

Colombo International Maritime & Logistics Conference 2024

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



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



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

**Viewing Colombo's new capacity-Port of Colombo
visit organised by
Sri Lanka Ports Authority**



Day 1- 27th November 2024

**Optional port visit
10.00 am**

Optional visit is organized for registered delegates & speakers/panelists for the conference. The port of Colombo will be doubling its capacity to 15 million TEUs by 2026. This gives new opportunities for shipping services and logistics operations within and outside of the Colombo port. Backward & forward integration services are focused to service the growing needs of supply chains. New business centres for value addition & customer care are emerging trends in South Asia. The new capacity will require technological solutions and upgrading of port infrastructure. The visit to the port of Colombo will give an idea of the Colombo's mega hub position in South Asia.

Only for the registered participants for the conference

[Register for the Colombo Port Visit](#)

Day 1- 27th November 2024

Plenary sessions

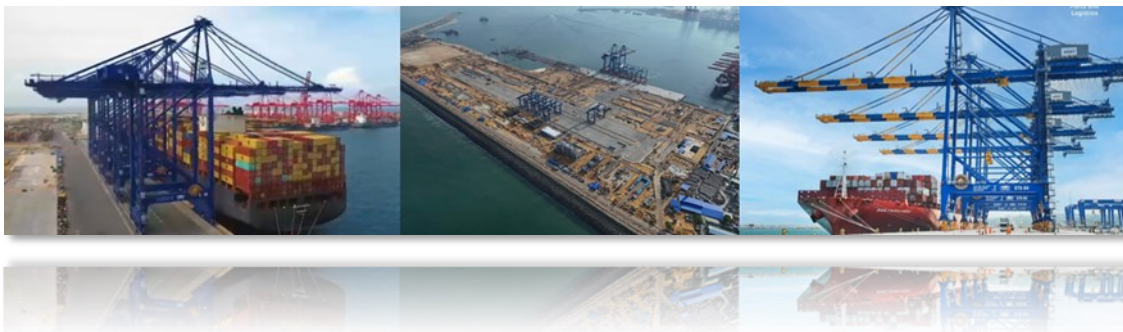
Session P1

The Global & Regional Emerging Trends -Ports/Terminals & Shipping

(Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan)

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.



Moderator: Mr. Amal Rodrigo, Director Ports & Terminals, Advantis Ships (Pvt) Ltd.

Mr. Ananda S. Premachandra- Industry Specialist

Mr. Jonathan (Jon) R. Goldner- Chief Executive, Asia & Middle East-APM Terminals Management (Singapore)

Dr. Manzur Haque, Executive Chairman, Interport BD Limited

Mr. Bindu Ranasinghe-Deputy GM, Commercial & Marketing, Hambantota International Port Group

Ms. Dhashma Karunaratne, Chief Commercial Officer, Colombo West International Terminal

Mr. Abdulla Farrukh, Chairman, All Pakistan Shipping Association/CEO, Pak Shaheen Group

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.



Key presenter & moderator-Mr. Ravi Ramprasad-Editor in Chief, Maritime Gateway

Mr. Shailesh Garg-Director, Drewry Shipping Consultants

Mr. Ananda S. Premachandra- Industry Specialist

Mr. Lal Weerasinghe-Additional Managing Director - Operations , Sri Lanka Ports Authority

Mr. Romesh David, CEO, South Asia Gateway Terminals

Mr. Chandima Seneviratne- Senior Deputy GM, Commercial & Marketing-Colombo International Container Terminal

Mr. Liang Hong Yong, Chief Executive Officer, Far Shipping Singapore

Day 1- 27th November 2024

Inaugural session



18.05hrs- 18.35hrs-Ceremonial opening & launch of the conference
Speech by Sri Lankabhimanya Karu Jayasuriya-patron

Presentation 1- Global & Indian Subcontinent Outlook
18.35hrs-19.00hrs (25 mins)

Mr. Jonathan (Jon) R. Goldner- Chief Executive, Asia & Middle East-APM Terminals Management (Singapore)

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.

Key note speech-19.00hrs-19.30hrs (30mins)

Dr. Malini V Shankar, Vice Chancellor, Indian Maritime University

Indian maritime vision & role in South Asia, India growth story, opportunities therein for Sri Lanka



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. Will the India Sri Lanka proposed bridge transform logistics?



With chief guest, Mr. Hanif Yusoof, Governor of Western Province of Sri Lanka
Guest of honour, Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Key note speaker, Dr. Malini V Shankar, Vice Chancellor, Indian Maritime University
Special guest, Mr. Dustin Bickel, Regional Indo-Pacific Strategy Coordinator, US Embassy, Colombo
Special guest, Dr. Satyanjal Pandey, Deputy High Commissioner of India
Moderator- Mr. Dhananath Fernando, CEO, Advocata Institute

20.30hrs-22.00hrs- Cocktails- networking & fellowship



Day 2-28th November 2024

Opening remarks by Mr. Shirendra Lawrence, President, American Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka

8.30hrs-8.35hrs



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. Drewry will show how maritime trade will develop and a review of UNCTAD maritime report will 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.

