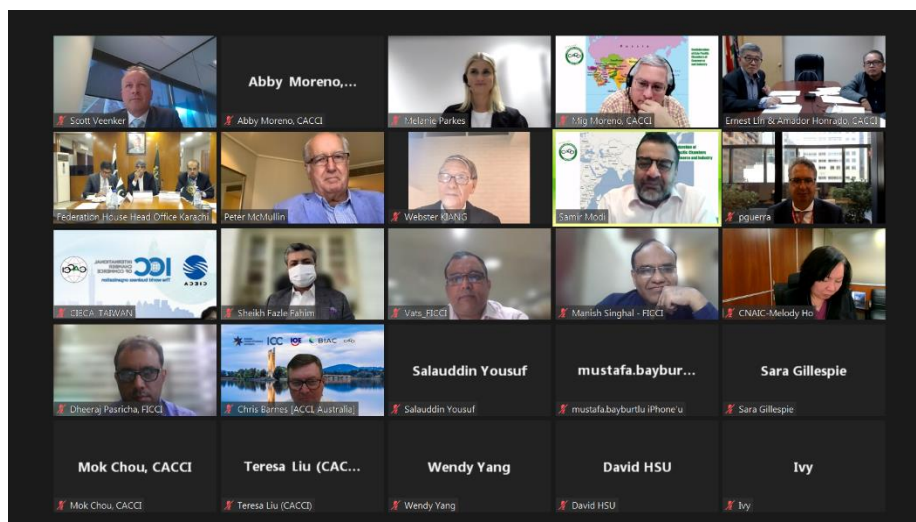




MINUTES OF THE Virtual CACCI Planning Committee Meeting March 10, 2022



INTRODUCTION

1. Members of the 2022 CACCI Planning Committee led by CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi met virtually over Zoom on March 10, 2022, primarily to discuss preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference, which is to be hosted by the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), and scheduled to take place in November 2022 in Melbourne, Australia.
2. Over 30 participants from eight countries attended the Meeting, including representatives from Australia, Bangladesh, Georgia, India, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, and Taiwan. The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1**.

WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HOST CHAMBER

3. VCCI Chief Executive Mr. Paul Guerra delivered the welcome remarks, expressing what an honor it is for Melbourne to be chosen to host the 36th CACCI Conference, and promising that his team will do whatever is required to make it work.
4. After over two years of the COVID pandemic, economic recovery is on the horizon. Mr. Guerra expressed hope that by the time the Conference comes around, Melbourne will well and truly be in full swing. He emphasized that the state of Victoria is the strongest in terms of economic states within Australia, and Melbourne is a world-class city known for having the best events in the world.
5. Mr. Guerra added that the VCCI is one of the leading chambers in Australia, and one of the founding members of ACCI, which is a CACCI Primary Member. Since VCCI

works very closely with other chambers in Australia, a significant contingent of Australians is expected come to the November Conference. Finally, he emphasized that the Conference is significant not only to VCCI but also to the Victorian Government, which supports the event.

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE CACCI PRESIDENT

6. President Modi expressed his sincere appreciation to everyone who took the time to attend the Planning Committee meeting, which is again held virtually due to the continuing pandemic.
7. Mr. Modi underscored the vital role played by the CACCI Planning Committee in the functioning of the Confederation. He cited its mandate to help implement the decisions of the CACCI Council and to undertake activities that would effectively carry out the programs of the Confederation.
8. He encouraged those present to share their views and participate actively in the discussions, particularly on how to make the upcoming Melbourne event this year productive and meaningful to members and guests. He added that it will be the third time CACCI would be holding its annual gathering in the beautiful city – the first time in April 1969 for the 5th CACCI Council Meeting, and the second time in November 1984 for the 10th CACCI Conference.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CACCI PLANNING COMMITTEE

9. CACCI Director-General Mr. Lin reported that the Planning Committee had been given the mandate to:
 - a. Discuss preparations for the 36th CACCI Conference, focusing on the dates and venue, the theme and topics, suggested format and program, possible line-up of speakers, and other related matters.
 - b. Review recent and planned CACCI activities and programs for 2022.
 - c. Discuss other matters deemed by the Committee to be of importance to CACCI and its members.
10. Guided by the above Terms of Reference, the Planning Committee proceeded with the agenda on hand.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 36th CACCI CONFERENCE

A. Conference Dates

11. Representatives from the VCCI, Mr. Scott Veenker and Ms. Melanie Parkes, informed the Planning Committee that VCCI, as earlier proposed, formally recommend to hold the 36th CACCI Conference on November 28-30, 2022.
12. As the dates do not clash with any other regional or global summit/event, the Committee had no further comments and, on motion duly seconded, formally endorsed VCCI's proposed dates.

