

Colombo International Maritime & Logistics Conference 2024

27th to 29th November @ Cinnamon Grand, Colombo
Sri Lanka



Register



Endorsed by the Ministry of Transport, Highways, Ports & Civil Aviation
& Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Colombo International Maritime & Logistics Conference 2024– www.cimc.lk

Day 1- 27th November 2024

Plenary sessions

Session P1

**The Global & Regional Emerging Trends -Ports/Terminals & Shipping
15.00hrs-16.30hrs (90 mins)**

The session will discuss the changing maritime geographies and trends adopted by main lines & feeder operators. The focus will also discuss, competition among ports to attract new business. This will include the regional discussion on Colombo being relevant as the main transshipment port, while India, Bangladesh & Pakistan are expanding their capabilities with many reforms/infrastructure in partnership with global industry giants.



Session P2

India Container/Port Report & Transshipment Developments-winners & losers

**The feeder networks- the regional dynamics
16.30hrs -17.45hrs (75 mins)**

This session will discuss the world's fastest growing major economy and its container & major port performance. This will give the big picture to transshipment ports of the opportunities, threats and foresights into competition in containerisation in South Asia. The report will reveal the trends and growth in Indian container market and the performance of ports and planned capacity of India. The role of Vizhinjam port and other deep terminals in India, what will they translate into?

Feeder networks will be a key insight on deciding how transshipment hubs will evolve. The regional dynamics are changing which may change frequencies and routes and will require pragmatic policy decisions to compete in such an evolving environment.

Day 1- 27th November 2024

Inaugural session

Presentation 1- Global & Indian Subcontinent Outlook

18.30hrs-19.00hrs (30 mins)

The changing face of port competition, dealing with volatility and shifts in port demand will have regional dimensions and agile ports thinking towards multiscale approach of port performance. Considering global maritime trends, terminal operators will have to re-align to meet the demands that are forecasted for the next twenty years. APM Terminals, a global leader, will present global and regional outlook for container terminals.



Speech by Patron of the event- 19.00hrs -19.10hrs (10 mins)

Speech 1- Key note speech (Indian speaker)- 19.10hrs-19.30hrs (20mins)

Panel discussion

19.30hrs -20.30hrs (60 mins)

Macro economy of South Asia, importance of connectivity for national economies

The inaugural discussion will feature macro-economic policies of the Indian sub-continent and how the region can integrate with greater presence in the world economy. The discussion will also generate ideas on how the ports, shipping & logistics sectors can be made more efficient and to create more economic contribution to the region. The session will focus on policy and transformation in the sector.

20.30hrs-22.00hrs- Cocktails- networking & fellowship

Day 2-28th November 2024



**Session 1- Shipping & global freight markets- What do experts say?
8.30hrs-9.45hrs (75mins)**

**Session 2- The experiences- Mitigating supply chain disruptions
9.45hrs – 10.30hrs(60mins)**

Since COVID, the global freight market has seen unpredictable movements resulting in disruption of trade and price stability, bringing in inflation worries to the global financial system. This has been the pattern for the last four years, which includes maritime network disruptions leading into freight volatility. This session will discuss possible outlook and challenges both shippers and shipping lines would face, in the next three years with political economy, destabilising the maritime economy. Using evidence and insight, including robust and reliable data from independent experts will help decision making and right governance in ports. UNCTAD & Drewry will show how maritime trade will develop and discuss trade & freight patterns in shipping & developments of infrastructure.

This session will extend its discussion to session 2 on how to mitigate supply chain disruptions, given the middle east political developments and possible other choke points that would disrupt trade lanes.

Session 3

Getting it right-Ingredients for building a maritime economy, role of free zones in modernising strategic locations, digital networks for ports

11.15hrs-12.30hrs- (75mins)



This session will discuss on key pillars on building a maritime economy beyond transshipment. The core functions for backward integration and services will make a location attractive to foreign direct investments. Modern trading patterns call for innovative solutions such as free zones and hassle-free distribution networks. Digitalisation of ports and shipping, are part of the modernisation process with sustainable solutions to suit future demands for a maritime economy.

Session 4

5G, cybercrime, port technologies, IOT & payment technologies

13.15hrs-15.00hrs- (105mins)

The global trade and services are adapting more and more digital technologies with rapid transformation including, artificial intelligence making inroads to every aspect of modern business environments. Shipping, ports and logistics are no exceptions but the call for change is rapid and demanding. This session will discuss all possibilities and threats and opportunities. The global shipping and logistics industries will need to upgrade technologies and upskill human resources to handle the new environment of the digital age.



