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# DECLASSIFIED WBG Archives



International Chamber of Commerce ICC/UN Liaison Office 1212 Avenue of the Americas, 21st Floor New York, New York 10036 Tel: 212-354-4480 Fax: 212-575-0327

June 30, 1999

Mr. Alfredo Sfeir-Younis Special Representative of the World Bank Group to the United Nations 809 United Nations Plaza, Suite 900 New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Sfeir-Younis:

You may be interested in the attached ICC press release on the recent signing in Paris of a Memorandum of Understanding between the World Bank and the ICC by Mr. Wolfensohn and ICC President Adnan Kassar.

Best regards.

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William J. Stibravy Permanent Representative of the ICC to the United Nations

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International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

# **Press Release**

## World Bank and ICC boost cooperation in private sector development

Paris, 21 June 1999 – The International Chamber of Commerce and the World Bank today agreed to step up cooperation aimed at boosting the private sector, trade and investment in the Bank's member countries.

World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn and ICC President Adnan Kassar signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out specific areas where the two organizations will work more closely together.

Under the agreement, the two sides will focus on competition policy, electronic commerce, business partnerships for development, intellectual property, trade facilitation and corporate governance, including the fight against corruption.

The World Bank and ICC will also collaborate in strengthening business associations linked to a proposed Partnership for Capacity Building in Africa (PACT), whose tasks will include strengthening the private sector in Africa.

ICC is the world business organization, with members in more than 130 countries. It is the only representative body that speaks on behalf of all business sectors in every part of the world.

Mr Kassar is Chairman and Chief Executive of the Fransabank Group, one of Lebanon's biggest private banks. He has broad experience in international investments, particularly with emerging economies.

Document No: 664/1009e

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

#### FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE WORLD BANK AND THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHEREAS, the World Bank seeks to stimulate private sector participation and investment in its member countries; and

WHEREAS, the International Chamber of Commerce (herein referred to as "ICC") seeks to serve world business by promoting trade and investment and the free market system;

WHEREAS, the World Bank and ICC desire to cooperate in executing activities conducive to the development of the private sector in the World Bank's member countries:

1. NOW THEREFORE, the World Bank and ICC undertake to deepen their collaboration in order to achieve common objectives to assist trade and investment in the World Bank's member countries as follows:

- a. ICC and the World Bank will increase their understanding of each other's strategies and activities relevant to their common objectives through a programme of joint activities.
- b. The World Bank and ICC shall focus their collaboration on all or some of the following primary areas in which both parties anticipate that greater progress is likely as a result of improved selective collaboration:
  - competition policy (Bank contact: R. Shyam Khemani; ICC contact: Daphne Yong d'Hervé);
  - electronic commerce (Bank contact: Carlos Braga; ICC contact: Christiaan Van der Valk);
  - business partnerships for development, particularly focused on involving ICC national committees in the national workshops the Bank is preparing, and in the dissemination of the best practices that will be identified in the workshops (Bank contact: Nigel Twose; ICC contact: François-Gabriel Ceyrac);

- strengthening of intermediary business associations, particularly linked to the proposed Partnership for Capacity Building in Africa (PACT) (Bank contact: Brian Levy; ICC contact: Anthony Parkes);
- intellectual property (Bank contact: Carlos Braga; ICC contact: Daphne Yong d'Hervé);
- trade facilitation, in particular transport and customs (Bank contact: Marc Juhel; ICC contacts: Viviane Schiavi and Stefano Bertasi);
- corporate governance, including corruption (Bank contact: Mike Stevens; ICC contact: Chris Lewis).

These agreed areas of focus do not exclude collaboration in other areas between the World Bank and ICC.

c. All activities conducted under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be subject to the World Bank's policies and procedures regarding disclosure of information.

2. The parties will carry out the activities outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding in the normal course of their respective work on the development of the private sector and each party shall pay the costs it incurs in its implementation. This Memorandum of Understanding is not, and should not be construed as, a financial commitment of one party towards the other. Each party may enter into similar arrangements with other parties.

3. Points of contact for the parties shall preliminarily be those defined in each of the areas of collaboration outlined.

4. Once a year, ICC's Secretary General and the World Bank's Vice President for Europe will review progress under the agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the World Bank and ICC, each acting through its authorized representatives, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in Paris on this 21st day of June, 1999.

