



COMMONWEALTH ENTERPRISE AND INVESTMENT COUNCIL | 2024



COMMONWEALTH

Enterprise and Investment Council

Promoting Trade and Investment across the Commonwealth

CWEIC City Office

Guildhall, Gresham Street,
London,
EC2V 7HH

T +44 (0) 207 332 1312

E info@cweic.org

W www.cweic.org

CWEIC Westminster Office

16, Old Queen Street,
London,
SW1H 9HP

The Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council is a not-for-profit, limited company registered in England and Wales, accredited to the Commonwealth Secretariat with a mandate to promote trade and investment across the Commonwealth. Registered office: First Floor, 41-44 Great Queen Street, London, England, WC2B 5AD Company Number: 09132366

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WELCOME



There has never been a more pressing time for creating opportunities, connecting the Commonwealth and catalysing change...”

From the time CWEIC was founded in 2014, we could not have envisioned the exponential growth and far-reaching impact that the organisation has achieved. Through our successful partnerships, initiatives and continued support from Commonwealth members countries, we now welcome over 150 Strategic Partners to our network. We have opened ten Hub Offices, each led by dedicated Country Directors, with plans for more across the Commonwealth and beyond. We have organised multiple trade missions, made hundreds of key introductions for our Strategic Partners and brought together nearly 5,000 organisations at more than 200 events, including three Commonwealth Business Forums.

CWEIC continues to grow from strength to strength, and is today widely recognised as the Commonwealth’s accredited business network. We owe the resilience and tenacity of this network to the ongoing fruitful and beneficial connections and relationships we have forged with our Strategic Partners over the years, and we take pride in the work we do. For ten years, CWEIC has been able to offer tangible support to help Commonwealth businesses and countries showcase their opportunities to a global audience of businesses and investors, explore new markets and influence global dialogue on key economic issues.

The message has never been clearer; the Commonwealth is delivering as a network for trade and investment for both business and government, and CWEIC is proud of the pivotal role it plays in bringing its people together.

As we look to the future, the next Commonwealth Business Forum (CBF), will be held in Samoa in October 2024 alongside the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting. CBF 2024, the first held in the Pacific

since 2011, will be smaller and more intimate than recent years, but will still offer our Strategic Partners unparalleled access to Commonwealth Governments and unrivalled dialogue and networking with Commonwealth businesses.

In 2024, as we deliver events and organise delegations to Malta, across Africa, Asia, and the wider Commonwealth, our mission is clear: to expand our operations to more Commonwealth countries and continue to open new opportunities for our Strategic Partners.

Times are challenging, the global outlook is more negative than in recent years, however, the Commonwealth still represents growth and opportunity. As our organisation continues to grow, we are bringing more businesses, organisations and regions into our shared, high-level network, providing the perfect platform to explore new opportunities and build new relationships.

Lord Marland
Chairman, CWEIC



His dedication to the environment, sustainability, and conservation has echoed throughout his many Commonwealth tours, and his recognition of the private sector as a driver of change is demonstrated with the establishment of his Sustainable Markets Initiative and Terra Carta in 2021. The King has always been a strong advocate for the unique power of the Commonwealth to bring people together and unite under their shared values.

CWEIC pays tribute to Her Majesty The Queen as former Head of the Commonwealth, her steadfast dedication and service to its nations transformed the Commonwealth into a strong family of countries, working together for greater global prosperity.

The Commonwealth has members on the UN Security Council, two members of the G7, five members of the G20 and representation in every major regional economic group in the world.

A GLOBAL NETWORK

The Commonwealth is a global network of 56 countries and 2.5 billion people, 60 percent of whom are under 29 years old.

Often described as a 'Family' of Nations, the Commonwealth spans every geographical region, religion and culture. Now over 70 years old, it is home to some of the world's largest and smallest nations, including both advanced economies and developing countries.

The Commonwealth exists to foster international co-operation and trade links between people all over the world.

Every two years, leaders of Commonwealth countries meet to discuss issues affecting the Commonwealth and the wider world at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

His Majesty King Charles III is Head of the Commonwealth. His commitment to the Commonwealth throughout his life has taken him to every region of the Commonwealth and to 45 of its 56 nations.

THE COMMONWEALTH



People

The Commonwealth boasts a population of 2.5 billion, with 60 percent under the age of 29. It is home to a billion middle-class consumers.

