



## Annual Report 2020

### Sponsored By



# ICC Syria President Foreword

Ladies and Gentlemen

Board Members of International Chamber of Commerce Syria,  
Members of International Chamber of Commerce Syria,



**It** is my pleasure to present to you the annual report of the Syrian International Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC Syria) for 2020.

We had in that year to face, as in previous years, multiple challenges. But it was also a year full of activities that enabled the Syrian Business Community to get acquainted with the work of the ICC.

We also at the same time conveyed to the wider international community, through our participation in various conferences and commissions organized by ICC headquarters, a feel of the many challenges and issue that confronted our local chamber and its members.

We all know that the Syrian Business Community has been vibrant, despite those difficulties. We are all well aware of the fact that our members (liberal professions, business women, and business men) are determined to preserve our legacy of business traditions and practices as well as our social role, this in spite of the difficult economic environment prevailing and the impact of the corona virus spread that affected both local and global economic activities.

In these circumstances, the Syrian National Committee of the ICC, continued to engage with the national stakeholders, as well as on the level of the International Chamber of Commerce, through our participation in the international conferences, and the various commissions of the ICC to make the voice of the Syrian professionals and the Syrian business community heard during the discussions of the various global business issues dealt by the ICC, such as diversity, global governance and responsible business; and last but not least, in calling for the support of the Syrian private sector, which is an important vector for the reconstruction of our beloved country.

We, ICC Syria have also organized a number of activities and conferences in various fields such as training in Incoterms 2020 rules and Effective Administrative and Communication Skills, always in the objective of spreading and raising awareness amongst our members (especially the youth) of the ICC advocacy work for responsible and ethical business conduct.

It has been my great privilege to join my colleagues of ICC Syria board in supervising and/or participating in the activities that we describe in our report for 2020 and look very much forward to continuing to work together in the upcoming years.

**Naji Chaoui**  
**President - ICC Syria**

# About ICC Syria



The Syrian National Committee is part of the International Chamber of Commerce since 1987 and one of over 130 National Committees around the world; ICC Syria adapts and works on achieving ICC Mission and Vision by applying and implementing the updates of global business environment, which lead to maintain the positive impact in international trade.



## ICC Mission:

We Make Business Work for Everyone, Every day, Everywhere.

## ICC Vision:

We Enable Business Worldwide to Secure Peace, Prosperity and Opportunity for All.



INTERNATIONAL  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

The world business organization

WE MAKE BUSINESS WORK FOR

EVERYONE, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE



# Activities of International Chamber of Commerce Syria

## • National Activities

### 1. Training on Incoterms®2020 Rules

6th -7th July 2020 at ICC Syria Premises - Damascus, Syria

ICC Syria held the training for the groups from Al Badia Cement Company and Metal Manufacturing Company MMC Hadid on Monday and Tuesday 6 -7 July 2020 at ICC Syria Premises - Damascus, Syria.

The training provided by ICC Syria Incoterms®2020 trainer Mouna Kiwan.

The revised Incoterms® rules which entered into force on 1 January 2020 featuring updates to the renowned set of International Commercial Terms that define the responsibilities of buyers and sellers operating in the international trade system.



### 2. Training on Incoterms®2020 Rules

8th -9th July 2020 at AL-Inaya Drugstore Premises - Damascus, Syria

ICC Syria held the training for the groups from AL-Inaya Drugstore, Chaoui &CO companies and AlSharq Bank Syria, on Tuesday and Wednesday 8-9 July 2020 - Damascus, Syria.

The training provided by ICC Syria Incoterms®2020 trainer Mouna Kiwan.



### 3. ICC Syria Annual General Assembly

23rd of September 2020 – Sheraton Damascus Hotel - Damascus, Syria

On Wednesday 23rd of September 2020, International Chamber of Commerce Syria (ICC Syria), held its General Assembly 2020 at Sheraton Damascus Hotel.

United Insurance Company (UIC) exclusively sponsored ICC Syria General Assembly 2020.



The General Assembly opened its work, presided by Mr. Naji Chaoui, Chair of the Committee's Board / Chair of the ordinary General Assembly.

The representatives of the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection attended the meeting.



Mr. Marwan Affaki Chair of the United Insurance Company (UIC), focused during his speech, on the importance of the reactivation of the Insurance Committee, Nationally and Internationally.



### 3. ICC Syria Annual General Assembly

23rd of September 2020 – Sheraton Damascus Hotel - Damascus, Syria

2019 Annual Report was overviewed, in addition to TIR activities.

Mr. Shawki Faitrouni, the Executive Manager (TIR Department) presented TIR activities in Syria.