Mr. Shailesh Garg- Director, Drewry Shipping Consultants

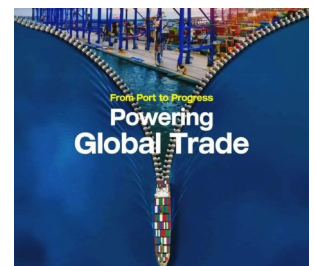
Mr. Biju Ravi- Country Manager-Maersk Lanka

Mr. Munish Kanwar- CEO, Colombo West International Terminal

Mr. Prabath Manimeldura– CEO, Talentbridge

Excerpts from UNCTAD global maritime report

Moderator- Mr. Kingsley Abeywickrama, GM, CMA CGM, Sri Lanka



Mr. Ian James, Vice President APAC, Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH-Key presenter

Mr. Ted Muttiah, Chief Commercial Officer, South Asia Gateway Terminal

Mr. Ramesh Nanayakkara-Senior Director/Country Head, Ansell Lanka

Mr. Suren Abeysekara, Former Chairman, Sri Lanka Shippers' Council

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, along with front and back office functions. Digitalisation of ports and shipping, are part of the modernisation process with sustainable solutions to suit future demands for a maritime economy.



Prof. V. Jesudevan, Founder, Chief Executive Officer, Tradekins, Singapore-Main presentation & moderator

Mr. Binai Thoppil, Co-Founder/ COO, ODeX, India

Mr. Kamal Dorabawila-Chief Investment Officer-Sector Lead – Transport & Logistics, Asia-Pacific, International Finance Corporation

Ms. Christina Prieser, Associate Partner – HPC Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH

Mr. Iwan Rutjens, Deputy Ambassador/ Counsellor, Embassy of Netherlands

Mr. Andre Fernando, Vice Chairman, Sri Lanka Freight Forwarders' Association & member, Free Port Operators' Association

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 and also manage employment requirements.



Moderator: Mr. Sandun Hapugoda, Country Manager, Mastercard, Sri Lanka & the Maldives

Mr. Abhijit Desai- Advisor to MD of JM Baxi, India

Mr. Channa De Silva-CEO, LankaPay

Mr. Roshan De Silva-Vice President, Smart Buildings, MilleniumIT ESP

Binai Thoppil-COO & Co-Founder of ODeX

5G Private Networks for Maritime Use
Opportunities for Digital Port Automation



Session 5

NVOCC & tank container markets-expanding containerisation through feeder networks 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 and the role of feeder networks.



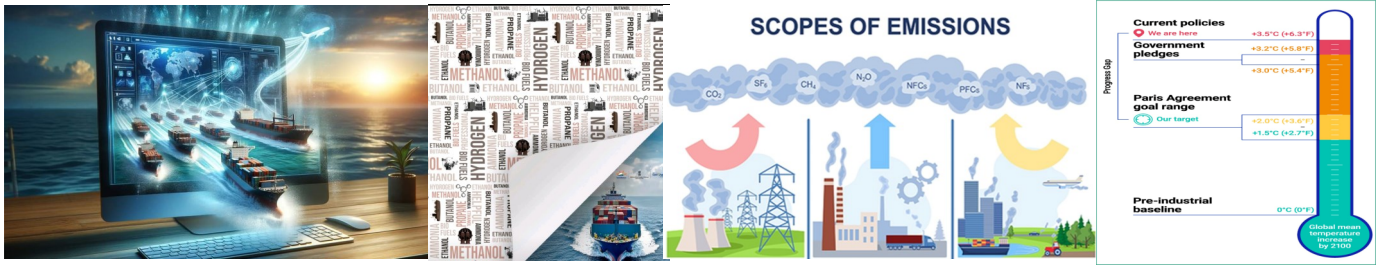
Moderator- Mr. Ananda Senananayake-Group MD, Lanka Shipping & Logistics

Mr. Harsha De Silva-MD, McLarens Logistics– Tank container market presentation

Mr. R. Ramakrishnan-VP, Vasco Maritime– NVOCC market presentation

Mr. Prasantha Dissanayake-CEO, Arvia Shipping LLC

Mr. Liang Hong Yong, Chief Executive Officer, Far Shipping Singapore



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 & best management practices into terminals.

