



From left to right: Aisha de Four PROXY for Ian Smart, Secretary, Gabriele de Gaetano, Director for EUROCHAMTT Tobago Affairs, Tamara Bujhawan, Treasurer, Marie Louise Norton-Murray, President, Ms. Kathrin Renner, EUROCHAMTT elected Honorary Member for 2013, Philippe Bruchet, Vice President, missing: Pernille Fischer Boulter, Director for EUROCHAMTT European Affairs

EUROPEAN BUSINESS CHAMBER IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO NEWSLETTER

The European Business Chamber in Trinidad and Tobago (EUROCHAMTT) was established on February 21, 2013 as a non-profit company to bring European and Trinidadian and Tobagonian business people together for trade and collaboration. EUROCHAMTT seeks to improve the market access for European companies into Trinidad and Tobago and (eventually from Trinidad and Tobago to the Caribbean). This is expected to lead to more EU/TT partnerships and investment in Trinidad and Tobago. EUROCHAMTT also supports the interest of companies in Trinidad and Tobago seeking to do business with European partners.

On May 8, 2013 EUROCHAMTT formalised its membership during its first Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Board was elected followed by a cocktail reception at the Verandah restaurant in Port of Spain. The Delegation of the EU in Port of Spain and all EU Embassies were represented at the reception.

The first EUROCHAMTT AGM confirmed more than 26 companies representing Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, UK, Sweden and Trinidad and Tobago. The organisation has already started to expand its membership.

EUROCHAMTT's First Meeting of Members took place at the Verandah Restaurant from 4 – 5.30 on May 8, 2013 and was followed immediately by a cocktail reception at the same venue.



Elected Board Members

- President: Marie Louise Norton-Murray, PMP, Masters Economics; founder of Enterprise Project Management and Consulting Services Ltd; work history: Regional Project Officer at EU funded Centre for the Development of Enterprise Caribbean Regional Office in Dominican Republic; DFL and PricewaterhouseCoopers; nationality: Trinidad and Tobago.
- Vice President: Philippe Bruchet, MBA Marketing and Cost Management; co-founder Caribbean Caps & Containers Ltd and Regional Sales Manager at AMCOR; work history: France Air Group, Lyon, France, Group Director, Marketing; French Trade Commission in Chicago and Port-of-Spain; nationality: French.
- Secretary: Ian Smart, Masters (MEngSci) in Electrical Engineering specializing in solar energy; CEO and Team Leader Smart Energy also representing German company One World Engineering; nationality: Trinidad and Tobago.
- Treasurer: Tamara Bujhawan, Masters degree in International and Development Economics Economist/and Masters (in progress) in Environmental Governance, Trinidad and Tobago; past: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Port of Spain; nationality: Trinidad and Tobago.
- Director, European Affairs: Pernille Boulter, Master of Business and Economics and International Trade Professional and Certificate in Project Management; CEO and founder of Kisserup International Trade Roots Europe; nationality: Danish.
- Director, Tobago Affairs: Gabriele de Gaetano, Chef/owner of La Tartaruga Italian Restaurant in Buccoo Bay, Tobago and Director of We Trade Ltd, Italy; nationality: Italian.

Picture on left

From Left to right: Gabriele de Gaetano, Director for EUROCHAMTT Tobago Affairs; Aisha de Four proxy for Ian Smart, Secretary; Tamara Bujhawan, Treasurer, Marie Louise Norton-Murray, President

Picture on right

Philippe Bruchet, Vice President



EUROCHAMTT is creating networks of people and skills for the increase in investment and trade between Europe and Trinidad and Tobago

Committees

EUROCHAMTT will provide its members with regular networking opportunities and it will increase the visibility of EU and joint investments in Trinidad and Tobago. EUROCHAMTT aims to provide opportunities for lobbying the Trinidad and Tobago Government to improve the investment climate, investment procedures and transparency. For this to take place, EUROCHAMTT has established two main Committees:

Public Relations and Marketing Committee: to support the newsletter, website and social media that will maintain useful EU/TT trade and investment information and develop a directory to promote its members, their services and help build the public profile of the organisation.

Lobbying Committee: The purpose is to make members more aware of current legislation and regulations in place that govern relevant processes of interest; to contribute to the improvement of existing processes by providing factual, well researched proposals to Government for improvement and to monitor implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA which will govern trading and investment arrangements in the future between the EU and Trinidad and Tobago.

As EUROCHAMTT seeks to collaborate with other organisations it will establish a committee to support the Tobago Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce, in the staging of a Tobago Tradeshow, 24 -26 October 2013 at Gulf City, Low Lands Mall in Tobago.

Top and bottom
 Left: Daniela TRAMACERE, Minister Counsellor and Chargé d' Affaires, Delegation of the European Union congratulates the EUROCHAMTT on their initiative.