Economy

The cumulative GDP of Commonwealth nations in 2021 amounted to \$13.1 trillion, with projections indicating a rise to \$19.5 trillion by 2027, marking nearly a twofold increase in a decade from the 2017 figure of \$10.4 trillion. The Commonwealth comprises 40 percent of the global workforce and hosts half of the world's top 20 emerging cities.

Ease of Doing Business

The Commonwealth benefits from well-established trade partnerships and collaborations. Member countries share a common language, democratic principles, and a strong commitment to the rule of law, which make it a conducive environment for smooth business interactions. Member countries often enjoy reduced trade barriers and streamlined regulatory frameworks, contributing to the ease of doing business within this dynamic and diverse international community.

Climate Change and Sustainability

32 of the Commonwealth's members are small states, and 25 are Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which are among the most vulnerable to the impact of climate change or developmental challenges. The Commonwealth is an advocate for change, giving each state an equal voice.

Shared values

The Commonwealth is built on shared values and supported by historical, cultural and sporting links. Research underscores the considerable advantages these factors confer on trade and investment. The similarities in business practices, commercial norms, and legislative frameworks significantly reduces the cost of doing business across the Commonwealth, making it an estimated 21 percent more cost-effective than compared to non-Commonwealth markets. These shared values and cultural ties also promote mutual trust and understanding among Commonwealth nations, creating a conducive environment for collaboration and fostering resilient, long-term business partnerships. This unique ecosystem bolsters the Commonwealth's appeal as a hub for economic exchange and growth, facilitating prosperous business ventures and investments.

We call that the **Commonwealth Advantage.**

Key Facts

- › 56 independent countries
- › Africa (21 countries)
- › Asia (8)
- › Caribbean and Americas (13)
- › Europe (3)
- › Pacific (11)
- › Combined population 2.5 billion
- › More than 60 per cent of population aged 29 or under
- › The collective GDP of Commonwealth nations in 2021 stood at US\$13.1 trillion and is projected to surge to \$19.5 trillion by 2027, nearly doubling in a decade from its 2017 figure of \$10.4 trillion

WHO WE ARE

THE COMMONWEALTH ENTERPRISE AND INVESTMENT COUNCIL IS THE COMMONWEALTH'S ACCREDITED BUSINESS NETWORK.

CWEIC is a commercial, not-for-profit membership organisation with an official mandate from the Commonwealth Heads of Government to facilitate trade and investment throughout the 56 Commonwealth member nations. The role of CWEIC is to use the convening power and trusted network of the Commonwealth, which is led by His Majesty King Charles III, to drive trade and investment. CWEIC's network includes over 150 business and government Strategic Partners.

Every two years, CWEIC hosts the Commonwealth Business Forum in association with the host country of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). The next will be in Samoa in 2024.

WE ARE A MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATION WHICH OFFERS OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS THE FOLLOWING:

Connecting Commonwealth Businesses

Through our extensive and trusted network of contacts and relationships with entrepreneurs, businesses, multi-lateral institutions, non-profit organisations, and academia, CWEIC is able to make targeted and productive business to business introductions with the aim of developing valuable partnerships and collaborations.

Creating Opportunities

CWEIC organises and hosts specialised trade missions, business forums, networking events, thought leadership webinars, customised investment programmes, and various other initiatives. These engagements serve as catalysts for promoting positive change and fostering new business ventures, all the while advocating for responsible business practices. Furthermore, they ensure that our Strategic Partners remain well informed about the opportunities available within the Commonwealth.

Facilitate Market Access

Through our strong links with Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth governments, investment promotion agencies and trade supporting bodies, CWEIC has the capacity to link our Strategic Partners with influential decision-makers who play a crucial role in facilitating new business opportunities within their respective markets. Our Strategic Partners receive comprehensive support throughout the life cycle of their market access journey.

Influence Global Discourse

CWEIC Strategic Partners have the opportunity to influence Government policy and decisions as a collective voice by engaging directly with senior government leaders and policy makers, or by presenting research and contributing to thought leadership.

CWEIC BOARD

The CWEIC Board comprises a vast wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise in Commonwealth trade, investment, government relations, philanthropy and business across a multitude of sectors. The growth and steady progress of CWEIC can be attributed to the diversity and innovation each Board member brings to the network, and the quality of our Strategic Partners.



