

Your Chamber at Work for You!

Forging Links

During the month of March the Ms. Catherine Kumar C.E.O of the met with:

Mr Greg Brookes Coutts Cayman
- 4th

Sharon Lans CEO of ATTIC - 8th

Luis Andrade General Secretary ACS - 14th

His Excellency Eric Jenkinson British High Commission & His Excellency Humberto Riveiro Rosario Ambassador of Cuba - 15th

In the same month the CEO attended:

Launch of Public Consultation on

Draft of Climate Change Policy - 5th

TTTI Breakfast Panel Discussion on Global Corruption Report 2009 - 19th

Trade in the Economy at Central Bank - 24th

TRADE RELATIONS

CARICOM-Canada Trade and Development Agreement

A meeting of the Technical Working Group on Trade Related Issues for a CARICOM-Canada Trade and Development Agreement was convened in Barbados on 22nd to 23rd February 2010. The Trade Related Issues included Competition Policy, Monopolies and State Enterprises,

Transparency in Government Procurement and Trade and Innovation.

For more information, please contact Ms. Rianna E. Paul at rpaul@chamber.org.tt

Incoming UK Trade Mission

On 1st March 2010, UK Trade Mission leaders, Ms. Elaine Cameron, International Trade Advisor of UK Trade and Investment and Ms. Paolo Di Brina, Trade and Development Assistant of GLA oneLondon along with Ms. Bernadette Bacchus, Trade and Investment Officer of the British High Commission visited the Chamber with a view to build relationships and explore potential synergies.



Look out For

- Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Hyatt Regency Trinidad – 14th April 2010
- Asycuda World Training at BorderCom
International St.
Augustine 21st – 23rd April, 2010
- Supervisory Management Development Skills Leon Agostini Conference Hall, Chamber – 22nd, 23rd, 28th and 29th April, 2010
- Stock Exchange Seminar (Members Clinic) Duncan Campbell Meeting Room – 27th April 2010

Marketing & Communications Events



The Honourable Jerry Narace Minister of Health, Mrs. Angella Persad, President of the Chamber, Ms. Catherine Kumar CEO of the Chamber

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce in collaboration with the Ministry of Health hosted the **Tobacco Control Act Sensitization Seminar** on Monday 8th March 2010.

Members had the opportunity to question personnel from the Ministry inclusive of Senator the Honourable Jerry Narace about certain aspects of the bill. **The event was sponsored by the Ministry of Health.**



The Chamber partnered with the High Commission of Canada to host a one day workshop on

“Doing Business in Canada”.

Her Excellency Ms Karen McDonald, High Commissioner of Canada delivered opening remarks. Topics discussed included:

- Why choose Canada?
- What can the Export Development Canada (EDC) do for you?
- Exporting to Canada and Immigration.

The event was supported by the High Commission of Canada.

Chamber Standing Committees



The Honourable Kennedy Swaratsingh, Minister of Public Administration

EBITT Committee

iGOVTT – the new State Enterprise established for the coordination and execution of key government projects was introduced to the Chamber's membership via the EBITT Committee on Friday 12th March, 2010. Speakers at this event included the Honourable Kennedy Swaratsingh – Minister of Public Administration and Mr Cleveland Thomas – Chief Executive Officer of iGOVTT. **The event was supported by**

Illuminat and IBM.

Standards Survey

The EBITT Committee has created a survey on the use of international standards in the local ICT Industry. It was launched at the iGOVTT function: hosted on 12th March, 2010. The Committee hopes to understand the type of standards used locally to add to its ongoing work.

Crime & Justice Committee

The Crime & Justice Committee hosted a seminar with the theme, **Securing the Cash Side of Business** on Friday 26th March 2010. The seminar focused on the various strategies and safety measures which business owners can use when dealing with the in and outflow of cash. **Sponsors for this event were First Citizens and Cash Handling Supplies Ltd.**

International Trade Negotiations Unit (ITNU)

A Technical Negotiating Group (TNG) will take place during the period 29th - 31st March, 2010 and will cover the following Trade Related Issues:

- Dispute Settlement and Institutional Issues
- Elements of Market Access/ Trade in goods not discussed in the first round

- Elements of Services and investment.