ICC Syria board member, Mr. Ahmad Haddad, presented the rules of international arbitration.

ICC Syria board member, Mr. Karam Bchara, presented the activities of Banking Committee.



Ms. Mouna Kiwan, ICC Syria Events and Academies Coordinator provided an overview of the ICC Academy, which provides international accredited courses in the fields of trade finance, banking and institutional work.



In addition to information about ICC and ICC Syria Committees such as: Arbitration Committee, Banking Committee, Intellectual Property Committee and Commercial Law and Practices Committee, and Ms. Kiwan mentioned that ICC Syria starts giving the Incoterms®2020 since the official lunching of the amendment terms in the beginning of 2020.

During the Assembly, GA Members approved the accounts of 2019.



## 4. Training on Incoterms®2020 Rules

13-14 October 2020 at ICC Syria Premises - Damascus, Syria

ICC Syria held the training in collaboration with Syrian Business Council SBC, for a group from Byblos Bank Syria.

The training provided by ICC Syria Incoterms®2020 trainer Mouna Kiwan.



## International Activities

### 1. ICC Premises Visit

6th of March 2020, Paris – France

ICC Syria representative Ms. Mouna Kiwan, Coordinator of International Affairs and ICC Syria Events paid a visit to ICC Headquarters in Paris and met with Mrs. Tina Launois, Manager, ICC National Committees and Membership, Global Membership & Services Department.

They discussed the activities held by ICC Syria in the field of international trainings, developments which have been made in the Syrian business community.

In addition to presenting future opportunities, in the fields of ICC National Communities and specialized commission, such as:  
Arbitration, Banking, Insurance, Environment, taxation, customs etc.

which relate to ICC work program.