Lord Marland
Chairman
CWEIC



Lord Swire
Deputy Chair
CWEIC



Rosie Glazebrook
Chief Executive
CWEIC



Niro Cooke
Group Director
Capital Maharaja
Organisation



Pamela O'Leary
Board Member
CWEIC



Phyllis Muscat
Chairperson
Malta International
Contemporary
Art Space (MICAS)



Babatunde Soyoye
Managing Director
Helios Investment
Partners

TESTIMONIALS



Apostle Folorunso Alakija

Vice Chairman, Famfa Oil



Our Organisation and I joined the CWEIC as a strategic member and a global advisory member respectively in 2016. Over the past 6 years, I have attended several Commonwealth Business Forums both as a participant and a speaker. The Commonwealth Business Forum is a great platform for Governments and businesses to partner with each other to build their individual economies, thereby creating jobs for their nationals. It also helps to enhance trade and investment opportunities across Commonwealth nations.



Nana Dwemoh Benneh

CEO, Universal Merchant Bank



The Commonwealth Advantage, which is based on shared language, history, culture and legal systems has allowed us; as one of the oldest merchant banks in Ghana to harness growth opportunities on a global scale. As part of CWEIC's strategic partners in Ghana, we have benefited from the community and it has become top 3 in our external relations strategy. We look forward to mutually exploring growth strategies together, that propel the continent for economic and geopolitical success.



Julia Charlton

Principal Partner, Charltons



CWEIC is a unique and amazing community, membership of which has brought great opportunities to Charltons! The CWEIC platform combines knowledge sharing, deeply informative commentary & insights and an outstanding, close-knit international network.



Ruth Euling

Managing Director, De La Rue plc



We are proud to be a founding member of CWEIC who facilitate trade and investment throughout the 56 Commonwealth member nations. I commend the support and dedication of the superb team led by Lord Marland. Today we supply to over 80% of the Commonwealth and we are committed to being a strategic partner to Commonwealth governments in supporting competition, skills and innovation across the public and private sector. Whilst there are many challenges, there are also immense opportunities ahead with the unwavering assistance of the CWEIC Team.



Mansoor Hamayun

Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Bboxx



It has been a privilege to be a part of the CWEIC community over the past year, with access to unique opportunities and connections. As a UK company with operations across the Commonwealth, our CWEIC membership has allowed us to strengthen ties in these nations and play significant roles in global events, including CHOGM 2022 held in Kigali. The CWEIC team has a unique ability to connect players across companies, sectors, and governments with great effect. We look forward to supporting this diverse network for many years to come.



Mohamed Ali Janah

Group Chairman, Hotels and Resorts Investment



As a Strategic Partner, I have had the privilege of being regularly connected to CWEIC's influential network from global business leader, investors to senior government officials and heads of state. In this first year of my involvement, I had the opportunity to foster deeper connections with potential business partners across the Commonwealth, with a number of partnerships already established or on the way to being established from within the CWEIC network itself. My experience demonstrates the exceptional advocacy and intentional experience CWEIC ensures for its members.



Dr Valentine Obi

Chairman, eTranzact



As a leading African payment, switch and fintech company, the Commonwealth offers huge potential for us to both grow our business and build international partnerships. CWEIC have been key in supporting our expansion plans across multiple African markets, facilitating important introductions and connections.



Toyin F. Sanni

Founder and Executive Vice-Chair, Emerging Africa Group



Emerging Africa has experienced firsthand the transformative power of CWEIC. CWEIC's extensive global reach has been instrumental in fostering invaluable connections and collaborations in new markets, for our business. CWEIC's unwavering commitment to actively engaging and facilitating strategic partnerships has significantly amplified our impact and presence in the dynamic Commonwealth business landscape. CWEIC's dedication to facilitating growth and fostering sustainable development is unparalleled, making it an indispensable partner for any enterprise seeking to make a meaningful mark in the Commonwealth's wide and diverse markets.

