

## FACT SHEET

### 7th World Chambers Congress

Mexico City, 8-10 June 2011

#### What is a World Chambers Congress?

World Chambers Congresses are held every two years and are organized by the World Chambers Federation.

Since the inaugural World Chambers Congress in Marseilles in 1999, the event has established an enviable reputation as the place where chamber of commerce and business leaders get to know international peers and share experience and best practice on issues that have a direct impact on the chamber of commerce community.

More workshop than talkshop, the World Chambers Congress offers practical, hands-on solutions to support the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises and provides chambers of commerce an opportunity to learn best how to deal with the myriad challenges facing modern business.

The World Chambers Congress is the only international forum devoted to the global community of over 12,000 chambers of commerce.

#### Who is hosting the Congress in 2011?

##### International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

ICC is the world business organization representing enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote trade and investment across frontiers and help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization.

For more information about ICC, please visit: [www.iccwbo.org](http://www.iccwbo.org)

##### World Chambers Federation (WCF)

The World Chambers Federation (WCF) was established by ICC in 1951 to be the advocate of its chamber of commerce members worldwide. While each chamber represents a group of companies of mostly small- and medium-sized enterprises, WCF strengthens links between these chambers, enabling each to improve performance and discover new products and services to offer their members. WCF promotes and protects the role of the chamber as an essential intermediary between government, businesses and the general public.

For more information visit [www.worldchambersfederation.org](http://www.worldchambersfederation.org)

##### Mexico City National Chamber of Commerce (CANACO)

CANACO is a business association representing the interests of companies and businesses in Mexico City. The first chamber of commerce in Mexico, CANACO today is the largest chamber in

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Mexico. Its mandate is to promote, protect and assist in the business development of retailers, distributors, importers and exporters in Mexico.

CANACO has experience in local, regional and international commerce and supports affiliates with a large array of services. Working through a network of cooperation agreements with international organizations and chambers, CANACO eases information sharing and business transactions. For more information visit [www.camaradecomercio.com.mx](http://www.camaradecomercio.com.mx)

## **What is on the programme for the World Chambers Congress in Mexico City?**

The title of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Chambers Congress is “Enterprise – Network – Prosperity”.

The programme provides a stimulating discussion of current international business and chamber issues featuring leading political and business figures, plus a series of workshop sessions offering practical solutions, case studies, new products and services to help enable chambers of commerce to improve their performance.

The topics of the four plenary sessions are:

- New economy, challenges and opportunities
- Building a green economy
- Corporate responsibility for peace and prosperity
- Tomorrow’s labour force

The full programme is available at the dedicated congress website:

[www.worldchamberscongress.org](http://www.worldchamberscongress.org)

## **Who are the participants?**

Chamber delegates from more than 100 countries are expected to attend the Congress. Delegates come from as far as Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Fiji, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia and Uganda.

World Chambers Congresses attract high-calibre business executives. The event is valued within the business and chamber community as an opportunity to network with fellow chamber leaders from around the world.

The last congress, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2009, attracted 1000 delegates from more than 100 countries.

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Chambers Congress is due to take place in Qatar in 2013. Chambers from all parts of the world are lining up to host the event until 2021.