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FROM CEO'S DESK

The GCCCI is uniquely placed to promote: Building Partnerships. Hence our present theme.

We link businesses together as its Voice as well as a central point; we link with government everyday as its interface with the business community & NGOs; and we link with international institutions, potential investors and businesses. Everyone therefore wins with this bigger link. *"Meaningful partnerships are the foundation for success and what enables governments, top companies and entrepreneurs to make continuous improvements. By sharing with others, one can direct limited resources and capabilities to projects considered most important."*

The 80/20 Principle asserts that 80% of results come from 20% of effort. Thus, to achieve more with less, one must be selective, not exhaustive. In every important sphere, we should endeavor to work out where 20% of effort can lead to 80% of returns. Ideally we must focus our firm's limited resources on what we do best and what creates sustainable competitive advantage and tap to the resources of others for the rest."

As your Chamber, we cherish our privileged position of partnership, for the benefit of our members and the wider population at large. We enjoin you to build the same and benefit directly.

GCCCI BUSINESS FORUM 2014

With support from the **British Embassy**, and as part of the **Trade Fair Gambia 2014**, the GCCCI organized a



Business forum held at the **Kairaba Beach Hotel** on **13th March 2014**. The theme of the forum was **"Domestic Investment as a Catalyst for Foreign Direct Investment"**. The forum discussed ways to attract, maintain, manage FDI's in the economy, and the need to support domestic investments. The forum is one out of a series of Business Forums that will follow within 2014.

The forum was well attended and deeply informative on the topic discussed. Beginning with Honorable Abdou Kolley, Minister of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration

and Employment and followed by Mr. Salisu Sirajo,

Managing Director/CEO Arab Gambia Islamic Bank speakers took turns and shared their knowledge and experiences on business and economics and their relevance on domestic and foreign direct investment.

Honorable Kolley, highlighted the need for the continuous promotion of efforts from both government and private sector to attract FDI's to The Gambia, and expressed government's willingness to support the private sector Mr. Sirajo, on his part, stressed on the need to work



further on strengthening domestic investments and business. He mentioned that the country should focus attention on value addition which can help bridge current Balance of Payment deficits, improve on job creation and revenue generation.

The Moderator of the Forum, Mr. Abdoulie M. Touray, a Development Economist and former president of the GCCI also shared his thought on domestic and international business and economic matters.

Towards the end of the Forum, the Business Development Officer of the GCCI, Mr. Baboucarr Saho, introduced some projects which the GCCI helps to promote on its platform:

A trading website developed by three young Gambians called the Lummo.

A national business plan competition initiated by MOTIE, GIEPA, UNDP, and GCP.

An international business plan competition organized by the Islamic Development Bank

Speakers: Honorable Abdou Kolley, Minister of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment

Mr. Salisu Sirajo, Managing Director/CEO Arab Gambia Islamic Bank

Moderator: Mr. Abdoulie M Touray, President, SaHeL Group, SaHeL Enterprise America, West African Chartered College, Mahatma Ghandi University Africa

Trade Fair Gambia 1st to 16th March 2014

The 7th Edition of Trade Fair Gambia was organized from 1st to 16th March 2014 at the



Independence Stadium, Bakau. The theme was "Inclusive Growth through Partnerships". The Opening ceremony was presided over by Her Excellency the Vice President Aja Dr. Isatou Njie Saidy.

The Partners of the event were Fatima Trading, BPI Social Security Housing, Unique Solutions/RLG Gambia, Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (GIEPA) who



supported the participation of economic operators in various sectors.

The two official media partners, West Coast Radio and Unique FM, together with GRTS, Daily Observer, The Point Newspaper, Today Newspaper, Kora FM, Paradise

FM, Teranga FM, Forayaa Newspaper and the Standard Newspaper, provided adequate publicity and coverage for the event.

It is indeed gratifying to report that two hundred and fifty seven



(257) stalls were constructed and occupied by Gambian economic operators participants from sixteen different countries, mainly, Benin, Burkina Faso, China, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Netherlands, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal and Syria Thank you for your interest whilst we are looking forward to your participation next year.