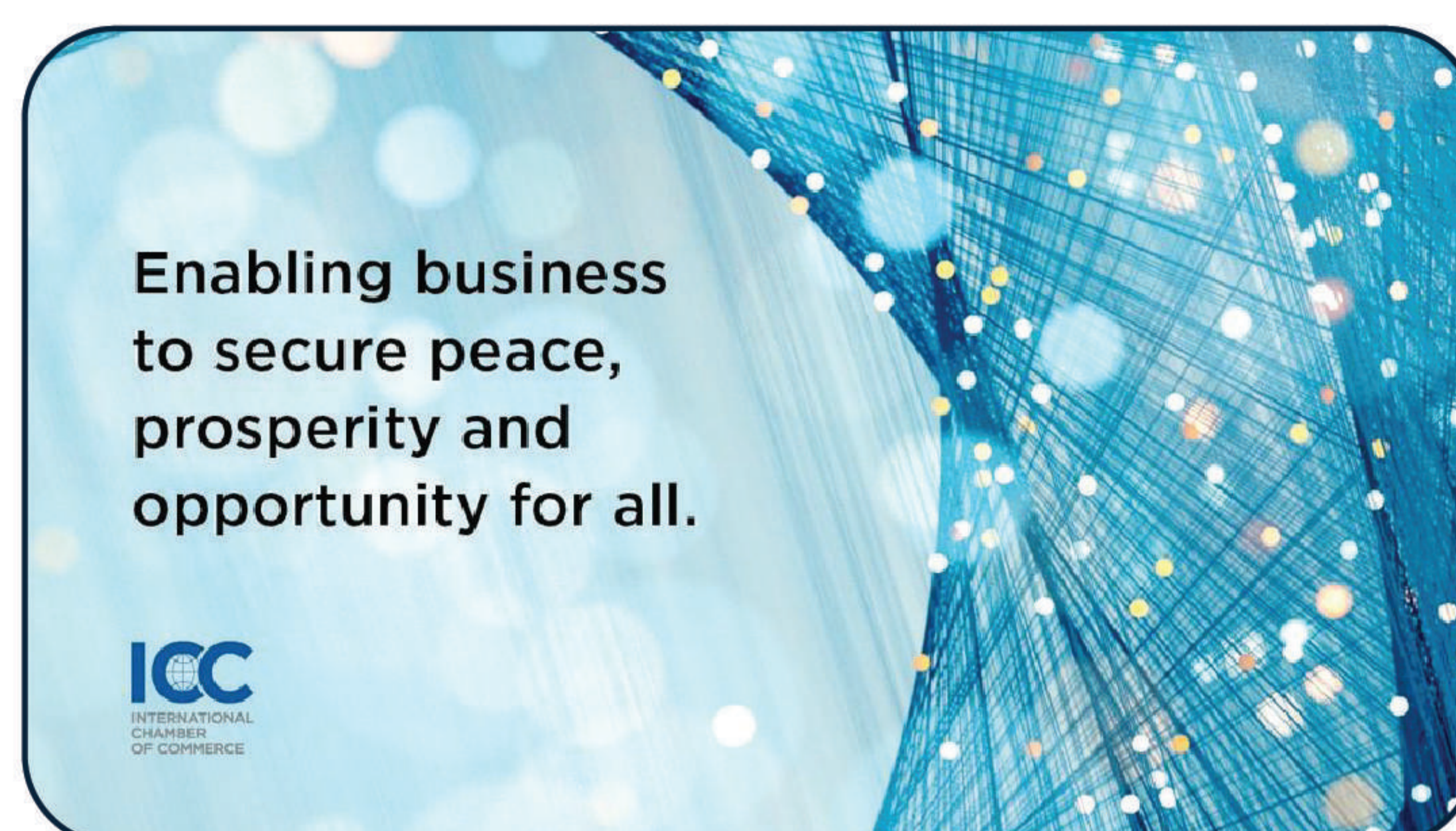


## 2. ICC NCs SGs & ICC Secretary General John Denton 8th of April 2020 – Virtual Meeting

ICC Syria Secretary General