chair, Deputy Chair, WCF Honorary Chair, Vice Chairs, the Chair of the World ATA Carnet Council, the Chairs of the WCF working groups, ICC Secretary General and WCF Director.
- 4.1.8 After the elected and ex-officio members have taken their places, the General Council, upon the recommendation of the Chair of WCF, may co-opt further members provided that the total membership shall not exceed 50.

Co-opted members may serve for three years until the next following annual election is complete.

Elected or co-opted members can serve no more than three consecutive terms.

4.1.9 Vacancies arising during the term may also be filled by co-option. Co-opted members may serve until the next election.

4.1.10 The choice of co-opted members shall be made so as to improve the balance on the General Council between:

- geographic areas of the world,
- large and small chambers,
- public and private law chambers,
- developed and developing countries,
- chamber members and chamber executives.

This balance shall be reviewed every five years, or as and when deemed necessary by the WCF General Council.

4.1.11 The General Council shall meet at least once a year.

4.1.12 The General Council shall have the power to take decisions for carrying out the objectives of WCF and, in particular, shall

- approve the WCF Annual Programme of Action (as well as budget and other financial matters);
- approve the WCF Annual Report of Activities;
- create and dissolve ad-hoc working groups to deal with specific issues of the WCF programme of action, and can recommend the formation of joint ad-hoc working groups with other ICC bodies;
- be the voting members of the World Chambers Congress selection committee (additional members may be co-opted to the committee by the Chair of WCF, in consultation with the Executive Committee);
- be eligible to serve as a member of the World Chambers Competition jury;
- elect the WCF Chair and Deputy Chair;
- confirm appointment of WCF Vice Chairs, Chairs of WCF working groups and co-opted members of the WCF General Council;
- approve the proposals of the WCF Executive Committee;
- approve, suspend or terminate memberships to the WCF;
- approve ATA national guaranteeing organizations and record ATA issuing agencies;
- approve the WCF Bylaws and their amendments.

4.1.13 The decisions and recommendations of the General Council shall normally be reached by consensus. In the case of matters requiring specific decisions and where consensus cannot be obtained, decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote. The Chair of WCF may also allow voting by proxy or writing.

4.1.14 The WCF General Council delegates its authority in between meetings to the WCF Executive Committee

4.2 WCF Executive Committee

4.2.1 The WCF Executive Committee of the General Council will be composed of the WCF Chair, WCF Deputy Chair, WCF Honorary Chair, WCF Vice Chairs, Chair of WATAC and Chairs of WCF committees and task forces. The ex-officio members of the Executive Committee shall be the ICC Secretary General and WCF Director.

4.2.2 The Chair of the WCF shall be the Chair of the Executive Committee.

4.2.3 Members of the Executive Committee are appointed for a term of three years.

In case a vacancy is created for whatever reason, the Chair of WCF, in close consultation with the Executive Committee, may appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term, until the next election.

4.2.4 The Executive Committee shall take actions and decisions for meeting the objectives of WCF and, in particular, shall:

- prepare the WCF Annual Report and the WCF programme of action (including budget), to be submitted to the WCF General Council;
- work with the ICC on the strategic development of the WCF, including budget and other financial matters;
- propose the creation of, monitor and dissolve any committee, working group and task force, define their terms of reference, guide and coordinate their activities as necessary. All such groups will report to the Executive Committee and General Council on their programme of activities;
- submit recommendations to the ICC Chairmanship and ICC nominations committee(s) concerning the WCF representation to the ICC Executive Board and other groups as necessary.

4.2.5 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice yearly, or when necessary on the initiative of the chair or at the written request of at least four of its members.

Between these meetings, the Executive Committee shall delegate its functions to the Chair.

However, in no case will the Chair exercise the functions of Executive Committee for a substantive issue without first polling the members by phone, fax, email, post or other means.

4.3 Transnational Chamber of Commerce Board

A Transnational Chamber of Commerce is a group of chambers, representing chambers within a geographical region, economic grouping, cultural or language basis.

4.3.1 ICC's relationships with Transnational Chambers of Commerce will be managed by the WCF.

- 4.3.2 Each year, the Chair of WCF will convene the Transnational Chambers of Commerce (TnCCI) Board. This meeting may be held on the occasion of the WCF General Council, Executive Committee or other major WCF event.
- 4.3.3 The WCF TnCCI Board will be composed of all Transnational Chambers of Commerce and selected national chambers which may not be part of a TnCCI. The members of the TnCCI Board will be confirmed by the Chair of WCF, upon consultation with the members of the Executive Committee.
- 4.3.4 The TnCCI Board will have special consultative status with the WCF Executive Committee, and may be called upon by the Chair of WCF, for special projects concerning the strategic development and implementation of WCF projects and activities.
- 4.3.5 Partnerships and special projects with TnCCI members will be presented to the WCF Executive Committee for development, discussion and necessary approval.
- 4.3.6 TnCCIs which have Co-operation Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding with ICC World Chambers Federation shall also be ex-officio members of the General Council.

