



SEATINI

Strengthening Africa in World Trade

TRADE AND INVESTMENT NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

1st - 15th August 2022

Applications open for 2022 Trade and Public Health Workshop

The WTO will hold its annual Trade and Public Health Workshop in Geneva from 28 November to 2nd December 2022, with a special focus on pandemic preparedness and response.

The deadline to submit applications to participate is 30 September 2022.

Read more; https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm

South Africa's trade surplus increases mainly due to an increase of precious metals and stones export (Cape Business News)

South Africa's trade surplus narrowed to R24.2bn in June 2022, compared to the revised surplus of R30.9bn for the previous month

Read more; <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/15713-tralac-daily-news-3-august-2022.html>

Trade, Industry and Competition celebrates 28 years of bilateral trade relationships between South Africa and Botswana (South African Government)

In celebration and commemoration of 28 years of bilateral economic relations, the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Botswana together with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic) of the Republic of South Africa are convening a High Level Business Forum and Roundtable on the 03rd and 04th of August 2022, in Gaborone, Botswana.

Read more; <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/15711-tralac-daily-news-2-august-2022.html>

Kenya risks losing Sh1.5bn coffee market as Japan flags local exports

Kenya risks losing the Sh1.5 billion Japanese coffee market after the authorities in Tokyo raised a red flag over the use of non-recommended pesticides in the produce.

Read more; <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/15711-tralac-daily-news-2-august-2022>.

India, Australia may begin comprehensive FTA talks from next month

Negotiations between India and Australia towards a comprehensive trade agreement are expected to begin from September, with focus on chapters such as digital trade, government procurement, among other areas.

Read more; <https://www.bilaterals.org/?india-australia-may-begin>

AfCFTA secretariat commences pilot trading with seven countries

Seven countries, including Rwanda, Cameroun, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius and Tanzania have been selected among countries to start trading under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework in a pilot phase. The move seeks to test the environmental, legal and trade policy basis for intra-African trade, according to the AfCFTA secretariat.

Read more; <https://www.bilaterals.org/?afcta-secretariat-commences-pilot>

Somali President visits for Trade, security talks

According to State House, President Mohamud will during his visit address the 1st Uganda-Somalia Business Investment Summit under the theme "Promoting Uganda – Somalia partnership through investment, trade and tourism."

Read more; <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/somali-president-mohamud-in-uganda-for-talks-with-museveni-3907536>

Revamped railway line to boost trade – minister

President Museveni has repeatedly said the move aims at creating an alternative and cheaper means of transport for traders.

Read more; <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/revamped-railway-line-to-boost-trade-minister-3908192>

Trade-offs for Uganda's 'Middle-Income' status

Once Uganda attains the middle income status, it will lose the negotiated market access it enjoyed under the Least Developed Countries category.

Read more; <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/prosper/trade-offs-for-uganda-s-middle-income-status-3908776>

Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) And Private Sector Foundation (PSFU) sign memorandum of cooperation

UCDA will work with PSFU to establish a mutual cooperation in the coffee subsector regarding production, productivity, marketing, policy environment, research and coffee business in the Private Sector of Uganda.

Read more; <https://ugandacoffee.go.ug/node/263>

Kenya launches its National AfCFTA Implementation Strategy (UNECA)

"To fast-track implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the development of an implementation strategy is critical as it leverages deeper integration within the framework of AfCFTA to facilitate an expansion of Kenya's trade and investment in Africa" says Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina, Kenya Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development.

Read more; <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/15717-tralac-daily-news-8-august-2022.html>

Trade minister accused of unfair policies on rice importation (Parliament of the Republic of Uganda)

Parliament has directed the Minister of State for Trade, Hon. Harriet Ntabazi, to withdraw her directive on what they termed, 'unfair trade policy on rice importation.

Read more; <https://www.parliament.go.ug/news/6093/trade-minister-accused-unfair-policies-rice-importation>

Proposed local content law 'could break trade agreements

Uganda's government has warned MPs not to pass a private member's bill that aims to prioritise local firms wherever possible in procurement, saying it could break trade agreements.

Read more; <https://www.cips.org/supplymanagement/news/2022/august/proposed-local-content-law-could-break-trade-agreements>.

French firms step up quest for big trade deals in Kenya

French companies scouting for investment opportunities in Africa have tended to look towards the west of the continent, owing to historical ties that have similarly seen their British counterparts frequent the East African region.

Read more; <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/data-hub/>

ECA and UN Climate Champions host expert group meeting on developing a high integrity carbon market in Africa

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) hosted an expert group meeting to discuss the development of Africa's carbon credit markets, particularly building on the work done by the ECA to support the creation of a regional Emission allowance register and harmonized protocol for issuance of carbon credits for Congo Basin Climate Commission countries.

[Read more;https://newsbeezer.com/ethiopia/eca-and-un-climate-champions-host-expert-group-meeting-on-developing-a-high-integrity-carbon-market-in-africa/](https://newsbeezer.com/ethiopia/eca-and-un-climate-champions-host-expert-group-meeting-on-developing-a-high-integrity-carbon-market-in-africa/)

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat has launched a digital platform aimed at easing trade on the African continent

The hub is designed to grow into a single, trusted directory of the services needed to navigate the AfCFTA for small players, thereby making the AfCFTA the most inclusive Free Trade Area in the world.

[Read more;https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/business/2022/08/afcfta-launch-digital-hub-to-ease-trade-on-the-continent](https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/business/2022/08/afcfta-launch-digital-hub-to-ease-trade-on-the-continent).

EAC states should not compete against each other, says Museveni

President Museveni has asked East Africa Community (EAC) partner states to concentrate on areas where they have a competitive advantage instead of using taxes or non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to protect themselves against competition.

[Read more; https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/insurance/eac-states-should-not-compete-against-each-other-says-museveni](https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/insurance/eac-states-should-not-compete-against-each-other-says-museveni).



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