Mr. Khalil Sara, participated in the meeting, the topics discussed:

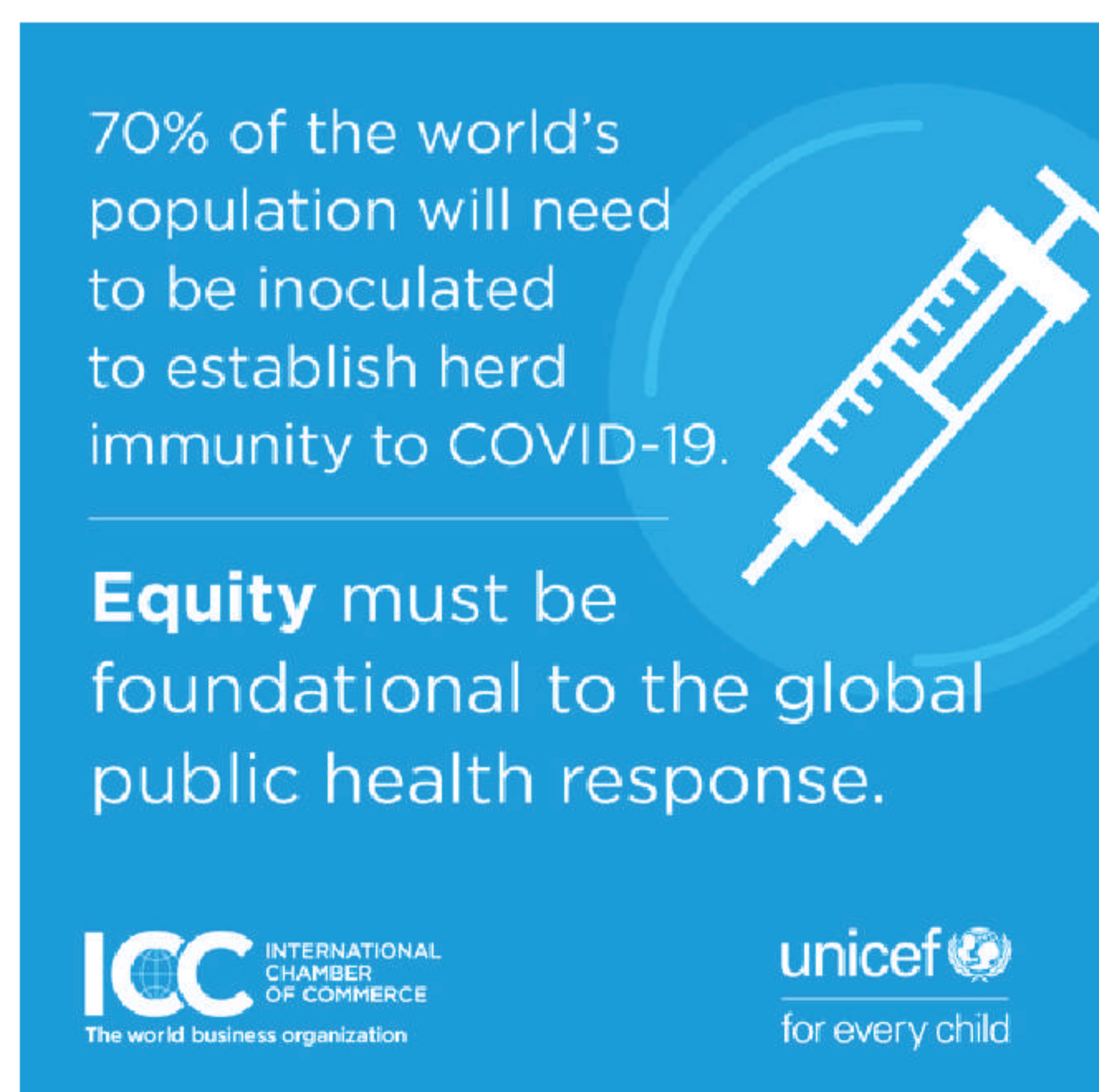
### The report on ICC COVID-19 Response Plan:

