Creating a Shared Future
For Entrepreneurs and Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
In the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

First Time Ever, the United Nations
Opens its Doors on Saturday to Hold a Special Event
Dedicated to Entrepreneurs and SMEs, in Partnership
with the International Council for Small Business (ICSB)

Saturday, May 12, 2018
The United Nations
United Nations HQ
New York, NY USA
The global outlook has changed dramatically for entrepreneurs, start-ups, Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) worldwide. They now are the central economic topic for many governments around the world.

Governments are moving rapidly to shore up support for entrepreneurs, start-ups, and MSMEs through new initiatives. Policies are being formulated to help integrate entrepreneurs and MSMEs in the economic formula and to help equip them for the global integrated economy.

Yet, direct challenges from many fronts are increasing for entrepreneurs and MSMEs. These challenges include disruption by artificial intelligence, lack of skilled workers, and retail and service consolidation. The balance between the country’s economic well-being and social integration continues to widen as evident by the lack of inclusiveness of many groups within the economy. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are intended to both identify and kick-start much needed action on issues and in areas that are essential to the very future of both our planet and people. Considering that the SDGs effectively cover every human activity and habitat across the world, the role of MSMEs in achieving these goals needs to be further articulated and enhanced.

The launch of the successful MSMEs International Day was a powerful reinforcement of their global impact. However, divergent initiatives, programs, messages, and policies fragment the potential for a global movement led by MSMEs. This forum will lay the foundation for a common global narrative on how MSMEs can make their major impact in leading and achieving the SDGs.
Saturday, May 12, 2018 | Agenda

9:00 – 10:00
Security Check-in at the United Nations Main Entrance

10:15 – 11:15
Opening Ceremony:
Presenter: Ayman El Tarabishy, Executive Director, International Council for Small Business (ICSB)

Guests Speakers:
• Mohammd Eghaas, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the UN
• Mohamed Erfan Gamaledin, Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, Arab Republic of Egypt
• Khaleed Nasser Abdullah Al-Roudan, Minister of Commerce and Industry, State of Kuwait
• Alejandro Gonzalez, Chair of the OECD Working Party on SMEs and Entrepreneurship
• Brian Brault, Chairman of the Global Board of Directors for the Entrepreneurs Organization

11:15 – 12:45
Plenary 1: The Need for MSMEs to Support the SDGs
Presenter: Ayman El Tarabishy, Executive Director, International Council for Small Business (ICSB)

• Peter Cazamias, Associate Administrator for the Office of International Trade, Small Business Administration, USA
• Mariano Mayer, National Secretary for Entrepreneurs and Small & Medium Enterprises, Argentina
• Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt
• Dato Hafsaah, Chief Executive Officer, Small and Medium Enterprises Corporations (SME), Malaysia
• Jose Ricardo Veiga, Secretary of Small & Medium Enterprises, Brazil
• Cardinal P. Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Vatican City State
• Oh Joon, Ambassador, Former President of ECOSOC, and Former Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN

12:45 – 1:45 Lunch

14:00 – 14:30
Reporting Callings of Working Sessions on Guiding Principles to Support MSMEs
Presenter: Ayman El Tarabishy, Executive Director, ICSB

14:30 – 15:30
Plenary 2: The Mayors of the World Unite to Support MSMEs and SDGs
Presenter: Winslow Sargeant, Senior Vice-President of Development, ICSB

Friends and Partners:
• Italy: Cono D’Elia, Mayor of Comune Di Morigerati
• Canada: Régis Labeaume, Mayor of Québec City
• Indonesia: Hastu Wadoyo, Mayor of Kulon Progo
• Stephen Distante, CEO, Vanderbilt Securities, EO Global Ambassador to the UN SDGs and EO New York City Chapter President

15:30 – 16:30
Plenary 3: The Academic Leaders Unite to Support MSMEs
Presenter: Ayman El Tarabishy, Executive Director, ICSB