B. Conference Venue

13. Mr. Veenker and Ms. Parkes informed the Committee that VCCI, as earlier proposed, formally recommend holding the 36th CACCI Conference at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC). They showed photos of the venue, including the different conference rooms where sessions will be held.
14. They also presented the accommodation options for delegates, which include the Pan Pacific and Novotel Hotels, which are both connected to MCEC, as well as the Crowne Plaza, Crown Towers, and the Crown Metropol, which are within walking distance. Ms. Parkes emphasized that given the central location of MCEC, there are several other hotel options in the area for delegates to choose from.
15. Regarding conference costs, Mr. Veenker said the fee to attend the conference is expected to be between \$350 to \$450 per delegate. This will include the 2-day conference meetings, the Welcome Cocktail reception, and the Gala dinner. To ensure costs can be kept affordable for delegates, VCCI is seeking support from 3rd parties as well as securing Government funding to help fund the event. They are also intending to source sponsors and partners for the event.
16. With no further comments, the Committee, on motion duly seconded, formally endorsed VCCI's recommendation to hold the 36th CACCI Conference at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre.

C. Theme and Topics of the Conference

17. The Planning Committee considered a list of possible themes and topics for the 36th CACCI Conference as compiled by the Secretariat. CACCI Director-General Mr. Lin noted that the list was generated from a survey conducted earlier seeking suggestions from members on issues they believed are of current concern to businessmen in the region.
18. Mr. Lin invited one by one those who made submissions to elaborate on their suggestions. This included the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), and CACCI Vice President Peter McMullin.

19. CACCI Deputy Director-General Mr. Amador Honrado presented CACCI's suggestions on the proposed theme and topics, incorporating the suggestions from members, which were drafted following consultation with VCCI.
20. During the ensuing discussions on the suggested theme and topics, the following points were raised:
 - a. With regard to the Suggested Theme of "A Changing Global Environment: Emerging Challenges for Business", Mr. Manish Singhal from FICCI suggested to change "Challenges" to "Opportunities". Mr. Modi also suggested shortening it to simply "A Changing Global Environment & Opportunity"
 - b. For Plenary Session 4, CACCI Vice President Sheikh Fahim suggested changing the topic on "Addressing the global supply chain disruptions" to "Addressing the global value chain disruptions."
 - c. Mr. McMullin suggested a separate meeting among a smaller group of CACCI officers following the Planning Meeting to fine-tune the Conference topics, with the CACCI Secretariat assisting to set a date on the meeting.
 - d. Mr. Veenker commented that the themes cover key subjects that are strong foundations on which to build some very worthwhile sessions with both business leaders and government representatives.
21. After exchanging views on the members' suggestions and taking into account the additional proposals and comments made by the members around the table, Mr. Modi suggested an initial meeting between VCCI and the CACCI Secretariat to further flesh out the suggested topics, to be followed by a second meeting with key CACCI Officers to present and finalize the topics.

D. Suggested Conference Speakers

22. Mr. Modi proposed that the Conference themes and topics first be finalized, after which the Committee can come back to discuss possible speakers at a later date.

E. Suggested Conference Program

23. The CACCI Secretariat, in consultation with the host organization VCCI, has drafted a Tentative Program, which was summarized by Mr. Lin as follows:
 - a. The first day of the Conference is focused on internal meetings such as the Advisory Board Meeting, Budget Commission Meeting, and Council Meeting.

It also features parallel breakout sessions of the various Product and Service Councils, Policy Advocacy and Business Matching meetings, and a session on Discovering Business Opportunities through CACCI.

- b. The opening ceremony will be conducted on the second day, followed by several plenary sessions and a Gala Dinner that includes turnover ceremonies for incoming CACCI officers and the presentation of CACCI Awards.
 - c. The third day will feature optional city tours and the delegates' departure. VCCI provided several attractions that may be of interest to delegates, including The LUME Melbourne, a digital gallery permanently housed within the MCEC and theater shows that will be staged at the time including the Phantom of the Opera.
 - d. VCCI is also proposing tours to be conducted by partners of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, such as the Queen Vic Market Ultimate Foodie Tour, and City Sightseeing with Melbourne River Cruise.
24. Mr. Modi suggested doing the Spouses Program for all three days, as there are lots to see and do in Melbourne.
25. The Committee agreed that the proposed program is the standard program of CACCI. Delegates are familiar with the format and will be able to accommodate it well. With no further comments, the Committee, on motion duly seconded, formally endorsed the Tentative Program.