- . To Act as the trusted institutional private sector partner to business, governments and international organizations in charting an effective international response to the pandemic.
- . Also deliver business expertise to inform key public policy decisions drawing on the real-world experience of companies throughout the ICC network and ensure our recommendations are grounded in and respond to the challenges faced by companies in our network, in particular micro-small- and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs).



### Survey ICC & WHO

- . ICC works to insure the flow of trusted info regarding global health situation.
- . Mr. Khalil Sara assured that ICC Syria has distributed the survey link to its members via emails and share it with partners and stakeholders via ICC Syria FB and Website.
- . Mr. Sara stressed the fact that sanction make it harder on impacted governments to cope with this hard situation and they need the sanction to be lifted, in order to facilitate the governments' tasks.



### 3. ICC World Council Meeting 23rd of June 2020 – Virtual Meeting

ICC Syria Chairman Mr. Naji Chaoui and Secretary General Mr. Khalil Sara, attended World Council Meeting, which was held on 23rd of June 2020 as a Virtual Meeting.

During the meeting new ICC Chair and Mastercard CEO, Ajay Banga was elected along with the vice chairs and executive board members.

The reports on activities of the International Court of Arbitration and the World Chamber Federation were presented during the meeting.



### ICC Breaking News During 2020

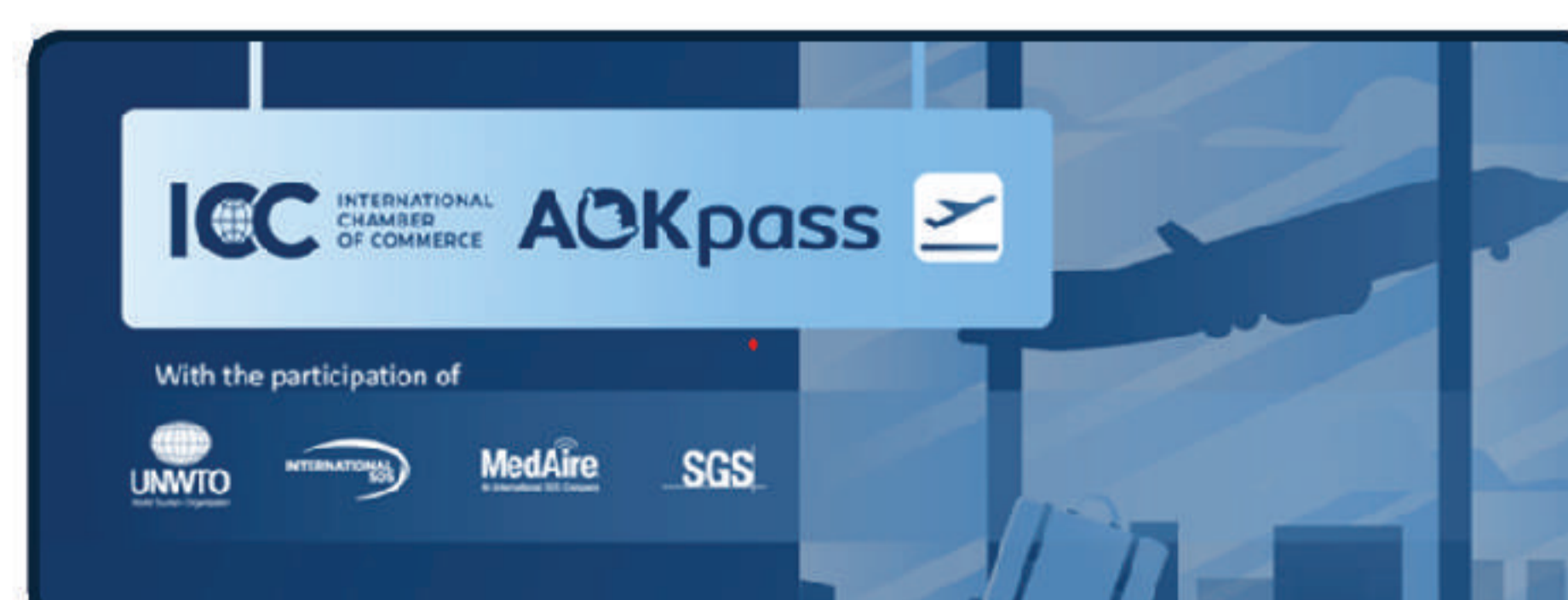
- Mrs. Claudia T. Salomon is on path to becoming the first woman President of the ICC International Court of #Arbitration in its almost 100 years of history.