CWEIC DELIVERING



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Chandrajit Banerjee

Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry



Confederation of Indian Industry

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), as a founding partner since 2015, deeply appreciates CWEIC's efforts and commitment towards promoting trade, investment and business collaboration between India, UK and the Commonwealth nations. The platform provided by CWEIC has enabled Indian companies to explore new markets, and connect, collaborate and forge alliances with counterparts across the Commonwealth network. It has also provided companies from the Commonwealth, opportunities to explore business partnerships in India through CII's annual Partnership Summit and the India-Africa Conclave. Furthermore, the annual CII CEOs delegation to the UK has led to several high-level discussions between CWEIC and CII, including cooperation on Africa. We are eager to strengthen this strategic partnership to support successful Indian initiatives across the Commonwealth and fostering economic growth and cooperation for all.



MARKET ACCESS

Frank Hester OBE

Founder and CEO, TPP



We are delighted to continue our relationship with CWEIC as a strategic partner. CWEIC have a unique ability to bring together industry, government, and key decision makers, at the very highest levels. This has presented us with many opportunities to expand our business internationally, often into new markets. Since becoming a partner, we have seen direct success in many parts of the Commonwealth, including in the Americas, Africa, and Asia. Most recently, for example, we have contracted with the Jamaican government to implement our national electronic medical record system. Cameroon and several other countries are coming on board shortly. There is no doubt that CWEIC has played a major role in our continued international expansion.



INTERNATIONAL HUBS

S. C. Weerasekera

Group Director and COO, Capital Maharaja Group



The Capital Maharaja Group is one of the most dynamic, privately held conglomerates in Sri Lanka, operating across sectors spanning manufacturing, exports, leisure, and media. The Capital Maharaja Group is thankful for the invaluable support provided by CWEIC as it ventures towards expanding its presence into the African market. Leveraging the experience and connections of the CWEIC Hubs significantly strengthened our contacts in those areas and maximised the benefits of our visit. Additionally, the support extended by CWEIC in meeting manufacturers and businesses across six different African nations is a testament to the CWEIC's strong presence in the African region and extensive knowledge of the business landscape. CWEIC offers immense potential for further growth, and we look forward to continuing our affiliation with CWEIC.



INTERNATIONAL HUBS

Bryan Bletso

Partner and Head of International, Irwin Mitchell



As a large UK law firm with global reach, Irwin Mitchell have been able to take advantage of CWEIC's hub locations in a way beneficial to our clients and the firm's international business. We have particularly been impressed by the experiences we have had with the Malta, Singapore and Gibraltar CWEIC hubs. We were able to benefit from each Hub's local connections and experience. In each case the CWEIC Hub Directors were able to set up meetings for us with local businesses and professionals, enabling us to build our contacts in those territories.



MARKET ACCESS

Jon McDermott

Chief Development Officer, Government Projects, Promethean



As a leading innovator in the education sector, Promethean's partnership with CWEIC has been pivotal in helping develop our government footprint across the Commonwealth. This association has been particularly instrumental in our foray into key African nations. Leveraging CWEIC's robust network, we've been able to connect with key stakeholders and align our solutions with Government's educational aspirations. The tailored events and targeted engagements provided by CWEIC have enabled us to showcase our strategic education solution offerings to a deep and wide audience that has enhanced our dialogue. Beyond just introductions, CWEIC's senior leadership has played an active role in fostering meaningful collaborations, ensuring that our development endeavours have been both seamless and effective. Their meticulous guidance has been invaluable, assisting us through every phase of our market penetration, from initial discussions to project negotiations.



COUNTRY PARTNERSHIPS

His Excellency Felix Mbayu

Minister Delegate to the Minister of External Relations in charge of Relations with the Commonwealth, Government of Cameroon



The decision by the Government of Cameroon to enter into a strategic partnership with the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC) a few years ago was fuelled by the need to diversify its trade and investment partners and portfolio. Becoming a Strategic Partner of CWEIC has without a doubt enabled our Government to strengthen its presence within the Commonwealth business network and establish crucial connections with prospective investors. Cameroon is committed to its ambitious development agenda outlined in its National Development Strategy 2030 (NDS30). In that light, our Government is seeking to attract and streamline direct investment while emphasising the abundant opportunities and benefits that exist for the Commonwealth business community. As is customary, CWEIC has once again delivered on its mandate by providing us with a global platform through bespoke events and targeted opportunities to showcase and promote the trade and investment potential of its numerous partners, including recently in Dhaka, Bangladesh, during the Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum, and in London, on a wider scale and for greater impact. Furthermore, I would like to mention that CWEIC's senior leadership has undertaken numerous high-level visits to Cameroon within the past year, directly channelling business efforts into specific projects, leading to substantial efficiency gains, while diligently guiding potential investors through the entire process. The steady rise in the number of Cameroonian Strategic Partners is eloquent testimony of the interest generated by the Commonwealth/CWEIC brand. It is our hope that this will translate into tangible opportunities for our citizens and country as a whole.