F. Other Conference-Related Matters

26. Mr. Lin announced that following the Planning Meeting, the CACCI Secretariat will coordinate with VCCI on promotional materials, registration procedures, and other Conference-related matters.

REVIEW OF RECENT AND UPCOMING CACCI ACTIVITIES

27. CACCI Director-General Mr. Ernest Lin reported to the Committee the following activities and programs of CACCI for 2022:
- a. CACCI has been promoting the CACCI Study on "Achieving a Successful World Trading System", beginning with a launching webinar held in partnership with the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry on October 29, 2021. CACCI President Samir Modi subsequently tasked the CACCI Vice Presidents with promoting the study to their respective constituencies, local business communities, relevant organizations, and government officials (particularly trade ministers), and securing their support for the recommendations contained in the study.

- b. Taking into account the changes that the world has seen over the past two years, CACCI officers are currently reviewing the purpose, structure, and strategy of the Confederation, which is critical so that the organization may not only survive but also thrive as a regional business organization
- c. CACCI is conducting a survey to gather information on which members are in a position to supply raw materials and/or finished products currently required by other members, as the supply chain crunch brought about by the pandemic has inevitably resulted in a shortage and rise in raw material prices and shipping costs.
- d. CACCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the ICC World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF). The MOU sets out an updated collaborative working arrangements between ICC and CACCI that will keep in principle the tenets and spirit of the earlier MOU signed by both organizations on 3rd December 1984.
- e. CACCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Afro Asia-Pacific Development Council (AFRADEC) outlining principles and general guidelines for increased cooperation between the two organizations.
- f. CACCI President Samir Modi virtually attended the second meeting for 2021 of the ICC WCF General Council held on November 22, 2021 in Dubai to represent CACCI.
- g. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi served as a member of the Board of Judges for the 2021 World Chambers Competition. He assisted in evaluating nominations under the “Best Digital Project” category. Dr. Andrew Stoeckel, meanwhile, represented CACCI in the Congress’ Business Leaders Dialogue on November 25. Dr. Stoeckel presented the CACCI study on “Achieving a Successful World Trading System” and its 15 recommendations.
- h. For the ICC Trade Now webinar on November 30, “Trade Finance in Asia: Harnessing Digital Solutions to Empower Asian SMEs to Trade Now” held on November 30, CACCI nominated two speakers for the panel discussion on “Addressing the trade finance gap in Asia: challenges and opportunities for SMEs.”, Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council from Singapore, and Ms. Yvonne Bada of Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. from the Philippines.
- i. The ICC has invited CACCI to participate in its “SME Southeast Asia Exports Survey” to be jointly conducted with Google. To be launched later this month, the survey aims to identify and understand the barriers and exporting needs of SMES in the region and examine the role that technology can play in enabling and expanding SME exports.

- j. CACCI members have been invited to attend a number of events organized by member chambers and other organizations:
- 47th PBC&E and the Chamber Management Forum of PCCI (November 17-18, 2021)
 - 6th ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Carnival (November 18-20, 2021)
 - 1st ABAC-AYEC Policy Dialogue Forum (November 19, 2021)
 - 12th World Chambers Congress (Dubai, November 23-25, 2021)
 - FICCI-CACCI Business Delegation to Expo 2020 (Dubai, November 23-25, 2021)
 - Global Biz with PEZA Forum (November 24, 2021)
 - ICC Trade Now Event – Trade Finance in Asia: Harnessing Digital Solutions to Empower Asian SMEs to Trade Now (November 30)
- k. Mr. George Abraham, Chairman of the CACCI SME Development Council, represented CACCI in the 19th Joint Business Councils' (JBC) Meeting held online on February 14, 2022.
- l. CACCI President Mr. Samir Modi has been invited to join the roundtable on "Green Economy for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth", as part of the "Antalya Diplomacy Forum" being organized by The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) on March 11-13, 2022.
- m. CACCI is partnering with the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC) – in co-organizing a Business Forum on "Global Economic Outlook and Regional Economic Integration" to be held in a hybrid format on March 15. Speakers and panelists will be exchanging views on the prospects of regional economic integration in 2022 and the role of regional trade agreements such as the CPTPP and RCEP in charting the global deployment of businesses. CACCI invited speakers from Australia, Japan, and Singapore.
- n. CACCI will again take an active role in the upcoming B20 Summit to be held Bali, Indonesia in October this year, with Indonesia as host. CACCI President Mr. Samir will serve as a member of the Digitalization Task Force that is expected to conduct meetings and formulate recommendations on the digitalization transformation process of B20 member countries, to be submitted to the G20 Summit Meeting in October.
- o. CACCI recently restructured its Young Entrepreneurs Group to make it stronger, more stable, and sustainable over the long-term to be able to more effectively achieve its goal of promoting entrepreneurship in the region. A number of new committees have been formed to help achieve these objectives.