- ICC AOKpass

ICC successful electronic verification tool to help restore travel.

ICC worked to ensure that vaccines will be rolled out on a global + equitable basis and are piloting the ICC #AOKPass to ensure that those vaccinated can store a digital copy of their COVID-19 compliance status wherever they go.



# BUSINESSMED Events



## 1. Fourth Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) - Social Dialogue Forum 6th – 7th of October 2020 - Virtual Meeting

ICC Syria Coordinator of International Affairs and ICC Syria Events, attended The meeting, which was organized around the following six sessions:

- Challenges for Social Dialogue – International perspective.
- The 2019 4thUfM Ministerial Declaration on Employment and Labour and its Roadmap for implementation.
- Regional Programming of the European Commission.
- The Euro-Mediterranean Labour Market in time of Covid-19.
- Migration and brain-drain: A Role for Social Dialogue.
- The state of play of Social Dialogue on and between the two shores of the Mediterranean and the way forward.

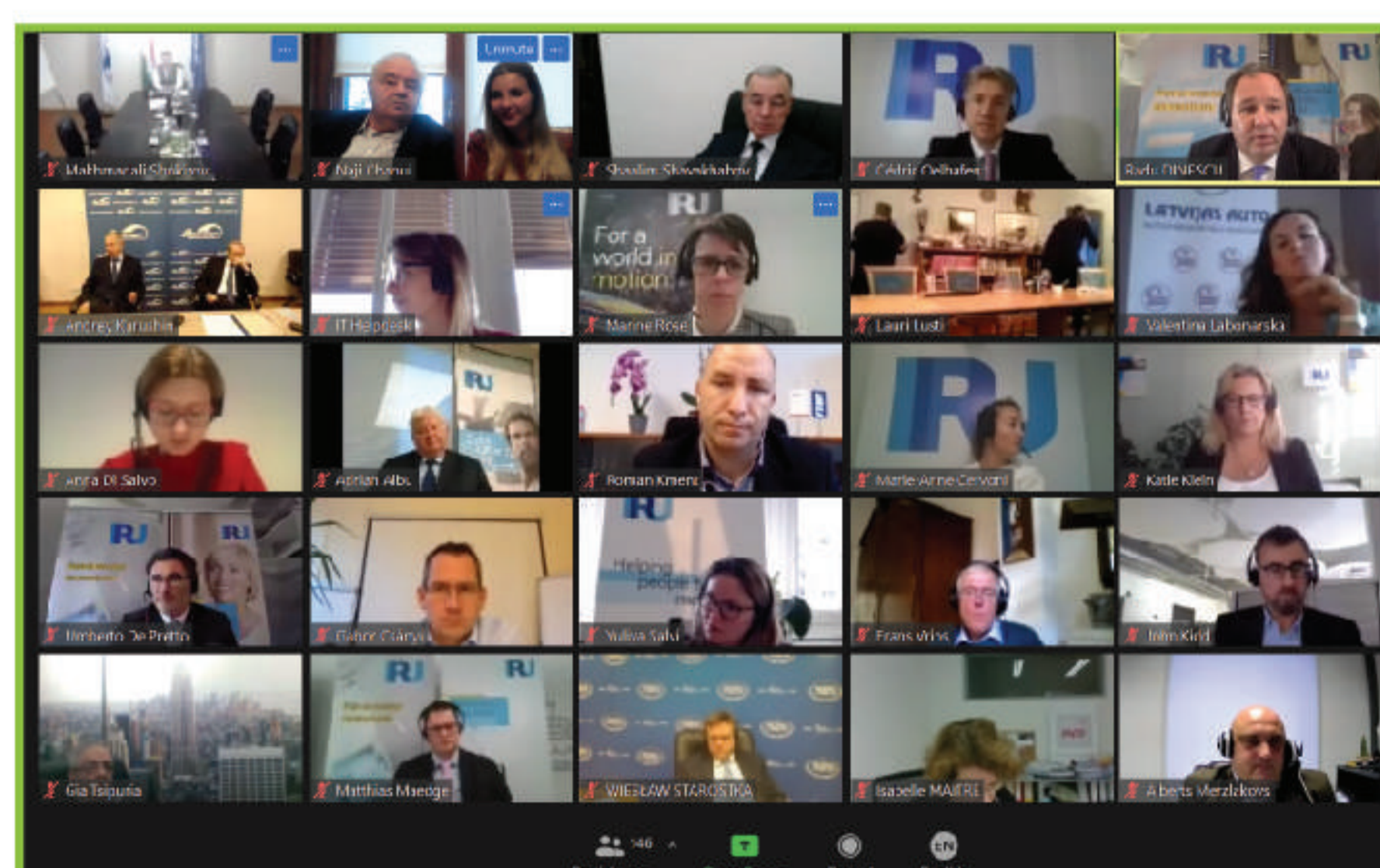


## 2. BUSINESSMED Elective and Extraordinary General Assembly 2020 20th of October 2020 - Virtual Meeting

Mr. Naji Chaoui, President of International Chamber of Commerce Syria and Ms. Mouna Kiwan, have participated in the General Assembly of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED).

During the meetings the presidency of BUSINESSMED in accordance with the partners and members explored partnership opportunities with Mediterranean neighborhood countries through the involvement in activities implemented in African countries.

In Addition to the Confirmation of the new President of BUSINESSMED from CONFINDUSTRIA Ms. Barbara Beltrame Giacomello for a 3-year term.Election of the 2 Vice-Presidents and Election of the new Executive Board.





## Activities of TIR Syria and the International Road Transport Union (IRU)

During 2020, TIR Syria cooperated with Arab and international transport companies to facilitate movement and work to support the Syrian fleet of international transport.

### 1. Capacity Building Workshop - Online, 16-17 December 2020 "Implementation of the eTIR International System in the ESCWA Region"

ICC Syria Team Mrs. Dareen Kassab, Ms. Haya Kiwan and Ms. Mouna Kiwan have participated in the Capacity Building Workshop.

The keynote where: Mr Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA - Mr. Umberto de Pretto, Secretary General, IRU- Mr. Michalis Adamantiadis, Team Leader & Road Transport Key Expert, EuroMed TSP and Dr. Yarob Badr Regional Advisor on Transport and Logistics ESCWA.

The Outlines Conducted:

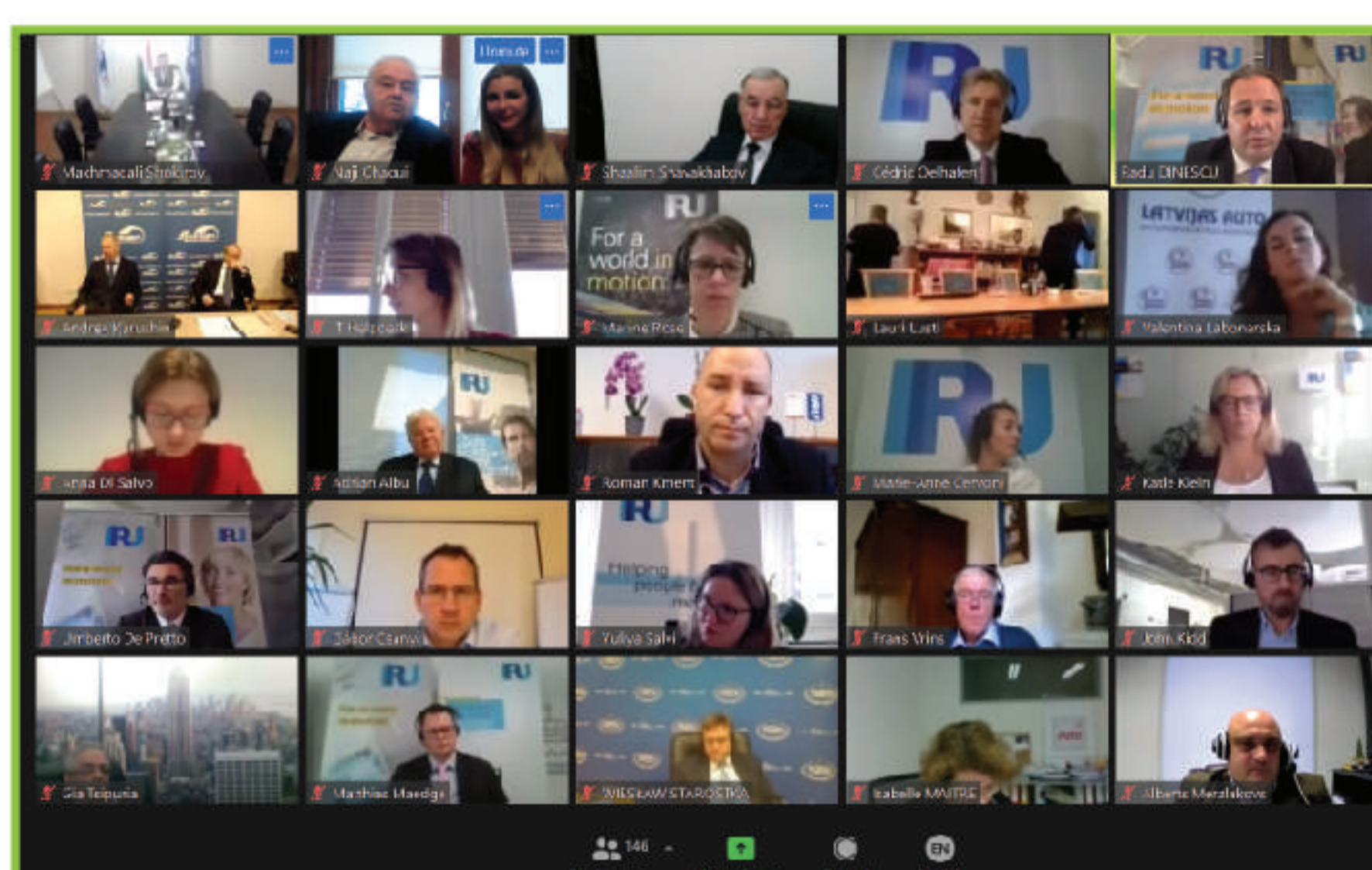
- TIR Recent Progress in the ESCWA Region
- ESCWA Market Study on eTIR
- TIR Implementation Road Map
- The eTIR System
- Digitalization of TIR Procedures (IRU)
- EuroMed Transport Support Project



### 2. IRU General Assembly 12th of November 2020 – Virtual Meeting

Mr. Naji Chaoui, President of the International Chamber of Commerce Syria, and TIR Syria team have attended the General Assembly of the International Road Transport Union, which was held on 12th of November 2020 Virtually.

In the presence of IRU president Radu Dinescu and the Secretary General of the International Road Transport Association, Mr. Umberto de Pretto, the following topics have been discussed: 1. The latest updates on the coordination with the external authorities in all TIR area. 2. IRU Covid call to governments. 3. IRU Position on accelerating the decarbonization of road transport through the faster uptake of alternative fuels. 4. IRU Position on the need for a global framework on the governance of transport data.



# ICC Syria International & Professional Trainings



ICC Syria starts providing the international training on:

1. “Incoterms®2020” developed by the International Chamber of Commerce Paris, which entered into force on 1 January 2020.
2. Introduction to Documentary Credits & ICC Uniform Customs and Practice 2007 revision (UCP600).
3. Effective Administrative & Communication Skills for Business
4. Customer Service.

The trainings designed for businessmen/women, managers in the sectors of banking, insurance, transport companies as well as owners of import, export and customs clearance companies and experts from various private and governmental sectors.

For More Information, Kindly scan the QR Code of ICC Syria Training Brochure.



## ICC Academy

The ICC Academy is incorporated in Singapore and It is a subsidiary of ICC Paris.

The Academy is advertised on the ICC Paris website [iccwbo.org](http://iccwbo.org).

The courses offered are specialist courses recognized globally by the most important authorities and institutions in the business world.

National Committees are encouraging people to register in the Academy.



# ICC Commissions

ICC commissions are specialized working bodies composed of business experts nominated by ICC national committees, which task is: 1. examine major issues of practical concern to world business to address crosscutting subjects. 2. prepare policy products, including statements to inform and shape intergovernmental discussions leading to adapted policy and rules to facilitate international business transactions.

## 1. Arbitration and ADR



### Mandate

ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR aims to:

- Draft and revise ICC's Arbitration, Mediation, Expert, Dispute Board Rules and other forms of dispute resolution rules.
- Provide reports, guidelines and best practices on a range of topics of current relevance to the world of arbitration and ADR, with a view to improving ICC dispute resolution services.
- Create a link among arbitrators, counsel and users to enable ICC dispute resolution to respond effectively to users' needs.
- Promote ICC's various dispute resolution services globally.