THE COMMONWEALTH BUSINESS FORUM



The Commonwealth Business Forum (CBF), held every two years alongside the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM), facilitates trade and promotes investment across the Commonwealth.

The Forum has evolved to become a place not just for dialogue, but also as a critical space for tangible, innovative and ‘real’ solutions to come to fruition. CBF goes beyond being a mere platform for policy discussions. Its true success lies in the valuable connections it cultivates, the new relationships it fosters, and the exposure it provides to Commonwealth opportunities on a global stage, attracting the attention of businesses and investors worldwide.

SAMOA,

October 2024

The Commonwealth Business Forum 2024, will be the first CBF held in the Pacific Region and will reflect the priorities of the Commonwealth’s Small Island States while providing a platform for the global business community. Designed with a focus on roundtable meetings to enhance interaction, the discussions will be guided by Heads of Government in collaboration with CWEIC Strategic Partners and members of the Commonwealth business community.



RWANDA

21-23rd June 2022

Held in Kigali, after being postponed since 2020 due to COVID, CBF 2022 was a welcome return for the Commonwealth business community. Opened by HE Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, and addressed by Heads of Government representing every region of the Commonwealth. The Forum focused on the recovery from the pandemic, and revitalising the global economy, and was attended by over 1500 delegates.



UNITED KINGDOM

16-18th April 2018

In partnership with the UK Government and the City of London, the Commonwealth Business Forum 2018 was a three-day event with more than 40 individual sessions in three iconic London locations. A total of 1400 participants from 80 nations were involved and represented businesses, regulators, trade and investment promotion bodies, as well as Commonwealth governments.



MALTA

24-26th November 2015

CBF 2015 was addressed by 15 Heads of Government, 180 government and private sector leaders and attended by more than 1300 delegates from 75 countries. Areas of discussion included: empowering entrepreneurs, financial centres as catalysts of growth, investing in infrastructure and supporting the Blue Economy.



COMMONWEALTH TRADE AND INVESTMENT SUMMIT



The Commonwealth Trade and Investment Summit (CTIS) is developed and hosted by CWEIC, for our Strategic Partners, providing them privileged access to opportunities within the Commonwealth while serving as a prominent platform for meaningful dialogue and networking.

The annual Summit, held in London, brings together Heads of Government, senior ministers, and business leaders from across the Commonwealth for discussions, dialogue, meetings, and networking. CTIS is a B2B and B2G event that bridges the gap between the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings and Commonwealth Business Forums, while helping take forward conversations and developing the content for the next Business Forum.

CTIS 2023

27-28 November, London

The third iteration of CTIS, built on previous years by bringing together more Commonwealth businesses than ever before. This edition placed a heightened emphasis on networking and relationship development, featuring a dedicated delegates lounge for this purpose. The 2023 Summit programme focused on the key economic challenges and opportunities facing the Commonwealth this year. It also pinpointed specific areas where the Commonwealth can enhance collaboration between the public and private sectors as part of the preparations leading up to Samoa 2024.



CTIS 2022

5-6 December, London

Delegates from over 30 Commonwealth countries and beyond gathered at the Mansion House, London for the second Commonwealth Trade and Investment Summit. CTIS 2022 provided an opportunity to continue conversations around green finance, fintech, pandemic preparedness, healthcare technology, food and energy security, and opportunities for Africa, from CBF 2022. We were also honoured to welcome former UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, for a special intervention on Fragile States, as well as senior government officials.



CTIS 2021

13-14 September, London

Held during the COVID 19 pandemic, the first Commonwealth Trade and Investment Summit was held virtually bringing together speakers and panellists from 30 countries. Conversations centred around COVID-19 responses and future strategies, the financial services sector, the evolving landscape of the 21st-century workplace, and the vast potential of the African Opportunity, encompassing AfCFTA and beyond.

The positive reception and achievements of CTIS 2021 encouraged us to reintroduce it as an in-person event in 2022, and from there, it has continued to expand and flourish.