- p. A number of CACCI Presidential visits are being lined up for 2022, which will be implemented as soon as international travel restrictions are eased:
 - 1st half of 2022- Mongolia/South Korea
 - 2nd Half of 2022- Indonesia/Malaysia/Vietnam/Thailand/Cambodia
 - q. Lastly, the CACCI Secretariat has been issuing the monthly CACCI Profile, the latest editions of the newsletters of CACCI's various Product and Service Councils, the second semester 2021 issue of CACCI Journal, and the CACCI 2021 Year-End Review.
28. Following Mr. Lin's report, the following members made the following comments:
- a. A representative from FPCCI said that a Presidential visit to Pakistan originally planned for 2020 had been postponed due to the pandemic, and reiterated the invitation to include a trip to Pakistan for 2022.
 - b. Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, Chairman of the Managing Committee of FPCCI, also offered to be host for the 37th CACCI Conference in 2023, and asked the Committee to put it into consideration.
29. With no further comments, and upon motion duly seconded, the Director-General's report was noted and endorsed by the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

30. With no other matters to take up, CACCI President Mr. Modi reiterated his thanks to Mr. Paul Guerra and the team at VCCI, and expressed his excitement at the upcoming Conference. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Annex 1
CACCI Planning Committee Meeting
March 10, 2022, Online

CHAMBER AND COUNTRY	NAME
CACCI PRESIDENT	Mr. Samir Modi
CACCI VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Peter McMullin
VCCI – AUSTRALIA	Mr. Paul Guerra Chief Executive
	Ms. Melanie Parkes Events Manager
MCC- AUSTRALIA	Mr. Scott Veenker Chief Executive
TOBB - TURKEY	Ms. Basak Onur International Relations Department
	Mr. Mustafa Bayburtlu Head of European Union and Foreign Economic Relations Department
GCCI (LSM) – GEORGIA	Mr. Lasha Gogiberidze Senior Partner, BGI Legal BGI Advisory Services Georgia
FICCI – INDIA	Mr. Manish Singhal Deputy Secretary General
	Mr. Dheeraj Pasricha Deputy Director (East Asia)
	Mr. Gaurav Vats Director
FBCCI – BANGLADESH	Mr. Sheikh Fazle Fahim Immediate Past President, FBCCI
CIECA – TAIWAN	Ms. Wendy Li Specialist
	Ms. Joann Lee Senior Specialist
CNAIC – TAIWAN	Ms. Melody Ho
CTBC – TAIWAN	Mr. Joe Chien
	Ms. Ivy Cheng
THE UNION “PRIMORSKY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY”, RUSSIA	Mr. Boris Stupnitsky President
	Mr. Alex Kushnir Head of Dept. of International Cooperation
FPCCI – PAKISTAN	Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh Chairman, Managing Committee

	Mr. Suleman Chawla Vice Chairman
	Mr. Amjad Rafi Senior Member, FPCCI
	Mr. Khurram Sayeed Senior Member, FPCCI
	Mr. Sheikh Sultan Rehman Member, CACCI Budget Commission
	Ms. Amber Fatima Deputy Secretary General
NTCCI - AUSTRALIA	Mr. Mark Faulkner Industry Councils
LSM – TAIWAN	Dr. Webster Kiang Past CACCI Director-General
LSM - BANGLADESH	Mr. Salauddin Yousuf Director, Lub-rref Bangladesh Limited
CACCI SECRETARIAT	Mr. Ernest Lin Director General
	Mr. Amador Honrado Deputy Director General
	Mr. Mig Moreno Deputy Director General
	Ms. Abby Moreno Senior Officer
	Ms. Wendy Yang Senior Officer
	Ms. Teresa Liu Assistant Secretary
	Ms. Mok Chou Assistant Secretary
	Mr. David Hsu