



Press Release

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The Secretary General of the Federation of GCC Chambers of Commerce (FGCCC) Mr. Abdul Rahim Hassan Naqi is proud to announce that the FGCCC will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), representing chambers of commerce from 25 Asian countries (see list above), on 23rd October 2008 in Manila, Philippines, on the special occasion of the 22nd CACCI Conference hosted by the Philippines Chamber of Commerce.

This MoU is specifically intended to contribute to developing relations between the two regions. The objective of this initiative is to enhance cooperation between the Chambers of Commerce and to promote SME development in the member countries of the GCC and CACCI. The Secretary General of the FGCCC, Mr. Abdul Rahim Naqi is hoping to concretize firm new ties between both institutions and their representatives.

The forthcoming signature of this MoU is the result of the FGCCC new international policy, initiated in October, 2007, with the signature of the first MoU, as a result of the initiative of GEOC, between the FGCCC and EUROCHAMBRES, the former's counterpart in Europe. The FGCCC has subsequently established strong links with the US Chamber of Commerce and Industry (the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses of all sizes), with AICO (the Federation representing more than 200 chambers of commerce and associations in Latin American Countries, which represent 22 countries throughout Central and South America), with China and its Federation of Chambers, and with the FICCI (the Federation of Indian Chambers).

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Thanks to this new Memorandum, the FGCCC is actively developing its international network and bringing the business world and the worldwide private sector into a closer relationship in important economic blocks for the benefit of GCC entrepreneurs. The FGCCC and GEOC are also striving to establish such links worldwide by applying the same strategy.

The culminating point of the converging collaboration mentioned above will be an exhibition entitled "The Business Gateway to the GCC" due to take place in November 2009 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the FGCCC and a warm welcome is extended to all collaborating partners.

"BRINGING BUSINESS CLOSER TOGETHER"

Note to the editor:

CACCI is the Asia Pacific Federation representing 22 countries and their representative Chambers of Commerce through Russia, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, the Philippines, Cambodia, Thailand, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, Brunei, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Mongolian, Georgia and the region of Kowloon.

The FGCCC Official Delegate responsible for forging international relationships in order to link and facilitate communication between EUROCHAMBRES, US Chambers of commerce, CACCI (Asia Pacific Chambers), AICO (Central and South America) and FICI (India) & China which together represent more than 55 million firms, including some 760,000 in GCC countries.

