



IORA Media Delegation to India

14 NOVEMBER 2017 NEW DELHI

A Retrospect

Programme

1000-1010 hours	Welcome Remarks by Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia , Chair-FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy & former Indian Ambassador
1010-1015 hours	Amb Bhatia invited representatives from India's side to give introduction and short remarks (in the following sequence) - Amb Anup Mudgal , Member-FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy & Former Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius Prof S K Mohanty , Member-FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy & Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) Ms Archana Garodia Gupta , Past President-FLO & Owner, Touchstone, Gems & Jewelry Mr Vijay Sardana , Vice President & Head – Food Security, Agribusinesses, Policies & Projects, UPL Limited
1015-1020 hours	Amb Bhatia requested representatives from India's side to give introduction and short remarks (in the following sequence) - Mr Saibal De , Member-FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy & Director & CEO, IL&FS Maritime Infrastructure Company Limited. Mr Sudhir Sharma , Director (Exploration), ONGC VIDESH LTD Mr Mohan Shukla , Chief - External Affairs, BHARTI ENTERPRISES LTD Mr Ajay Muttreja , Ex-CEO and Member of Board of Directors, Tecnova India
1020-1100 hours	Interactive Session
1100-1110 hours	Remarks by Dr Sanjaya Baru , Secretary General, FICCI
1110 hours	Group Photo
1115 hours	End of programme



Special remarks were delivered by Dr Sanjaya Baru, Secretary General, FICCI who stressed that IORA is one of the most dynamic regions that connect emerging countries of Asia, Africa as well as Australia. He also expressed FICCI's full commitment to build on Government of India's policy in the Indian Ocean.

He spoke about FICCI's Task Force on Blue Economy which released a knowledge paper-Harnessing Business Potential for India Inc and International Partners and specifically spoke about the need to improve ship building capabilities within the country. Having been Editor of main newspapers in India- Financial Express, Times of India, Business Standard and Economic Times, he spoke about the importance of media to the IORA media delegation members. In order to create knowledge and goodwill in the region, the role of media was important as stressed by Dr Baru.

FICCI, the Business Secretariat in India of IORA-Indian Ocean Rim Association welcomed a media delegation from IORA countries for an exclusive interaction on the 14th of November 2017 at Federation House. The Indian Ocean Rim Association builds a civilization linkage between people of 21 countries with diverse and rich cultures. This region has 2.7 billion people accounting for 35 percent of the world population and accommodates 70 percent of world trade forming a key trade route especially for the distribution of oil and gas. The IORA region boasts of 9% of world GDP, 12% of global exports and 18% of global investment flows.

The interaction was chaired by **Amb Rajiv Bhatia**, Chair of the FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy and Former Indian Ambassador & High Commissioner to Kenya, Myanmar, Mexico and South Africa. Amb Bhatia welcomed the IORA media delegation to India and commended the wonderful initiative undertaken between IORA, Indian Authorities and FICCI. He mentioned that FICCI will organise a **Business Conference and Exhibition on Blue Economy** in 2018. He highlighted the importance of investing in and engaging young media active in IORA region.

In his opening remarks Amb Anup Mudgal, member of the FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy and Former Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius said that private sector involvement is essential to realise the business potential of Blue Economy within IORA. This should be done sustainably in keeping with the core philosophy of Blue Economy.

A cross section of representatives from industry and academia joined the interaction from India including Prof **S K Mohanty**, Member of FICCI Task Force on Blue Economy and Professor- Research and Information System for Developing Countries



(RIS), **Ms Archana Garodia Gupta**, Former President-FICCI FLO & Owner, Touchstone, Gems & Jewelry, **Mr Sudhir Sharma**, Director (Exploration), ONGC Videsh Ltd, **Mr Vijay Sardana**, Vice President and Head- Food Security, Agribusinesses, Policies & Projects-UPL Ltd, **Mr Saibal De**, Director & CEO, IL&FS Maritime Infrastructure Company Limited, **Mr Mohan Shukla**, Chief - External Affairs, Bharti Enterprises LTD and **Mr Ajay Muttreja**, Ex-CEO and Member of Board of Directors, Tecnova India.

Mr Sudhir Sharma stressed how Indian Ocean with all its resources is yet to be explored. **Mr Saibal De** discussed how innovation will play a key role in improving business models within IORA region. **Prof S K Mohanty** stressed the need for deeper trade integration in IORA and reassessment of trade potential within the region. **Mr Mohan Shukla** stressed that capacity building initiatives of IORA region countries is possible through technology transfer. **Mr Vijay Sardana** claimed that food and agriculture should be priority sectors for the IORA region. All the Indian speakers welcomed the IORA delegation and highlighted the importance role played by media in creating an IORA identity within the minds of people by writing about shared history and goals for peace, prosperity, sustainable and inclusive development.

Ms. Daniëlla Smit from the IORA Secretariat inquired about women’s empowerment in India and how that could be reflected in the IORA region especially Africa. Ms Archana Garodia Gupta stressed on improving the female human capital dividend within the IORA countries. Other issues discussed during the interaction include skill development and technology trading, food and agriculture focus, improving tourist inflows and outflows within the IORA region and exploration of gas deposits within the IORA coastline in a sustainable manner.



The delegation included the following media personnel- including members of print and electronic media including radio and TV from IORA countries. The print and electronic media includes: The Western Australian, National Radio and TV Office, RRI Voice of Indonesia, Iran Daily Kenya Broadcasting Company, Malaysian National News Agency, Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, Journal Mozambique, Oman News Agency, Seychelles NATION News Daily SNTV, Media Liaison, International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa; Irida Lankadipa Newspaper, Sri Lanka and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tanzania.


