



UIBC

Abetting UAE-India Alliance

UIBC NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

G20 AT GLANCE

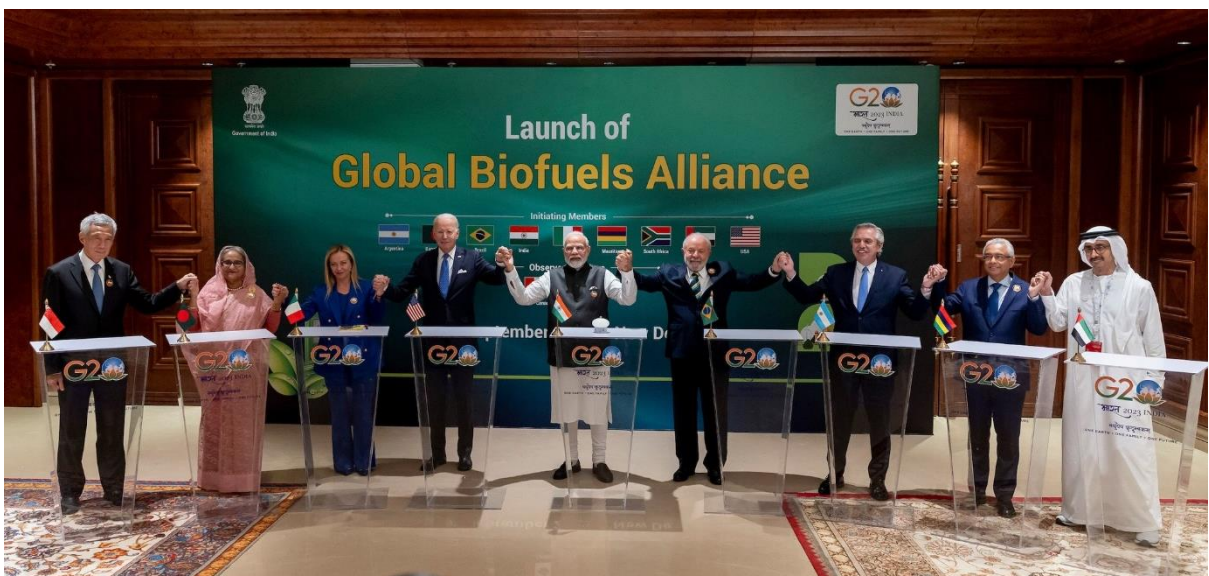


The 18th G20 Summit was held in New Delhi, India on September 9th and 10th, 2023. The summit was the first time India hosted the G20 Leaders' Summit.

The theme of the summit was "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", which means "The world is one family". G20 Leaders' New Delhi Declaration achieved unanimous consensus, addressing diverse global issues, from Russia-Ukraine tensions to sustainable development, food security, and launching the Global Biofuel Alliance.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA):



GBA is an India-led initiative that aims to develop an alliance of governments, international organizations, and industry to promote the adoption of biofuels. The initiative seeks to position biofuels as a key component of the energy transition and contribute to job creation and economic growth.

- It will help accelerate India's existing biofuels programs such as PM-JIVAN Yojna, SATAT, and GOBARdhan scheme.
- As per IEA, there will be 3.5-5x biofuels growth potential by 2050 due to Net Zero targets, creating a huge opportunity for India.

Formation and Founding Members: The alliance was launched with nine initiating members: India, the US, Brazil, Argentina, Bangladesh, Italy, Mauritius, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates.

GBA Members constitute major producers and consumers of biofuels. USA (52%), Brazil (30%) and India (3%), contribute about 85% share in production and about 81% in consumption of ethanol. 19 countries and 12 international organizations have already agreed to join.