4.4 WCF Chairmanship

- 4.4.1 The Chair holds the highest office in WCF, and, in this capacity, represents ICC's chamber membership towards ICC and third parties. He presides over the meetings of the WCF Chairmanship, WCF Executive Committee, WCF General Council and other WCF bodies as necessary.
- 4.4.2 The Chair of WCF shall become a member of the ICC Executive Board. The Chair of WCF shall also become a member of the ICC Nominating Committee. As part of his role in this committee, the Chair of WCF will manage the nominations for chamber representation on the ICC Executive Board.
- 4.4.3 The term of office for the Chair of WCF will be three years, once renewable.
- 4.4.4 The Chair of WCF will appoint up to six Vice Chairs, taking into consideration geographic balance; public/private chamber status; as well as chamber professionals and volunteer/elected leaders.
- 4.4.5 The Vice Chairs may already be members of the General Council in another capacity, if not, they shall become ex-officio members.
- 4.4.6 Each member has the right to submit a candidate for election as Chair of the WCF. All proposals for Chair shall be submitted to the incumbent Chair of WCF.
- 4.4.7 The Chair of WCF shall submit to the WCF General Council one or more candidates for election as Deputy Chair of the WCF.

This nomination will be done in close consultation with the ICC Chairmanship and WCF Executive Committee.

The Deputy Chair may be an existing Vice-Chair and must be a member of ICC WCF.

- 4.4.8 The Deputy Chair shall assist the Chair in the discharge of his responsibilities. The Chair may delegate certain of his responsibilities to the Deputy Chair. In the event of the death or resignation of the Chair, or should he become for any other reason unable to discharge the duties of his office, the Deputy Chair shall replace him.

- 4.4.9 Every third year by December 31st at the latest, the WCF General Council shall elect the WCF Chair and Deputy Chair for a period of three years commencing the following January 1st.

The elections of the WCF Chair and Deputy Chair shall be submitted for ratification to ICC's Executive Board, for confirmation by the ICC World Council.

- 4.4.10 For a period of three years following the end of his term of office, the outgoing Chair of WCF shall be Honorary Chair, and continue as an ex-officio member of the WCF Executive Committee and WCF General Council. This mandate may be reduced at the request of the incumbent.
- 4.4.11 The Chair of the WCF shall report annually to the ICC Executive Board and/or ICC World Council on the programme and activities of WCF.

ARTICLE 5 – ATA Carnet International Guarantee Chain

- 5.1 The ICC WCF International Guarantee Chain for the operation of the ATA and Istanbul Conventions of the World Customs Organization (WCO) is administered by the WCF World ATA Carnet Council (WATAC).

WATAC is responsible for the operation, management and expansion of the Chain, within the framework of present rules, guidelines and procedures. No change to these rules, guidelines and procedures should be made without the agreement of the WCF General Council.

- 5.2 WATAC is composed of one member per national guaranteeing organization affiliated to the Chain. Each national guaranteeing organization must be a member of the ICC World Chambers Federation. National guaranteeing organizations affiliated to the Chain must be approved by the WCF General Council, upon WATAC's recommendation

National guaranteeing organizations shall submit to the WCF General Council the list of the issuing organizations they have selected to issue ATA Carnets on their behalf. These issuing organizations may also be members of the ICC World Chambers Federation.

- 5.3 The Chair of WATAC is designated by the Chair of WCF, in consultation with ATAC, and elected by the World ATA Carnet Council. Voting by proxy will be possible for this election.

The term of office of the chair of WATAC shall be three years, with the possibility of one renewal.

The Chair of WATAC is also the Chair of the ATA Carnet Administrative Committee (ATAC).

- 5.4 WATAC shall meet at least twice a year. Between its meetings, WATAC shall delegate its functions to the ATA Carnet Administrative Committee (ATAC).

- 5.5 ATAC shall be composed of the chair and twelve other members drawn from WATAC. They shall collectively represent at least 50% of the number of ATA Carnets issued per year.

The twelve members shall be selected by WATAC in consultation with the WCF Chair.

The term of office for these twelve members shall be three years with the possibility of renewal by one third each year.

Associate members, observers and experts may be invited by the Chair to join meetings (on a temporary basis), after prior consultation with ATAC members.

ATAC shall meet at least twice yearly, or when necessary on the initiative of the chair or at the written request of at least four of its members.

ATAC must have a quorum of seven members present.

- 5.6 ATAC shall, within the overall framework of the ICC annual budget process, develop an ATA budget proposal which will be based on the annual ATA Carnet programme of action.

The ATAC/WATAC Chair shall present the budget proposal to WATAC for approval, after consultation with the WCF Chair.

The ATA budget shall include a royalty to the ICC equal to 10% of the annual ATA Carnet administrative fees collected.

- 5.7 The decisions and recommendations of WATAC and its working groups shall normally be reached by consensus. In the absence of consensus, the decisions and recommendations shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present and voting. 5.8 The decisions and recommendations of ATAC shall normally be reached by consensus. In the absence of consensus, the decisions and recommendations shall be the result of a qualified majority vote of 75% of the members present and voting.

- 5.9 Each year, the Chair of WATAC shall present to the WCF General Council a report on actions and decisions taken regarding the management and development of the ATA Carnet system, and the ATA budget which has been agreed between ICC and WATAC.

ARTICLE 6 - REVISION OF ARTICLES

- 6.1 Any proposal for revising or amending the Articles of WCF must be agreed upon by a two-thirds majority vote by members present at the General Council meeting.
- 6.2 Any revision or amendment so agreed shall be submitted for approval by the ICC Executive Board, for confirmation by the ICC World Council.