Moderators-Mr. Navin Perera, Director Logistics, GAC Group & Mr. Anuradha Harasgama, CEO, Hawks Colombo Pvt Ltd

Mr. Dipak Das, MD, Lanka IOC

Mr. Zafir Hashim, President of the Transportation industry group & the Plantation sector at John Keells Holdings

Sinopec-TBC

Mr. Ganaka Hemachandra, Managing Director, Sri Lanka Ports Authority

Mr. Upul Jinadasa-Chief Operating Officer, South Asia Gateway Terminals

Ms. Christina Prieser-Associate Partner – HPC Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH

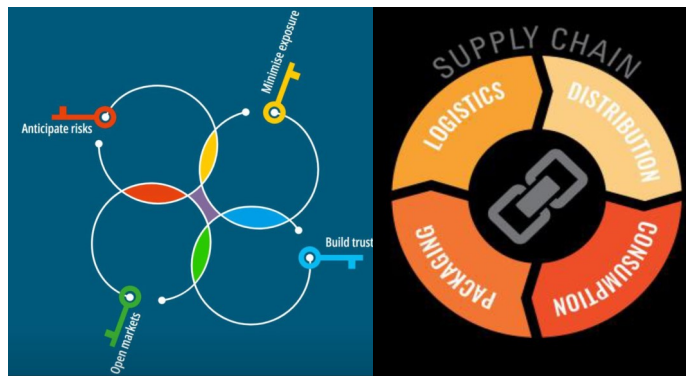
Captain Prashant S. Widge, Head of ESG and Public Affairs, South Asia, Maersk Line

Opening remarks by Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg, Chief Delegate, Delegation of German Industry & Commerce, Sri Lanka
8.30hrs-8.35hrs

Session 7

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

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



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

Mr. Navin Prakash- Director, Global Logistics Solutions, main presenter & moderator
Dr. Rakesh Singh, Chairman & Dean, SCM Demand Planning Academy and SCMP Knowledge

Mr. Mario Fonseka- MD, CWT Globelink

Mr. Gamini Kannangara-Managing Director, Trico Global

Mr. Albert Ndemo, Regional Manager, GEX Logistics, Kenya

Mr. Sanjay Wijewardena, MD, GEX Logistics, Sri Lanka-Co-moderator

Mr. Priyantha Punchihewa– Chairman, Free Port Operators Association

Mr. Biju Ravi, Country Manager-Maersk Lanka

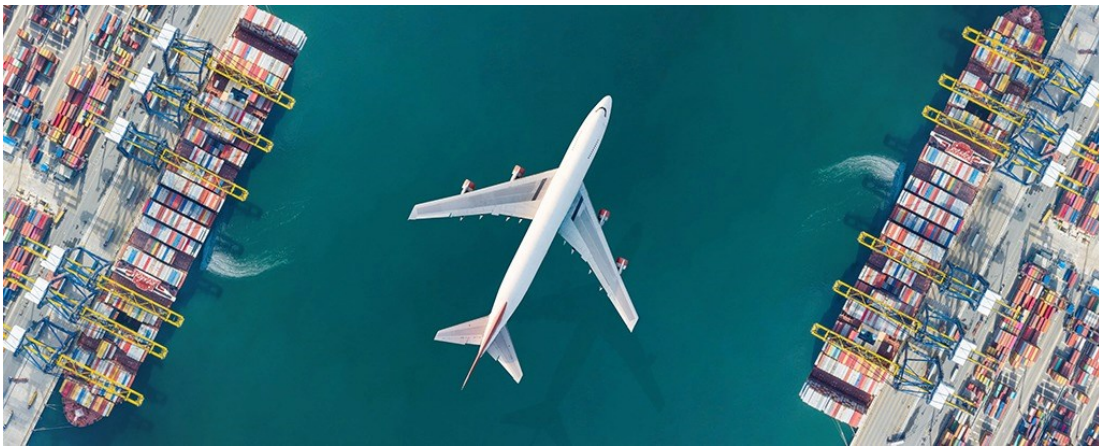
Ms. Tania Wettimuny Polonnowita– Group Director, Kerry Logistics, Sri Lanka-TBC

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, which includes reverse logistics. 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.



Moderator: Mr. Chaminda Perera, Head of Cargo, SriLankan Airlines

Mr. Samer Hajjar-CEO South East Asia & Indian Sub-continent, Aramex

Mr. Channa Gunawardena-Director/CEO, Expelogix, Chairman

Mr. Miran Peiris, Senior General Manager – Global Air Procurement, Expolanka Freight

Mr. Priyan Seilman, MD, Scanwell Logistics

Session 9

Evolving E-commerce trends

Live stream and online shopping & last mile delivery and technology

13.15hrs-14.45hrs- (90mins)

Global e-commerce market to reach USD 47.7 trillion by 2030 (report) 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 & B2B markets 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.



