



## 2016 HIGHLIGHTS | 2017 UPCOMING MEETINGS

Dear Colleagues,

As we begin a new year, it is useful to look back on 2016 and highlight what the Commission on Trade and Investment Policy achieved collectively to promote trade and investment liberalization. Given the global environment for trade and investment entering 2017, the Commission and ICC will continue to engage in policy advocacy and outreach activities as we lead up to the [11th WTO Ministerial Conference](#) in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 11-14 December.

## 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



### FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT: PROMOTING AND PROTECTING A KEY PILLAR FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

The policy statement was released to coincide governments convening in New York City on the week of 20 April 2016 for the first United Nations (UN) meetings on implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The statement highlights 8 principles to promote and protect foreign direct investment as a key pillar for sustainable development and growth. The launch article and twitter campaign can be viewed [here](#). Download the [document](#). Download the infographic: [Eight ICC principles to mobilize investment for the SDGs](#). A follow up

article was also issued during United Nation's (UN) General Assembly week in September 2016 can be found [here](#).

### ICC GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

In light of the recent adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ICC re-launched the 2012 ICC Guidelines International Investment as part of the World Trade Agenda (WTA) initiative at the [2016 WTO Public Forum](#). Aimed at government officials, intergovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders who help to shape global economic policy, Guidelines are a reaffirmation of the fundamental principles for investment set out by the business community in 1949 as essential for further economic development. Download the [document](#).



## MEGA-REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS AND THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

Regional trade liberalization can support longer-term multilateral liberalization if regional agreements are truly market-opening and contain harmonized, global components wherever possible. If negotiated in accordance with principles and rules contained in WTO agreements, these regional initiatives can support longer-term multilateral liberalization. This policy statement outlines ICC's position on the relation between multilateral and regional trade liberalization and urges governments around the world to consider how to "multilateralize" - elements of regional and preferential trade agreements. Download the [document](#).

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## TRADE IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY: A PRIMER ON GLOBAL DATA FLOWS FOR POLICYMAKERS

2016 WTO Public Forum, ICC issued this primer at the to assist policymakers in addressing the negative implications for growth from blanket restrictions to data flows. The policy statement stresses the importance of creating trusted environments to better enable use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and related data flows. The primer concludes with a set of policy recommendations to help ensure that all citizens and companies realize the full potential of the Internet as a platform for innovation and economic growth. Download the [document](#). The article on the primer can be found [here](#).



## 2017 UPCOMING MEETINGS



### ICC WORLD TRADE AGENDA DAY 22 MARCH 2017 | LONDON | 9:00 – 12:00

Before the Commission meeting, join global CEOs and leaders of international organizations, together with British business leaders and key Ministers to discuss the global economic trends and outlook for 2017.

### ICC World Trade Agenda Day 22 MARCH 2017 | LONDON | 9:00-12:00

Speakers will explore what implications protectionism may have for business as well as what implications business priorities for global trade and investment may have for governments and policymakers. More information will be sent in the future.

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### COMMISSION MEETING 23 MARCH 2017 | LONDON | 10:00 – 17:00

The next meeting of the ICC Commission on Trade and Investment Policy is kindly being hosted by [Eversheds London Office](#), who will also provide a cocktail reception immediately following the meeting. A preliminary annotated agenda will be circulated in the near future.

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Kind regards,

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