The Unit will be following these developments closely and will keep members informed.

Energy Committee



The Chair of the Energy Committee, Mr. Baajnath Sirinath met with the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries Mr. Conrad Enill on Thursday 4th March, 2010.



The Transport and Logistics Committee



The Transport and Logistics Committee hosted another

successful Asycuda Training Programme – Declaration Module between March 3-5, 2010.

The session was hosted at BorderCom International, St Augustine with Mr Roger Carrington continuing as the main facilitator. Training sessions are ongoing and we

urge members to take the opportunity to have their relevant staff participate in this important training programme. Interested members can contact the Chamber Secretariat at 637-6966 Ext. 245 or email: sseeram@chamber.org.tt

Facilities Management and Maintenance



The Facilities Management and Maintenance Committee of the Chamber hosted "Disaster

Preparedness and Risk Management – An Insurance Perspective". Members were exposed to the nature of insurance policies as they relate to coverage for natural disasters as one of the keys to successfully managing risk.

The event was sponsored by TRINRE, Magic Mist and TRACMAC Engineering Limited.

Continued from below....

Initiative gets off the ground
On March 15th, the Chamber's **Diversification through Innovation Roundtable** kickstart dinner got off the ground. Presentations were made by **Mrs. Angella Persad, Ms. Catherine Kumar and Miss Vashti Guyadeen**, who is the Project Manager of the Roundtable.

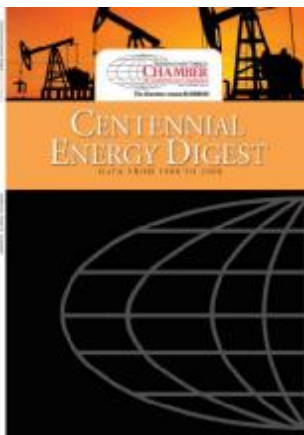


The Honourable Mariano Browne Minister of Trade and Industry, Mrs. Angella Persad, President of the Chamber, Ms. Catherine Kumar CEO of the Chamber

Research & Publications

"Developing R&D to enable you to make more informed decisions"

CENTENNIAL ENERGY DIGEST



The **Centennial Energy Digest** is finally here! The publication is the first of its kind for this country. Senator Conrad Enill commented that, *"I am, therefore, confident that this Digest will be a valuable source document for investors, policy-makers, researchers and students, alike. Even the curious among us, who merely wish to obtain data on our energy sector for their own edification, may find it beneficial."*

The book is divided into 2 parts.
Part 1: Insights into the energy

sector of Trinidad and Tobago. Over 15 executives and experts were interviewed for the 12 articles. **Part 2: 21 years of statistics revealed** covers 21 years of data on the sector and is presented in a clear and 'user friendly' format supported by **over 80 charts and tables** and includes a **CD Rom of all the data presented.** The Digest is edited by the Chamber's **Vashti Guyadeen.**

To book your copy please call Lisa S. Bholai at 637-6966 ext. 230 or email her at lbholai@chamber.org

We strongly advise that you get your copy early since ONLY 1,000 copies of the publication will be on sale.

Research Desk

The Unit continued to answer members' *research* request during this period.

March was a memorable one for the Research Unit:

Diversification through Innovation Roundtable

In her opening remarks, the Chamber President noted that, *"the purpose of the Roundtable is therefore, to stage a forum for collaboration among the interest groups, namely research and academia, business, and the public sector. The objective is to brainstorm on what needs to be done to blend these interests and create new viable and sustainable niche sectors. Through this project we hope to be able to build at least two commercially successful non-energy business projects."*



Ms. Catherine Kumar, CEO

The **Ministers of Trade and Industry, Tourism and Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources** were also in attendance. The Research Unit though its "Quick Take on the Economy" e-bulletin will keep members abreast of the workings of this Roundtable.

Senator Conrad Enill on the Centennial Digest

"I am, therefore, confident that this Digest will be a valuable source document for investors, policy-makers, researchers and students, alike. Even the curious among us, who merely wish to obtain data on our energy sector for their own edification, may find it beneficial."

Produced by the Chamber's Marketing and Communications Unit

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