

For Immediate Release

KenTrade Signs MoU with KIFWA

Nairobi Tuesday September 22, 2015..... The Trade Logistics Industry in Kenya is set for a major boost following agreement signed in Nairobi between the state agency KenTrade and the

The memorandum of understanding with KIFWA which is the sole representatives of clearing and forwarding agents formalized a collaboration that is geared at improving business climate in Kenya and turning around Kenya's poor ranking in the annual World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index.

The annual World Bank Report on Ease of Doing Business Ranking is expected to be released sometimes next month and ahead of the World Trade Ministerial Meeting and the quarterly Regional Heads of State Summit on Northern Corridor. KenTrade will also be commemorating the national rollout of the Kenya TradeNet System on October 31st 2013.

The significance of this event today is in its outcome which is expected to have a bearing on the aforementioned either as a reference or indicator to traction that Kenya is making with Trade Facilitation. In the last ranking, Kenya dropped from position 152 in 2014 to 153 in 2015 in the trading across borders global index. We are confident that the ongoing robust Port reforms including the cross border trade automation which fortunately enjoy tremendous goodwill and support of regional partner states will reverse this global ranking.

KIFWA and KenTrade today demonstrated commitment to promote trade climate in Kenya through deliberate efforts to facilitate the import and export trade by ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in the cargo clearance process.

KenTrade's Acting CEO Amos Wangora signed the MoU with the national Chairman of KIFWA Mr Auni Bhajji who is also the regional director of Bollore Africa Logistics Regional Director in an event also witnessed by the World Bank Group representative Mr Mpelwa Sichilima.

The purpose The MoU will enable the KenTrade and KIFWA to enter into a non-exclusive, non-legally binding, collaborative relationship. This relationship is aimed at furthering the common interests of the two Parties in the future.

It seeks to foster a collaborative framework between KenTrade and KIFWA with a view to benefiting from each other's initiatives and working procedures. This includes on trade automation that is being implemented by KenTrade and empowerment of members of KIFWA.

"I have no doubt in my mind that the future of the trade logistic industry looks more promising than ever before with this step into formalization of the long cherished relationship between the two parties," said Mr Wangora.

Mr Wangora said KenTrade values KIFWA because of its strategic role in cross border trade facilitation. Its membership is arguably the link between the Importers/Exporters one hand and Permit Issuance Agencies on the other ideally makes the most significant stakeholders.

"You essentially have greater stake in the Single Window System because you bear the blame from the Importer /exporter and also personal lose not mentioning reputation damage if cargo is not cleared on time or lost because of inefficiencies. The Government expect the use of the system to improve its global ranking in the World Bank "Doing Business Index" which currently stands at position 136 out of 189 globally"

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About KenTrade

The Kenya Trade Network Agency (KENTRADE) is a State Corporation under the National Treasury mandated to among other things, implement, operationalize and manage the Kenya National Electronic Single Window System as well as other trade facilitation initiatives. The Single Window System (also dubbed as the KenyaTradeNet System) is an electronic platform which integrates electronic systems international trade transactions with an aim of simplifying clearance processes of cargo passing through Kenyan borders. Additional info at www.kentrade.go.ke

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