The attendance by the general public was impressive,



38,083 people visited the fair, **28,983** adults and **8,100** children. The number of visitors was boosted by the performance of Gambian Artists, during weekends,

coordinated by Mr. Abdou Karim Faye, known as Wagan. This was made possible by support from AFRICELL, GAMCEL, DBC, SM Joof Agency, ACCESS Bank, DHL, Fam Engineering, and Prudential Consulting and Asset Management (PCAM). The Government of The Gambia, through the Ministry of Trade Integration, Industry and Employment (MOTIE) provided invaluable support in the planning and implementation of this event. The participation of many local participants was supported by MOTIE through the Gambia Growth and Competitiveness Project, (GCP), the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) and United Nations Development Project (UNDP).

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Relief Development (IRD) and the Gambia Tourism Board all sponsored the participation of economic operators. The National Enterprise Development Initiative (NEDI) also sponsored some of its beneficiaries to participate in this trade fair. These partnerships have enabled us to realize our objectives.

At the end of the sixteen days a ceremony of appreciation was organized to officially thank Partners and participants for contributing to the success of TFG 2014.

Speakers at the ceremony included the Permanent Secretary, MOTIE, Mrs. Naffie Barry, and the Partners, GIEPA, Fatima Trading and BPI Social Security Housing. The vote of thanks was delivered by the Trade Fair Coordinator, Mrs Adam Trinn Njie and the keynote address by Mr. Papa Yusupha Njie, GCCI 1st Vice President. and CEO Unique Solutions/RLG. The occasion was chaired by Ms. Beatrice Prom, Manager Corporate Services

2013 GCCI Business Awards Dinner

Congratulations to all Nominees

1. YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR(S) OF THE YEAR:

- Mr. Khalifa Faal
- Muhammed Sanyang
- Mr. Seedy Bensouda (Winner)

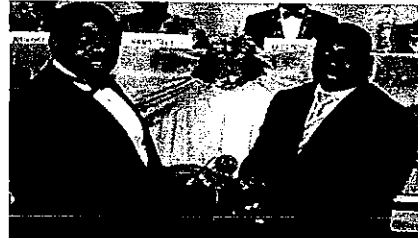


2. SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES:

- Fatima Trading
- King Baker (Winner)
- Ya Boye Home Cooking

3. SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE YEAR:

- Gambia National Petroleum Co.
- DHL
- Guaranty Trust Bank (Winner)



4. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

- Mrs Harriet Ndow (Winner)
- Gambia Electrical Co.
- Shyben A. Madi



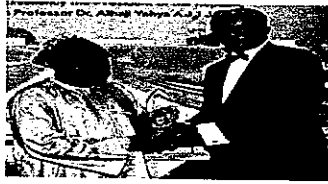
EMERGING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:

- Deggeh Foods
- Jalbak (Winner)



5. LEADING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:

- Africell (Winner)
- Guaranty Trust Bank



Trade Fairs Exhibition 2014

Dakar, Senegal	26 th – 29 th June 2014	6 th Dakar International Exposition on Health and Medical Equipment (SISDAK)
London, United Kingdom	24 th – 25 th July 2014	"Developing Strategic Partners to Accelerate Growth in Africa's Emerging Markets"
Milan, Italy	Nov 29 th – Dec 8 th 2014	19 th International Crafts Selling Exhibition

New Members

No.	Company	Business Activity
1.	Fatajo Holding Company	Agricultural Products, Commodities, etc.
2.	MP Trading Company	Electrical, Electronics, Building Materials
3.	UANDI Enterprise	General Merchandise
4.	VITAL Trading	Supply of Office Equipment
5.	Yankuba Jatta	Fashion Shop
6.	Travelers Village	Travel Agency
7.	Tresco Travel Agency/Alvarenga Travel Agency	Travel Agency and Tourism
8.	NATO Enterprise	Tie and Dye, Batik, Jewelleries
9.	Raam Daan Salon	Hair Dressing Salon and Hair Products
10.	Nancy Designs	Tailoring and General Merchandise
11.	Odanik Integrated Resources	Used Motor Spare Parts
12.	Chikwado Trading	Spare Parts
13.	A-Z Solo Enterprise	General Merchandise (Computer Accessories & Electronics)
14.	Balla Ceessay Enterprise	General Merchandise
15.	Aminata Alhassan Secka	Dealers in General Goods
16.	Haddijatou Sumbundu Enterprise	General Goods (Food Stuff)
17.	First Star Complex	Tailoring
18.	General Merchandise (Spare Parts)	General Merchandise (Spare Parts)
19.	Fairdeal Investment and General Trading	Stationery Office Equipment, Electrical and Building Materials