G20 Invited Countries supporting GBA: Bangladesh, Singapore, Mauritius, UAE

Non-G20 supporting GBA: Iceland, Kenya, Guyana, Paraguay, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Finland

International Organizations: World Bank, Asian Development Bank, World Economic Forum, World LPG Organization, UN-Energy for All, UNIDO, Biofutures Platform, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Energy Agency, International Energy Forum, International Renewable Energy Agency, World Biogas Association.

India – Middle East – Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):



A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Governments of India, the US, Saudi Arabia, the European Union, the UAE, France, Germany and Italy to establish the IMEC.

IMEC is part of a broader initiative called the Partnership for Global Infrastructure Investment (PGII).

- The PGII was initially introduced during the G7 summit in the UK in June 2021. PGII aims to finance infrastructure projects in developing countries through a combination of public and private investments.
- IMEC is a significant infrastructure project connecting India, the Middle East, and Europe. The project aims to establish a network of transport corridors, including railways and sea lanes.
- IMEC is seen as a response to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), providing an alternative infrastructure network.

INDIA WILL SOON SEE MOMENTUM FOR HYDROGEN-POWERED VEHICLES IN TRANSPORTATION



“There will be a stronger focus on hydrogen-powered vehicles in India soon, though pure electric technology is in great focus now in alternative fuel space.” –Dr. R. K. Malhotra, President, Hydrogen Association of India.

There are two competitive technologies for zero tailpipe emission – pure electric battery vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, where electricity is generated from hydrogen in a device known as a fuel cell that powers the electric motor, are more energy efficient and up to twice that of internal combustion (IC) engine vehicles and have zero emissions like electric vehicles (EVs).

While EVs are in great focus currently, there will be a momentum for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles with a variety of sources for hydrogen production, quick refuelling time, longer range, fast reducing the overall cost of fuel cells and lower GHG emissions in heavy-duty vehicles. The EV route is viable for two- and three-wheelers. But in cars/taxis and city buses, both pure electric battery vehicles and HFCVs will compete. However, for long-distance inter-State buses and trucks, hydrogen IC engines and/or HFCVs will be the preferred choice. [READ MORE](#)

INDIA PERMITS 75,000 TONNES NON-BASMATI WHITE RICE EXPORTS TO UAE



The Government of India gave a green signal to the export of 75,000 tons of non-basmati white rice to the UAE. The export to UAE will be permitted through National Cooperatives Exports Limited (NCEL). The development comes as India banned the export of non-basmati white rice in order to boost domestic supply amid sticky inflation and the expectation of an erratic monsoon. [READ MORE](#)

HARDEEP SINGH PURI DISCUSSES ENERGY PRICES, COOPERATION, AND PARTNERSHIPS IN ABU DHABI



Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri met with the Secretary General of OPEC, H.E. Haitham al-Ghais, and the CEO of Schlumberger, Olivier Le Peuch, in Abu Dhabi, on the sidelines of ADIPEC 2023 to discuss energy prices, cooperation, and opportunities for stronger partnerships with the growing energy sector in India.

Shri Puri's meeting with H.E. Al-Ghais focused on India's perspective and priorities on energy security and explored ways for mutual cooperation between OPEC and India. India is a major importer of oil from OPEC countries, and Shri Puri has previously called for OPEC to increase production to help stabilize global energy markets.

COMMERCE MINISTER SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL VISITS UAE TO BOOST TRADE AND INVESTMENT



Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Textiles, is on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates. This is his third visit to the UAE as Minister of Commerce and Industry in the last 2 years, highlighting the importance that India attaches to its economic and commercial partnership with the UAE. [READ MORE](#)



Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Sharafuddin Sharaf, Chairman of the UAE-India Business Council (UIBC) and Vice Chairman of Sharaf Group met Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry in Dubai.

Explored avenues for further expanding the company's investments across key sectors in India, especially logistics and infrastructure.