World Bank



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## Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the World Bank and ICC

Monday 21 June 1999, 17.30 Paris, ICC International Headquarters

## **Provisional List of Participants**

### World Bank Group

- James D. Wolfensohn, President
- Jean-François Rischard, Vice-President for Europe
- Andrew Rogerson, Special Representative to the United Kingdom and Ireland
- Patrice Dufour, Senior Counsellor for France

- Adnan Kassar, President; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Fransabank Group; Chairman, General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries
- Maria Livanos Cattaui, Secretary General
- C.J.M.Gessel, Executive Vice President of ABN-AMRO and member of ICC Nederland
- François de Laage de Meux, member of the ICC Executive Board and Chair of ICC France
- John Melbourn, former member of the ICC Executive Board (1994-1996) and member of the Board of ICC UK
- Abderrahman Tazi, former member of the ICC Executive Board (1978-1980; 1991-1993); Chair of ICC Morocco and former Executive Director of the World Bank



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#### **The President**

Mr James D. Wolfensohn President The World Bank Washington

16 September 1999 AK/is

## 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner of ICC

Dear Mr Wolfensohn,

As I mentioned to you last time I saw you at our most important meeting on 21 June at International Headquarters Paris, ICC will celebrate its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November this year.

The anniversary celebration dinner will take place on Monday 8 November 1999, 20.00 at the Hotel Inter-Continental, Paris.

I fully understand and appreciate how many important world events are demanding your attention at this time, but out of courtesy I wanted to make sure that I reiterated my verbal invitation to you to attend our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. My colleagues on ICC's Presidency and all our World Council delegates and special guests would indeed be most honoured to welcome you.

Sincerely yours, Adnan Kassar

To File

International Chamber of Commerce



International Chamber of Commerce The world business organization

The President

James D. Wolfensohn President The World Bank Group 1818 H Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.

20 June 1999 MLC/SD/In

#### Invitation to join ICC's 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress, Budapest 3-5 May 2000 The new Europe in the world economy

Dear Mr Wolfensohn,

I am pleased to invite you to join ICC's 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress, which will bring together government and business leaders at the highest level to confront the most urgent issues of concern to the world economy. It promises to be a significant event against the background of enlargement of the European Union. The event has received full support from the President and Prime Minister of Hungary.

We have chosen as the venue of our 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress an emerging economy of Central Europe to highlight the processes and actions needed for that region to be part of the global economy. The event will also focus on what policies can enhance the ability of emerging economies to participate in our highly competitive global economy.

Your views and insights will be of highest importance to all who attend. Should you be able to join us we will discuss with your office the issues of priority you would like to address.

Yours sincerely,

Adnan Kassar



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## ICC's 33rd World Congress, Budapest 3-5 May 2000

Some of the personalities who have confirmed their presence as of 5 October 1999

Hungarian leaders and other public figures who have confirmed their active participation:

- Arpád Göncz, President of the Republic of Hungary
- Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister, Hungary
- Attila Chikan, Minister of Economic Affairs, Hungary
- · Zsigmond Járai, Minister of Finance, Hungary
- · Janos Martonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hungary
- · György Surányi, President, National Bank of Hungary
- Caio Koch-Weser, Secretary of State for Finance, Germany
- Günter Verheugen, European Union Commissioner for Enlargement, Brussels

#### Among the business leaders who have confirmed their presence:

- David Bell, Chairman, Financial Times; Executive Director, Pearsons, UK
- Martin Broughton, Group Chief Executive, BAT, UK
- · Lord Cairns, Chairman, Allied Zürich; Chairman, Commonwealth Development Convoration, UK
- Ronnie C. Chan, Chairman, Hang Lung Development Company, Hong Kong
- Victor Chu, Chairman, First Eastern Investment Group, Hong Kong
- · Lyric Hughes, President & CEO, China Online, USA
- Adnan Kassar, ICC President, Paris; Chairman & CEO, Fransabank Group, Lebanon
- Klaus Mangold, President & CEO, DaimlerChrysler Services (debis), Germany
- · Helmut Maucher, Member of the ICC Presidency, Paris; Chairman, Nestlé, Switzerland
- Richard McCormick, ICC Vice President, Paris; Chairman Emeritus, US West, USA
- Franz Nawratil, Chairman & CEO, Hewlett-Packard, EMEA, Switzerland
- Henning Schulte-Noelle, Chairman, Board of Management, Allianz, Germany
- David Spina, President & CEO, State Street Corporation, USA
- Peter Sutherland, Chairman & Managing Director, Goldman Sachs International, UK; former Director General of the GATT
- Lajos Tolnay, Chairman, Magyar Aluminum, Hungary; Chair, Hungarian Chamter of Commerce and Industry
- Phil Watts, Group Managing Director, Shell International, UK
- Hans Dietrich Winkhaus, Chief Executive Officer, Henkel, Germany

#### Among the experts who have confirmed their presence:

- · Jagdish Bhagwati, Professor of Economics and of Political Science, Colombia I Iniversity, USA
- Richard Cooper, Professor of International Economics, Harvard University, USA
- · Jeffrey Garten, Dean, Yale School of Management, USA
- Harry Harding, Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs, GWU, USA
- Noordin Sopiee, Chairman & CEO, ISIS Malaysia, Malaysia
- · Jeffrey Sachs, Director, Harvard Institute for International Development, USA
- T.N Srinivasan, Chairman, Department of Economics, Yale University, USA



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