CWEIC EVENTS AND DELEGATIONS

Commonwealth Trade Ministers Meeting

CWEIC convened 31 Commonwealth Trade Ministers in London, for the inaugural Commonwealth Trade Ministers Meeting (CTMM). Strategic Partners joined Ministers in closed door discussions on key economic issues, before joining them for a networking dinner hosted by the Lord Mayor of London.



Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum in Bangladesh



CWEIC, organised the inaugural Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum which highlighted the potential for enhanced business connections between the Commonwealth and Bangladesh. Inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, this two-day event in Dhaka brought together 300 delegates from 30 Commonwealth nations and beyond, fostering networking opportunities and engaging in expert-led discussions concerning pivotal areas of Commonwealth importance.

Lord Mayor of London's visit to Nigeria

CWEIC's Nigerian Strategic Partners hosted the Lord Mayor of London in Lagos, for a Round table discussion on strengthening links with London. The Lord Mayor's delegation was joined by Strategic Partners from across the Commonwealth for discussions with the Nigerian Minister of Trade.





The Commonwealth Games Business Forum

Alongside the Commonwealth Games, CWEIC hosts the Commonwealth Games Business Forum (CGBF). The most recent event was held in Birmingham in 2022, where the forum addressed the theme ‘Greening the Commonwealth’ and was addressed by the UK Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Roundtable with the Prime Minister of The Bahamas

CWEIC hosted The Rt Hon Philip Davis KC MP, the Prime Minister of The Bahamas and our network and relevant stakeholders in London for a roundtable discussion on ‘The Blue Green Economy and Resilience for Small Island States’. The conversation focused on addressing the repercussions of climate change, particularly the disproportionate burden faced by smaller island states in the Commonwealth, and explored potential avenues of support.



Delegation to India Africa Conclave

CWEIC led a delegation of Commonwealth businesses to participate in the 18th edition of the ‘CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India Africa Growth Partnership.’ This event offered a distinctive platform for our Strategic Partners to enhance and promote trade connections between India and Africa, contributing to the strengthening of economic ties between two Commonwealth powerhouses.

Business delegation to Cameroon

Lord Marland led a delegation of CWEIC Strategic Partners to Cameroon to call on the Prime Minister, key minister and to meet with senior business leaders. The four-day visit, which took place in both Yaoundé and Douala built on the strong relationship CWEIC has established with the Government of Cameroon, and provided an opportunity to introduce them to CWEIC Strategic Partners.



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

THE COMMONWEALTH BANQUET



The Commonwealth Banquet has become a mainstay of the Commonwealth business calendar, bringing together the Commonwealth business community, Commonwealth Governments, the wider Commonwealth family and Diplomatic Corps for an evening of black-tie networking and celebration.

Held in partnership with the Royal Commonwealth Society and the City of London. These banquets feature addresses by the Lord Mayor of London and

distinguished guest speakers.

These guest speakers have included Heads of Government, Senior Ministers, and prominent figures from the Commonwealth's business community.

Held in the City of London's historic Guildhall or Manson House the banquet provides a grand and celebratory atmosphere for more informal networking and relationship building. Invitation to the Commonwealth Banquet is only open to CWEIC Strategic Partners.

COMMONWEALTH LEGAL NETWORK (CLN)

CWEIC launched its first ever Commonwealth Legal Network following a successful legal webinar held in late 2020.

Overwhelming feedback from more than 113 firms across the Commonwealth, prompted the initiative to provide a commercial legal network. This legal network would supply business referrals, act as a knowledge exchange service through regular meetings and webinars, and strengthen the links between Commonwealth law firms and businesses from the CWEIC network and beyond.

To maintain the quality, integrity and management of the network, membership of the CLN is by invitation-only. New applicants are approved through the CLN Membership Committee consisting of existing CWEIC Strategic Partner law firms.



A PLATFORM FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHT AND EXPERT DIALOGUE ON CURRENT BUSINESS AFFAIRS

As the world entered covid lockdown, CWEIC pivoted taking our core offering online. We have remained committed to providing our Strategic Partners with a network to support their businesses, as well as supporting industries that have been significantly impacted by the global crisis brought on by the pandemic.

A Commonwealth Leadership Webinar Series was launched in order to equip members with the knowledge and tools to navigate this crisis. Initially a platform to share expertise and experience, this offering has evolved into a true virtual networking platform making connections and linking Strategic Partners to new commercial opportunities across the Commonwealth.