"We have been operating in India for 25 years plus, primarily engaged in the logistics business. We currently manage several inland ports and hold a railway license for container train operations within the Indian Railway system. Presently, we are in the midst of an expansion initiative, planning to establish inland ports at approximately 10 additional locations. We have already acquired four of these locations and are actively pursuing more opportunities. Union Minister Goyal provided invaluable assistance and guidance during our meeting, aiding us in charting our path forward. Our investments in the country stand at 400 million dollars, and with this new expansion, we anticipate committing an additional 250 million dollars to infrastructure development. India remains a top priority for our business expansion due to its promising opportunities." – said **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Sharafuddin Sharaf, Chairman of the UAE-India Business Council (UIBC) and Vice Chairman of Sharaf Group.**



NEWS SNIPPETS

▶ *H.E. Dr. Abdunnasser Jamal Alshaali, UAE Ambassador to India with Founder and Managing Director of Emaar Mr Mohamed Alabbar had a productive meeting with Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterway to discuss potential UAE investments in the maritime sector in India.*



▶ *H.E. Dr. Abdunnasser Jamal Alshaali, UAE Ambassador to India hosted a COP28 roundtable, bringing together some of India's leading experts to discuss the urgent global climate crisis. The UAE is honoured to be hosting COP28 from 30th November to 12th December 2023.*



▶ *H.H. Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal co-chaired the 11th meeting of the UAE-India High Level Joint Task Force on Investments, providing momentum to the robust economic partnership between India and UAE. This demonstrates a commitment to fostering mutual growth, prosperity, and cooperation between the two nations.*



► *The UAE economy will grow by 4.4 per cent in 2024, **according to forecasts by Oxford Economics**. The independent economic advisory firm predicted that growth will be driven by a number of factors, including government initiatives to support economic diversification. Oxford Economics' chief economist expected continued growth in the real estate market and a strong recovery in travel and tourism, with Dubai surpassing pre-pandemic visitor levels by the first half of 2023.*



UIBC ACTIVITIES

JEBEL ALI FREE ZONE (JAFZA) INTERACTIVE SESSION ON 22nd SEPTEMBER 2023, NAGPUR

UIBC along with Vidarbha Industries Association (VIA) organized an exclusive interaction featuring Ms. Ebtesam Alkaabi, Head of Sales, JAFZA in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. During the session, Ms. Alkaabi, delivered a comprehensive presentation on JAFZA including the latest developments (at JAFZA) in terms of innovation for companies interested in setting up their manufacturing base, warehousing facilities or availing incubation office/services at JAFZA. Furthermore, she highlighted how a company's presence in JAFZA could facilitate access to global markets. The response was overwhelming, and UIBC is planning another session in Nagpur.



Talk of JAFZA sales head at VIA tomorrow

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK
NAGPUR

Vidarbha Industries Association (VIA) has organised an interactive session of head of sales, Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) Ebtessam Alkaabi with industrial community of Orange City on September 22 from 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm at VIA Boardroom, first floor Udyog Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

She will make a detailed presentation about JAFZA for companies interested in setting up their manufacturing base or warehousing facilities or even availing the incubation services at JAFZA, in addition to the business opportunities available there.

The talk is being organised under The UAE - India Business Council (UIBC) which is the official joint business chamber set up by both the governments for promoting

economic synergies between the UAE and India.

UIBC was formally launched by UAE Minister for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and late foreign minister of India Sushma Swaraj during 11th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting held on September 3 2015 in New Delhi.

UAE major companies like DP World, Sharaf Group, Lulu, Etihad Airways, First Abu Dhabi Bank, Emirates NBD, Emaar, etc. are some of the key members.

The programme is free and members of the association, exporting units, and industrial fraternity can attend the programme, says a press note issued by chairman - VIA EXIM Forum Kaushal Mohta, informs senior Executive officer Rajesh Vaishya.

Details can be obtained from VIA office,

OUR MEMBERS

ARAMEX INDIA UNVEILS CUTTING-EDGE LOGISTICS SOLUTIONS, STRENGTHENING UAE-INDIA TRADE TIES



In the rapidly evolving world of logistics, Aramex India has emerged as a pioneer, revolutionizing the industry with innovative services designed to bridge the gap between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The company's recent initiatives include time-definite international express solutions, air consoles from major Indian cities, and upcoming plans to expand into ocean services.

