NAMIBIAN DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER ATTENDS THE GLOBAL FUND MEETING IN NEW DELHI (FEBRUARY 5 -9, 2019)
Ms. Juliet Kavetuna, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services visited New Delhi, India during February 5 - 9, 2019 to attend the Preparatory Meeting of the Global Fund’s Sixth Replenishment (2020 - 2022) organized by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

NAMIBIAN COMPANIES PARTICIPATED IN INDIA SOFT 2019 IN HYDERABAD, INDIA
Three (3) Namibian companies participated in INDIA SOFT 2019 during February 4 - 5, 2019 in Hyderabad, India. The event was organized and sponsored by the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) with the support of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Government of India.

VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER OF ALGERIA TO INDIA (JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 01, 2019)
Mr. Abdelkader Messahel, Foreign Minister of People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria was undertaking a bilateral visit to India during January 30 - February 01, 2019.

During the visit, he called on President of India, Mr. Ram Nath Kovind and held bilateral discussions with Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister on a wide range of issues between India and Algeria which include defence and security, fertilizers, space cooperation, Counter Terrorism, Education and ITEC.

Also during the visit, two documents were signed: (i) Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP), (ii) Agreement on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official/service passports with Algeria.

VISIT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER TO MOROCCO (FEBRUARY 17-18, 2019)
External Affairs Minister, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj visited the Kingdom of Morocco during February 17-18, 2019.
During the visit, External Affairs Minister interacted with her counterpart, Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation of Morocco.

She also called on His Majesty King Mohammed VI, King of Morocco, H.E. Mr. Saad Dine El Otmani, Head of Government and Habib El Maliki, President of Chamber of Representatives, Parliament.

Three MoUs for cooperation in the areas of Counter Terrorism, Housing & Human Settlements and Youth Matters were signed during the visit. External Affairs Minister also interacted with the Indian community in Rabat.

**INDIAN ENERGY FIRM INVESTS IN NIGERIA’S POWER SECTOR**

Feedback Energy Distribution Company (FEDCO), an Indian-based technology firm launched an indigenous high-tech Information Technology (IT) solutions system in Nigeria.

Dilip Kumar, its Chief Projects Officer, announced recently that FEDCO had partnered the Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED) with focus to tackling operational requirements in the nation’s electricity distribution sector. FEDCO is a global player in IT based energy solutions and is currently the leading supplier of electricity in India.

**DUTY FREE TARIFF PREFERENCE SCHEME (DFTP) OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

India announced the DFTP Scheme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the year 2008. India became the first developing country to extend this facility to Least Developing Countries (LDCs).

In order to expand trade with Africa, India amended its Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme to cover around 96 per cent of the tariff lines in April 2014. The Scheme was announced to give support to the LDCs in their trade initiatives.
As of October 2017, 34 LDCs had become beneficiaries to the Scheme, these countries include the following; Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Haiti, Yemen, Guinea, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, and Togo. More than half of the beneficial LDCs are African countries.

**SALLY BOSS MANDAM PARTICIPATED IN KUMBH MELA-2019 IN INDIA**

Ms. Hilma Selly Hendrina Ephraim (popularly known as Sally Boss Madam), a famous Namibian singer, attend the Kumbh Mela-2019 event in Kumbh, Prayagraj as a representative of Namibia during February 21 - 23 2019.

During the visit, along with other foreign delegates, she met and had a dinner with the External Affairs Minister of India, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj. Her visit was sponsored by the Government of India through the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR).

**DTI TAKES SA COMPANIES TO INDIA ON INVESTMENT MISSION**

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Government of South Africa said that it would provide a group of companies with an opportunity to explore trade and investment opportunities in India when it leads the Outward Trade and Investment Mission to New Delhi and Mumbai during March 4-8, 2019.

The DTI said the purpose of the mission was to increase the trade of value-added goods and investment between South Africa and India. The mission will comprise of trade and investment seminars, business-to-business meetings and site visits. Companies which will participate in the mission are operating in the agro-processing, defence equipment, electro-technical and leather sectors.

According to Davies, the mission will assist South African companies to gain entry into the Indian market. He added that the mission was also part of the DTI’s Integrated National Export Strategy (Export 2030) which was the country's blueprint towards ensuring export promoting industrialization to spur economic growth.
Although South Africa enjoys a positive trade balance, the country’s exports to India are still dominated by primary commodities in the form of coal and to an extent gold while imports from India are mostly manufactured products. This indicates a critical need and an opportunity for South Africa to increase the export of the country’s manufactured products.

**INDIA TO PARTICIPATE AT THE WORLD EXPO 2020 IN DUBAI**

India will participate at the World Expo 2020 to be held in Dubai during October 20, 2020 – April 10, 2021. FICCI will be the industry partner of the Government of India at the World Expo 2020.

The Overall broader theme will sit on three sub-themes-Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability.

India’s showcasing will be dynamic, presenting a constantly moving exposition over the 6 months starting October 20, 2020 – April 10, 2021. India’s Pavilion will be a permanent structure.

Industry and the Government of Namibia are encouraged to connect with FICCI to draw up joint programmes, investor and buyers meet as well as Ministerial meetings, covering both B2B and B2G. It will also be an opportunity to plan out G2Gs as all countries participating are bound to have senior Ministers’ visit at different times covering the exposition.

**UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA**

The 7th Edition of India’s Mega Pharma Exhibition: iPHEX-2019 which was initially scheduled during April 10-12, 2019 has been rescheduled to June 10 - 12, 2019. iPHEX-2019 exhibition is being organized by the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) at Helipad Exhibition Ground in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. Pharmexcil is inviting manufacturers of formulations (they can be potential importer of APIs / raw materials), Importers of Finished drug / Formulations: Credible Importers of repute who have been doing business with Indian companies or willing to explore business possibilities, Drug Regulatory officials, Senior Officials from Public Procurement Authorities and Media / associations. Final invite will be selection based as per business and company profiles / recommendation. Pharmexcil with the support of Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India, would be bearing the to and fro economy class airfare (part / full) and hospitality to select importers / business visitors and top drug regulators. The interested business delegates will have to register (mandatory) online for onward processing of applications and final confirmation on selection. The link for online registration is http://iphex-india.com/hostedbuyer/hosted_buyer_agreement. For further communication please email at rbsm@iphex-india.com.