Moderator: Mr. Sanjay Samarasinghe, Country Manager, Aramex Freight Corporation, Sri Lanka

Mr. Samer Hajjar-CEO South East Asia & Indian Sub-continent, Aramex- Main presentation

Mr. Chinthaka Abeywickrama, Group CEO, Netlogix

Mr. Suren Abeysekara, Former Chairman, Sri Lanka Shippers' Council

Mr. Sean Van Dort-Chairman, Global Shippers' Forum

Ms. Julie Reynaud-Director, Consumer & Retail - KPMG Asia Pacific



Session 10

The building blocks- Talent/skills development

Human resources for future crew management with technological advancements

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 and knowhow. Structured by a strong legal system, skilled and trained staff at various levels, adapting to new frontier 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.



Moderator-Kalinga De Silva, Managing Director, Centrum Marine Consultants

Captain S.B.S. Lakmal-Assistant GM, Ceyline Shipping (Pvt) Ltd

Captain Gamini Wilson-Director General, Merchant Shipping Secretariat of Ministry of Ports and Shipping

Mr. Surinda De Abrew-- Director / Chief Executive Officer, Sri Lanka Shipping Company Limited

Captain Prawala Perera, Secretary, Company of Master Mariners

Captain Upul Peiris, Director Navigation, Merchant Shipping Secretariat

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 and a professional manner. There is also an importance of an independent professional regulating body. This session will discuss with experts, short, medium and long-term measures to achieve a reasonable contribution of 5% to GDP by 2030 in logistics.

Mr. Ashroff Omar, CEO, Brandix Lanka Ltd/Saif Jafferjee, MD, Jafferjee Brothers

Mr. Bingumal Thevarathanthri-CEO, Standard Chartered Bank

Mr. Krishan Balendra- Chairman, John Keells Holdings

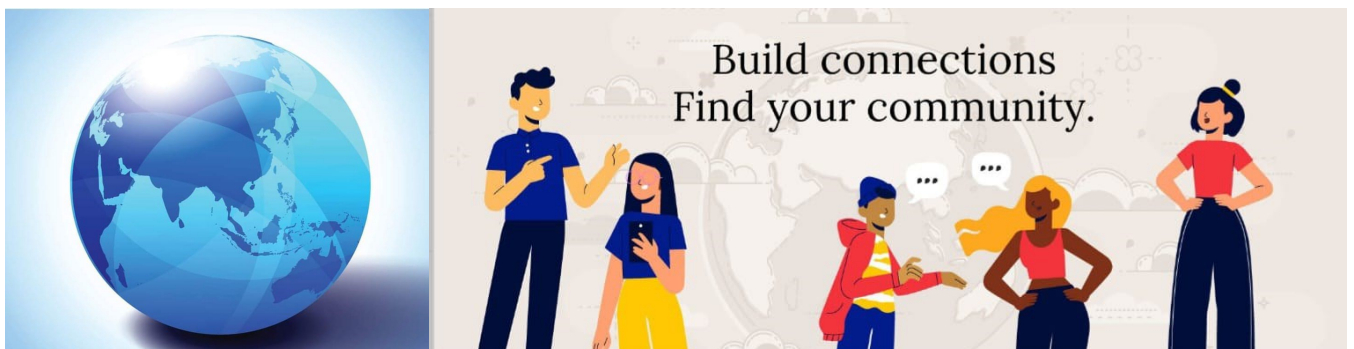
Mr. Dilshan Wirasekara, Chairman, Colombo Stock Exchange

Mr. Ravi Dadlani, Managing Director, CEAT Kelani Holdings

Ms. Subhashinie Abeysinghe-Director Research, Verite Research

Mr. S.S.S. Sarwar-Chairman, CEMS Global

Moderated by TWC Corp team





Pre conference port visit

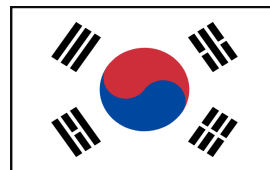
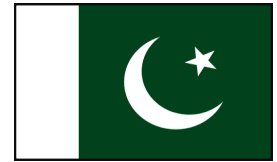
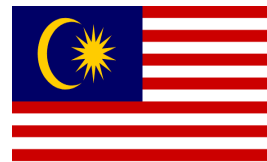
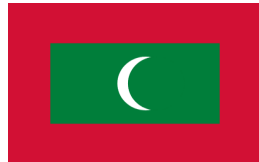
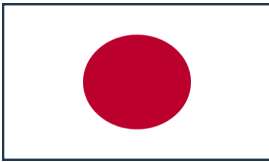
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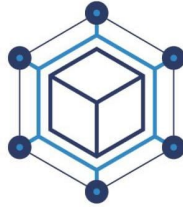
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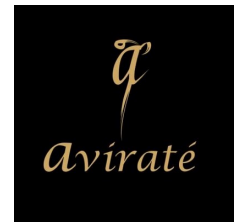
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