Session 5

NVOCC & tanker market- Expanding containerisation

15.00-16.00hrs- (60mins)

Ports need diversification of its product portfolio and services by catering beyond the traditional box business. The demand for non-traditional box business is increasing and special operations and projects need different market solutions and services from key ports to increase throughput. This session will discuss different market dynamics for NVOCC and tanker operators.



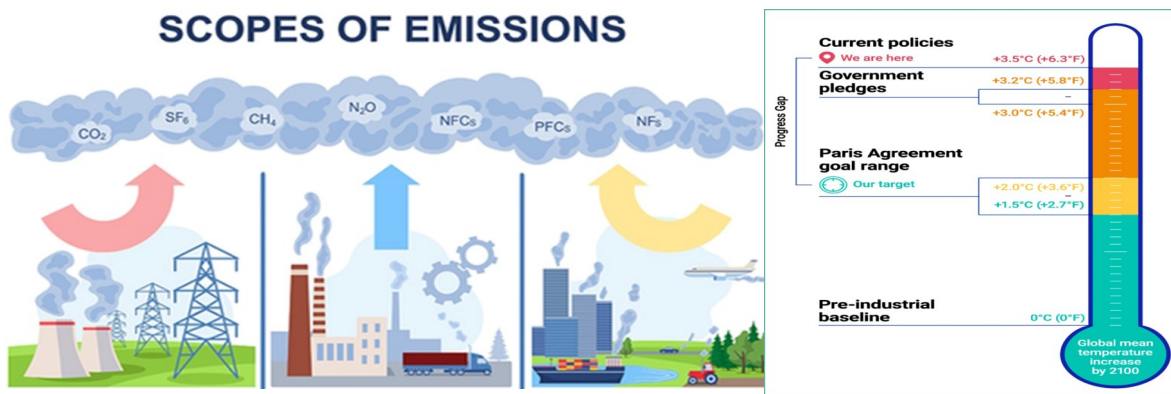


Session 6- Fireside Chat 1

The future fuels, planet and shipping- clean energy efficient integrations, green robotics in ports

16.00hrs-18.00- (120mins)

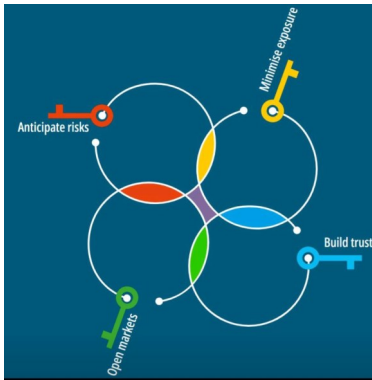
The discussion will start with future fuels (bunkering) and migrate into port technologies. The call for global reduction in carbon emissions and other harmful gasses has led to new demands which include new forms of energy to fuel ships and effectively run ports and reduce the carbon footprint which is affecting the planet's health. This transition comes from the consumer to the manufacturer and to all intermediaries involved in the global supply chains. The industry is required to bring in sustainable green energy & robotics as solutions for new infrastructure to support global trade. This discussion will bring in salient points for the ports and shipping sector to be relevant and to be competitive in providing planet friendly solutions as well as to attract new investments to increase business with sustainable solutions.



Session 7

The logistics macro picture-The business of consolidating, backward integration, and new logistics requirements

**Africa/Asia connectivity -Supply chain agility & forecasting for CFS operations
08.45hrs-10.30hrs- (105mins)**



The demand for new logistics solutions reflecting a new generation of consumers retailing and backward integration into supply chains by transport companies is changing the requirements of the overall global trading environment. Getting it right for both consumers and manufacturers through advanced distribution systems and providing cost effective solutions would be the future demand as the global production may see continental shifts due to multiple factors. Therefore, connectivity and logistics solutions can be a key selling proposition for shipping hubs. This session will discuss, the emerging trends in logistics.

Session 8

**Air freight & logistics-Sea/air, air/air-regional market outlook
11.00hrs-12.30hrs- (90mins)**

With more and more online purchases and door to door deliveries, the customer has transformed logistics into new demand territories. Factory floor to the consumer requires fast and efficient delivery. Air cargo plays an important role for products that needs speed to market and high value and perishable cargo to reach markets on demand. Therefore, in modern logistics, airfreight plays a key role in connecting cargo hubs which can provide different solutions to the end customers. The global air cargo market is expanding due to increased number of new generation consumers. Therefore, policy makers need to understand the importance of air cargo connectivity and prepare policy to support the industry. The session will discuss the overall industry and its direction to give a greater understanding of the regional/global markets and the trends.