Time-Definite International Express Solutions: Shaping the Future of Cross-Border Logistics

Aramex India's introduction of time-definite International express solutions has reshaped cross-border logistics, enhancing trade relations between India and the UAE. Such solutions have earned the company a stellar reputation for its unwavering commitment to timely deliveries, meeting the demands of its B2B and B2C customers across different industries.

Air Consoles from Mumbai and Delhi: Enhancing Connectivity

The strategically positioned air consoles in Mumbai and Delhi have further bolstered Aramex India's capabilities. These consoles serve as vital hubs for air cargo shipments to the UAE, offering clients greater flexibility and accelerated delivery options. This development underscores Aramex India's determination to meet the growing demand for logistics solutions in the region.



Ocean Services on the Horizon: Expanding Possibilities

Aramex India's ambitions reach beyond air freight services. The company is actively preparing to replicate its success by upgrading its ocean freight offerings, with the aim to reach higher cost-efficiencies and to offer its customers more comprehensive logistics solutions, solidifying Aramex India's position as a logistics leader in the region.

Seamless Omni-Channel Experiences in the UAE and India

Recognizing the significance of omni-channel retailing, Aramex India will collaborate with retailers in India and the UAE to streamline logistics. For Indian sellers, Aramex India will offer Free Zone Fulfillment in the UAE, allowing them to store inventory in Dubai and pay customs duty upon selling in the UAE, making Dubai their hub for the Middle East and Africa markets. Simultaneously, Aramex India will support UAE-based sellers entering India, providing fulfillment services in key Indian cities and efficient transportation. Operating within UAE free zones, the company will simplify import/export processes, offering cost advantages. Retailers will be able to store inventory in these zones for faster order fulfillment. Aramex will also ensure efficient distribution within the UAE and India, facilitating prompt product deliveries across various channels.

Aramex India's journey to becoming a prominent logistics player showcases a commitment to innovation, efficiency, and customer-centricity. Through their time-definite International express solutions, air consoles, and ocean freight offerings, they have significantly strengthened the trade relationship between India and the UAE. As Aramex India continues to expand its services and partnerships, it is poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of logistics within the region and beyond.

For reaching out to Aramex for business inquiries, please email at sales_india@aramex.com

SECTOR IN FOCUS

STRENGTHENING BILATERAL TRADE: HOW INDIA AND THE UAE CAN BOOST RETAIL SECTOR



India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) share a robust economic relationship, with both countries being key players in the global retail sector. The potential for growth and collaboration between these two nations in the retail industry is immense. In this article, we will explore how India and the UAE can work together to increase import and export activities in the retail sector, benefiting both nations.

Leveraging India's Manufacturing Strength

India has emerged as a manufacturing powerhouse, offering a wide array of products ranging from textiles and garments to electronics and consumer goods. The UAE, on the other hand, is a hub for trade and logistics. By capitalizing on India's manufacturing capabilities and the UAE's strategic location, the two countries can create a win-win situation for their retail sectors. The UAE can serve as a vital transit point for Indian goods to reach global markets. This not only reduces transportation costs but also enhances the speed of delivery, making Indian products more competitive on the international stage.

Exploring E-commerce Synergies

E-commerce has revolutionized the retail industry globally, and both India and the UAE have witnessed remarkable growth in this sector. Collaborative efforts in e-commerce can open up new avenues for imports and exports. Indian e-commerce giants can partner

with UAE-based companies to reach Middle Eastern consumers, while UAE businesses can explore the vast Indian market.

Strengthening Business Relationships

Building strong business relationships is essential for the growth of any sector. India and the UAE can foster closer ties between retail businesses through trade delegations, business conferences, and exhibitions. These initiatives can facilitate networking opportunities and knowledge exchange, leading to increased trade activities.