Guests Speakers:
• Patrick Leahy, President, Wilkes University, USA
• Joe Bloom, President of New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), USA
• Caryn Beck-Dudley, Dean, Santa Clara University Leavey School of Business, USA
• Michel Patry, Director HEC Montreal, The Montreal Business School, Canada
• Rico Baldegger, Director of the Fribourg School of Management (HEG-FR), Switzerland
• Ruben Ascua, Rector, The National University of Rafaela, Argentina
• Julie Goonewardene, Associate Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Strategic Investment, The University of Texas System, USA
• Khalid Shams M A Al-Abdulqader, Dean, College of Business and Economics, Qatar University
• Shelby Scarbrough, Founder of Practical Protocol and EO Global President (2007-2008)
• Susan Lehrman, Dean, Rowan University, USA

16:30 – 17:30
Plenary 4: Organizations Unite to Support MSMEs
Presenter: Winslow Sargeant, Senior Vice-President of Development, ICSB

Supporting Organizations:
• Amazon, Inc: Abby Daniell, Latin America, Canada and Caribbean Public Sector Amazon Web Services
• Tatweer Misr: Ahmed Shalaby, CEO and Managing Director
• WARP: Laura Heisler, Director of Programming and Director of Outreach (Morgridge Institute for Research)
• EO Global Board Member and CÌMx: Software: Kristin McLane, CEO

17:30 – 18:00
MSMEs and Humane Entrepreneurship – A Way Forward
Presenter: Ayman El Tarabishy, Executive Director, ICSB
Co-Chairs: Geralyn McClure Franklin, President-Elect of ICSB, Jeffrey Alves, Past-President of ICSB, George Solomon, Editor of JSBM and Past-President of ICSB

Friends and Partners:
• Kichan Kim, Past-President, ICSB
• Ahmed Osman, Senior Vice-President, ICSB
• Roberto Parente, Professor, Salerno University, Italy
• Winslow Sargeant, SVI of Development, ICSB

18:00 End of Forum
On April 6, 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution recognizing the crucial role Micro-, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) play in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Resolution (A/71/279) designates June 27 as “Micro-, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Day”. With support from ICSB, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the UN authored the resolution that was presented to and negotiated with all UN member states. The resolution was co-sponsored by 54 member states, representing over 5 billion people. Since the adoption of the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals Agenda, all countries have been working for its implementation, which aims to ensure that every actor can contribute in the best possible way.

On May 11, 2017, ICSB held a Summit at the United Nations to commemorate the passage of the resolution. The summit examined MSMEs have the potential to make a long-lasting positive impact on global development needs, as the engine for economic growth and job creation, which is estimated to account for two out of three net new jobs created worldwide.

In attendance of the ICSB 2017 ICSB Summit at the United Nations were as follows:

- HE Linda McMahon, SBA Administrator, United States of America
- HE Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt
- HE Mariano Mayer, National Secretary for Entrepreneurs and Small & Medium Enterprises, Argentina Republic
- Dr. Kerry Healey, President, Babson College
- Dr. Patrick Leahy, President, Wilkes University
- Dr. Joel Bloom, President, New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Dr. Nariman Farvardin, President, Stevens Institute of Technology
- Dr. Ruben Ascuá, Rector, National University of Rafaela, Argentina
- Ms. Julie Goonewardene, Associate Vice Chancellor, The University of Texas System
- Ms. Caryn Beck-Dudley, Dean, Santa Clara University’s Leavey School of Business
- Dr. Katia Passerini, Dean, St. John’s University
- HE Mr. Prince Constantijn Van Oranje, The Netherlands
- HE Mr. Martin García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations
- HE Mr. Mohamed Erfan Gamaledin, Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, Arab Republic of Egypt
- Dr. Luca Iandoli, President, International Council for Small Business
- Mr. Michael Falk, General Counsel, Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation
- Dr. Patrice Harris, Chairman of the Board, American Medical Association
- Dr. Ahmed Shalaby, Managing Director, Tatweer Misr
- Mr. Harry Alford, President, National Black Chamber of Commerce
- Ms. Caitlin Cain, President, World Trade Center, New Orleans, LA