CWEIC's Leadership Webinar Series has featured current and former Heads of State, Cabinet ministers, Nobel Prize winners and industry experts covering a wide scope of sectors.

Recent webinars include:

- › The Queen's Baton series ahead of the Commonwealth Games
- › AfCFTA Opportunities with HE Mahamudu Bawumia, Vice-President, Ghana
- › Education and Development with Professor Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Prize winner and Founder of Grameen Bank, Bangladesh
- › Commonwealth Fashion with Caroline Rush, Chief Executive, British Fashion Council, UK
- › Association of Commonwealth Universities and CWEIC Webinar on University-Industry Partnerships in the Commonwealth
- › Exploring Investment Opportunities in the Maldives' Tourism Sector with Dr Abdulla Mausoom, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Maldives
- › Future of Central Bank Digital Currency with Crown Agents Bank and Lord Mayor of the City of London, Bank of England, Bank of Ghana

INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE – HUBS & STRATEGIC ADVISORS

AFRICA

Cameroon, Gabon and Togo Hub



Auguste Mbappe Penda

*Chair – Cameroon,
Gabon and Togo Hub*



Cham Etienne Bama

*Hub Director – Cameroon,
Gabon and Togo*

Ghana Hub



**Gabby Asare
Otchere-Darko**

Country Chair – Ghana



John Apea

Head of Mission – Ghana



Ben Gomado-Cobblah

Country Director – Ghana

ASIA



Tulsi Wallooppillai

*Strategic Advisor –
Southeast Asia*

Singapore Hub



Raymond Huang

Strategic Advisor – Singapore

Bangladesh Hub



Zillur Hussain MBE

Strategic Advisor – Bangladesh

Sri Lanka and Maldives



Niro Cooke

Chair – Sri Lanka and Maldives



Dr Sumon Chowdhury

Country Director – Bangladesh

AFRICA

East and Central Africa Hub



Dr James Mwangi CBS
Chair – East and Central Africa Hub



AQ Hamza
Hub Director – East and Central Africa Hub

Nigeria Hub



Olasupo Shasore, SAN, FCIARB
Country Chair – Nigeria



Obinna Anyanwu
Country Director – Nigeria

EUROPE

Gibraltar Hub



Edward Davis, CB, CBE
Country Chair – Gibraltar



Jared Peralta
Country Director – Gibraltar

Malta



Phyllis Muscat
Country Chair – Malta

CARIBBEAN AND AMERICAS



Eric Bush, Cert. Hon., JP
Regional Director – Caribbean

PACIFIC

Australia



Jeremy Mitchell
Special Advisor – Australia

A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH CWEIC

- › Connection to the CWEIC Network which comprises more than 150 strategic partners and a wider network of more than 500 senior business and Government leaders across the Commonwealth from India to Small Island States;
- › Business solutions and strategic advice for Strategic Partners with issues that are creating barriers to trading in Commonwealth markets;
- › Bespoke business programmes for delegations visiting the UK and Commonwealth countries, with the opportunity to engage with senior government and institutional leaders through specially developed meeting and introduction visit programmes;
- › New market entry advice and activity through our Country Directors, Strategic Advisors and network of 150 Strategic Partners in 35 Countries and territories, representing every region of the Commonwealth.
- › Nomination to join CWEIC's Global Advisory Council with participation from prominent business leaders across the Commonwealth from over 35 countries.
- › Invitation and privileged access to key Commonwealth events including the Commonwealth Formal Banquet at the Guildhall in the City of London; the biennial Commonwealth Business Forum (CBF) held alongside the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and the Commonwealth Games Business Forum (CGBF);
- › Position, profile and promote your business at CWEIC events and activities.
- › Partnerships with connected organisations including The Queen's Commonwealth Trust (QCT), Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) and the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) of which CWEIC recently signed an MoU that will provide members with access to 500 academic institutions across the Commonwealth.

For more information please contact:

Pride Azefor
Director of Business
Development
pride@cweic.org

Rashida Munnaverali
Business Development
Manager
rashida@cweic.org

Radhika Ellepola
Manager – Strategic
Partnerships
radhika@cweic.org

COMMONWEALTH

Enterprise and Investment Council

www.cweic.org