Addressing Regulatory Challenges

Navigating through regulatory challenges can be a barrier to trade. Both countries can work together to simplify customs procedures, reduce tariffs, and eliminate trade barriers. A comprehensive trade agreement can provide a framework for addressing these challenges and promoting retail sector imports and exports.

Focusing on Sustainable Retail



Sustainability is a growing concern in the retail industry. Both India and the UAE can collaborate to promote sustainable practices in manufacturing, packaging, and logistics. This not only aligns with global trends but also appeals to conscious consumers, creating a niche for eco-friendly products in both markets.

Exploring New Product Categories

Diversification is key to expanding retail sector imports and exports. Indian retailers can explore UAE's demand for niche products like traditional Indian clothing, jewellery, and handicrafts. Likewise, UAE businesses can tap into India's growing appetite for luxury goods and electronics.

Technology Integration



Incorporating advanced technologies like blockchain and AI can enhance supply chain efficiency and traceability. India's technology expertise and the UAE's financial resources can synergize to create state-of-the-art retail solutions that benefit both countries.

Cultural Exchange

Understanding local preferences and cultural nuances is vital for success in the retail sector. Cultural exchange programs and market research initiatives can help Indian retailers tailor their products to suit UAE consumers and vice versa.

Promoting Tourism

Tourism plays a significant role in retail, as tourists often contribute to a considerable portion of retail sales. Joint tourism promotions can attract more visitors to both countries, increasing retail opportunities.

The retail sectors in India and the UAE have immense potential to boost import and export activities by leveraging each other's strengths. Collaboration in manufacturing, e-commerce, sustainable practices, technology integration, and cultural exchange can pave the way for a prosperous partnership. By addressing regulatory challenges and strengthening business relationships, both nations can enjoy the economic benefits of a thriving retail sector. The time is ripe for India and the UAE to join hands and seize the opportunities that lie ahead in the retail industry.

UPCOMING EVENTS



[03 – 05 Nov 2023](#)



[07 Nov 2023](#)



[01 – 02 Dec 2023](#)



[10 – 12 Jan 2024](#)



Abetting UAE-India Alliance

UAE-India Business Council (UIBC) is the only Official Joint Business Chamber set up by both the Governments for promoting economic synergy between the UAE and India. UIBC was formally launched by His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister for Foreign Affairs and Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs of India during 11th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on 3rd September 2015 in New Delhi.

UIBC aims to create an inclusive bilateral trade environment between UAE and India by linking businesses from both the countries and supporting long term commercial partnerships for developing strategic relationships between businesses and government officials from both the countries.

UIBC acts towards promoting investment promotion and business collaborations / JVs between UAE and Indian businesses by organizing B2B networking meetings, policy forums and investment focused events, delegations, and other facilities required to succeed. It serves to provide a voice and visibility to the various stakeholders in UAE-India economic space and work towards promoting trade and investment, job creation, innovation, inclusion, and entrepreneurship between the UAE and India.

OUR MISSION

- ❖ To act as a catalyst engaged in exchange of ideas intended to promote the economic synergy between the UAE and India
- ❖ To serve as the direct link between business and government leaders of both the countries
- ❖ To work towards providing the critical first 'home-away-from-home' with a network of Government, Policy Makers, Business Leaders, and Industry contacts supported by highly skilled secretariat
- ❖ Providing a voice and visibility to the various stakeholders in UAE-India economic space
- ❖ To work towards promoting trade and investment, job creation, innovation, inclusion, and entrepreneurship between the UAE and India



UAE-India Business Council (UIBC)

11th floor, One Horizon Center
Golf course Road, DLF Phase V, Sector- 43
Gurugram – 122002
T: 124 4980185
E: office@uipc.org ; uipc@uipc.org
W: www.uipc.org



[SUBSCRIBE HERE](#)