Top right: Cocobel chocolate display



Acknowledgements



The EUROCHAMTT Board would like to acknowledge and thank the following for their endorsement:

- The Delegation of the European Union in Port of Spain
- The Ambassadors of EU Diplomatic Missions in Trinidad and Tobago: France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom
- The Government of the Republic Of Trinidad And Tobago and in particular, the Ambassador of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in Brussels, Belgium, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment

EUROCHAMTT also thanks AEGIS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS for support in the preparation of the Bylaws.

Activities

SWEET CONNECTIONS: COCOA AND CHOCOLATES ARE FEATURING PROMINENTLY IN THE HISTORIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EU AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WHICH IS BEING REJUVENATED.

Trinidad and Tobago is renowned for its quality cocoa which has been exported to Europe for several decades and is now at the centre of growing EU / TT joint partnership arrangements. Research, development and training for the industry are featured prominently in this relationship leading to the production of single origin/single estate chocolates and other value added products. This means greater benefits for cocoa producers.

As part of the Europe Day celebrations highlighting development cooperation between the European Union and Trinidad and Tobago, EUROCHAMTT arranged two activities around the cocoa industry: A visit to the Grande Agro Tourism Limited in Sangre Grande as an example of a cocoa plantation in rehabilitation and a visit to the international Cocoa Genebank, Trinidad (ICG,T), Centeno (Central Experiment Station, Centeno, Tunapuna, Piarco) and the Cocoa Research Centre of the University of the West Indies, .where scientists from CIRAD of France and UWI are engaged in applied research for the benefit of the cocoa industry.

Picture on left

From left to right, Ullrich Kinne - Deputy Head of Mission German Embassy, Colin James -Foreign Service Officer III, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Intern German Embassy and Michele Khan - Honorary Consul for Switzerland

Picture on right

His Excellency Jacques Sturm - French Ambassador, talks with Kamaldeo Maharaj-Ministry of Food Production Cocoa



Calendar of 2013 Events



MARCH

- March 1 - Dutch Embassy dinner on the occasion of the visit of Her Excellency, Mrs. Margaret King-Rousseau, Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Brussels, Belgium
- March 19 - EUROCHAMTT Networking meeting for prospective members at HYATT.

APRIL

- April 3-4 - Invitation from the Ministry of Trade to present EUROCHAMTT at the CARIFORUM -EU Parliamentary Committee.
- April 4 - Meeting with EU Delegation and Parliamentarians.
- April 4 - French Embassy dinner for EU Parliamentary representatives from France
- April 26- German Embassy reception on the occasion of the visit of the desk office for the Caribbean Region of the German Federal Foreign Office.

MAY

- May 4 - Visit to Grande Agro Tourism Limited (tour of a private cocoa estate)
- May 7 – Meeting with Trade Attaché at the EU Delegation
- May 8 – First Annual Members Meeting followed by Cocktail Reception
- May 10 – Visit to the international Cocoa Genebank, Trinidad (ICG,T), Centeno (Central Experiment Station, Centeno, Tunapuna, Piarco) and the Cocoa Research Centre of the University of the West Indies
- May 15 – 28 - the 17th European Film Festival organised by the EU member states with diplomatic missions in Trinidad and Tobago, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom and the EU Delegation
- May 25 – V & J Brauhaus, Rust Street, screening of UEFA Champions League
- May 27 – Meeting on Tobago Tradeshow at the Tobago Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Scarborough Tobago.

JUNE

- June 10 – 11 – the 3rd annual Caribbean Investment Forum (CIF), an initiative of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment (MTII) and presented by INVESTTT,
- June 12 – 15 - Trade and Investment Conference
- June 12th 5.00 p.m. EUROCHAMTT lobbying committee first meeting.

JULY

- 9, 10 or 11 July (date to be confirmed) -Presentation by VINCI Construction Grands Projets on four critical infrastructure projects in Trinidad and Tobago improving traffic flow along the East West Corridor mainly dealing with Grand Bazaar Interchange

AUGUST

- Networking event

SEPTEMBER

- EUROCHAMTT Quarterly Meeting September 5th (tentative date) to Introduce new members, present strategic plan, provide update on Committee and network.

OCTOBER

- Tobago Tradeshow 24 – 26 October 2013 in support of the Tobago Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of industry and Commerce

NOVEMBER

- Networking event

DECEMBER

- Thursday 5, December - Christmas Networking Event (tentative date).

Calendar of 2013 Events

Pigeon
Point
Beach,
Tobago



EUROCHAMTT will support the Tobago Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce, in the implementation of the Tobago Tradeshow on the 24 – 26 October 2013 at the Gulf City, Low Lands Mall in Tobago. This activity aims at attracting investors in new and existing products and services consistent with the high quality branding of Tobago.

The Tobago Tradeshow will combine:

- Exhibits
- B2B sessions
- Site visits to development sites
- Sector Opportunity Workshops

EUROCHAMTT will target prospective European investors, suppliers, trainers, EU development organisations having an interest in Tobago

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Members and others are invited to send news and articles of interest by June 15 for the next newsletter to the editorial committee:

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