Session 9

Evolving E-commerce trends

Live stream and online shopping & last mile delivery and technology

13.15hrs-14.45hrs- (90mins)

Express companies play a vital role in consumer demand management by providing speedy solutions from origin to destination. Operating through high technology in logistics, the specialised door to door to market will create more opportunities for manufacturers and traders. Logistics hubs will need the strong presence of express companies to support ocean shipping, air freight, storage and distribution companies and for value addition for products with quick turn around and delivery times for production and retailing, to support the emerging and fast-growing e-commerce business. The session will discuss the trends and technologies and give an understanding of how to penetrate new markets with express services.



Session 10

The building blocks- Talent/skills development

HR for future crew management & logistics

14.45hrs-16.00hrs- (75 mins)

The shipping industry revolves around many verticals including support services. Among them are providing modern ship & crew management services. In order to be a maritime/shipping hub, these services have to be upgraded to world class. In terms of quality. Structured by a strong legal system, skilled and trained staff at various levels, adapting to new technologies, is a requirement that needs to be focussed. The globally required supply of talents, is considered an important services export sector for a maritime economy. The future developments in talent requirements will be discussed in this session and how to develop a structured talent development environment for the maritime & logistics sectors.

Fireside chat 2

The big picture

Targeting 5% from logistics to GDP in Sri Lanka by 2030

What can Sri Lanka do to compete in the transshipment and logistics business?

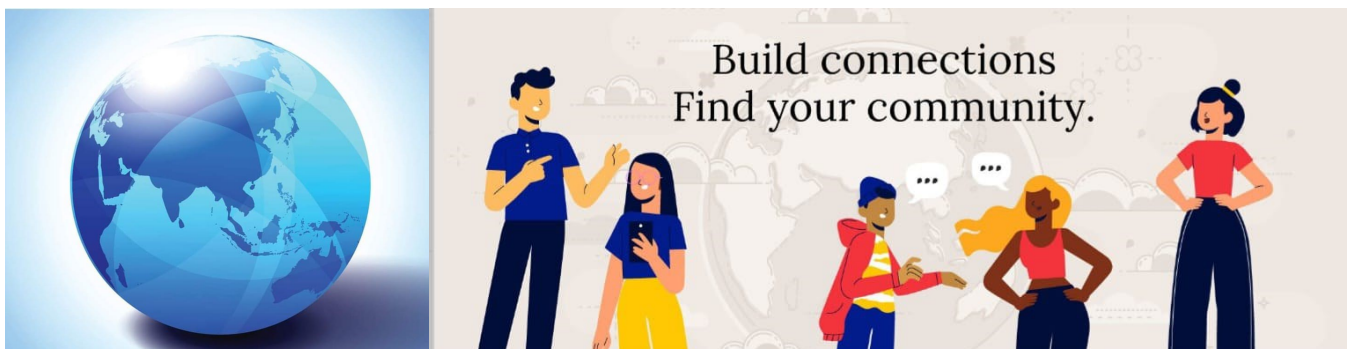
Can we sustain manufacturing?

How can we be a part of the global supply chains through value addition?

More listed logistics companies, is it a good answer for capital attraction?

16.00hrs-18.00hrs (120 mins)

The shipping and logistics industry in Sri Lanka contributes a mere 2% to the national GDP., as reported by Central Bank. Whereas, in developed logistic hubs around the world, they contribute 7%-15% to GDP. In a modest target, Sri Lanka should look at reaching 5% from this sector by 2030. Having a location alone is not going to bring value added services or expansion of investments. An investor friendly environment with ease of doing business for global transactions will only attract capital, know-how, knowledge in transforming the macro economy. In order to be an export-based economy, the country needs to uplift its logistics industry, and in order to sustain manufacturing and to connect to global supply chains, what is needed are strong legal reforms and implementation of a digital economy that will bring in efficiency and reduce transaction costs. The country also must think of promoting global partnerships and looking at new solutions, such as divesting shares by listing companies to attract FDI. More free ports and free zones will attract global volumes of cargo if done in a timely manner. This session will discuss with experts, short, medium and long-term measures to achieve a reasonable target of 5% to GDP by 2030 in logistics.





Pre conference port visit

Visit Sri Lanka



Host hotel