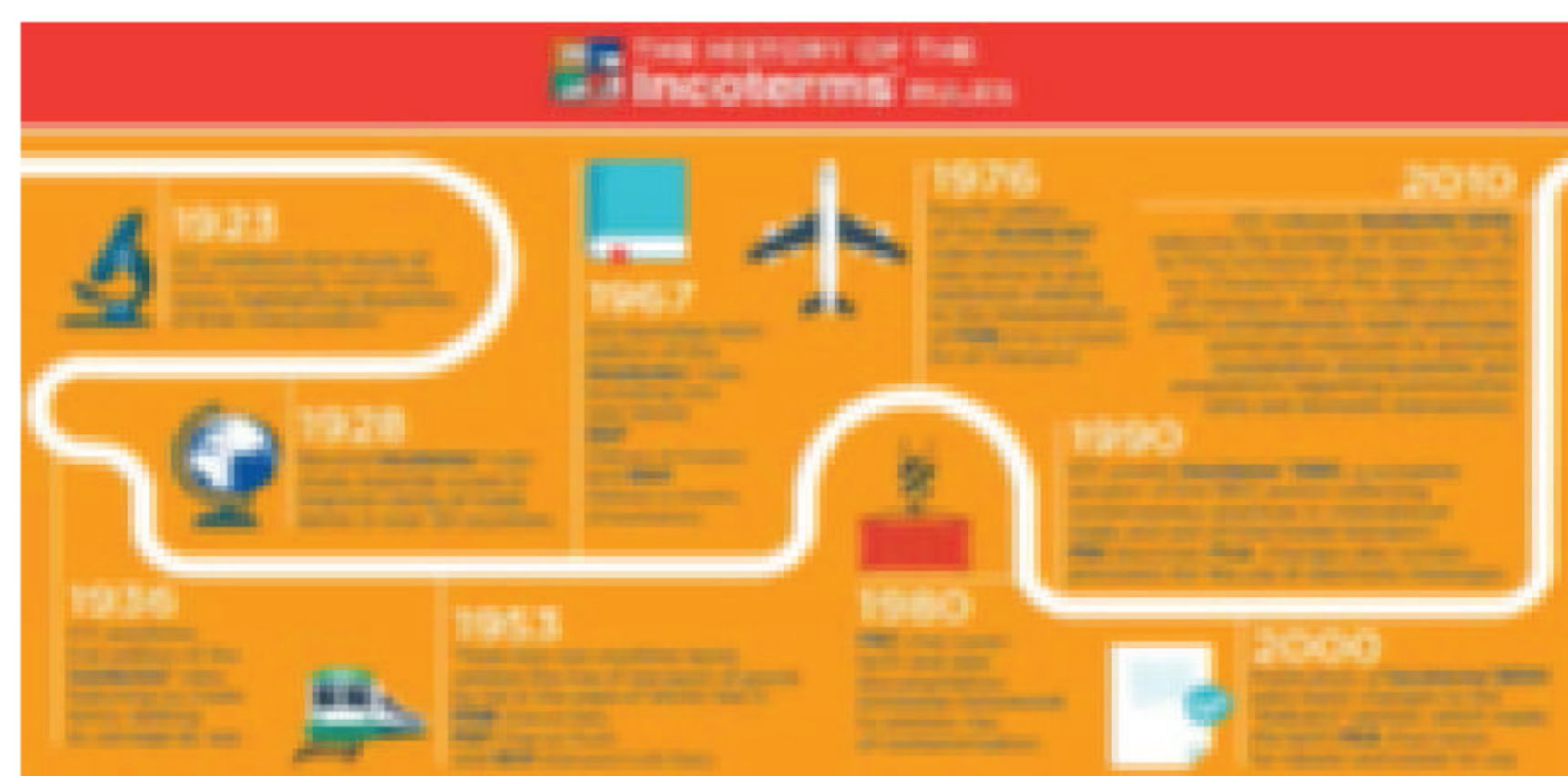
## 2. Banking



### Mandate

To serve as a global forum and rule-making body for banks worldwide, to focus on the financing of international trade; and to help policymakers create a regulatory framework that facilitates trade finance throughout the world.

### 3. Commercial Law and Practice



#### Mandate

To set global business standards for international B2B transactions and provide world business input on commercial rules developed by intergovernmental organizations.

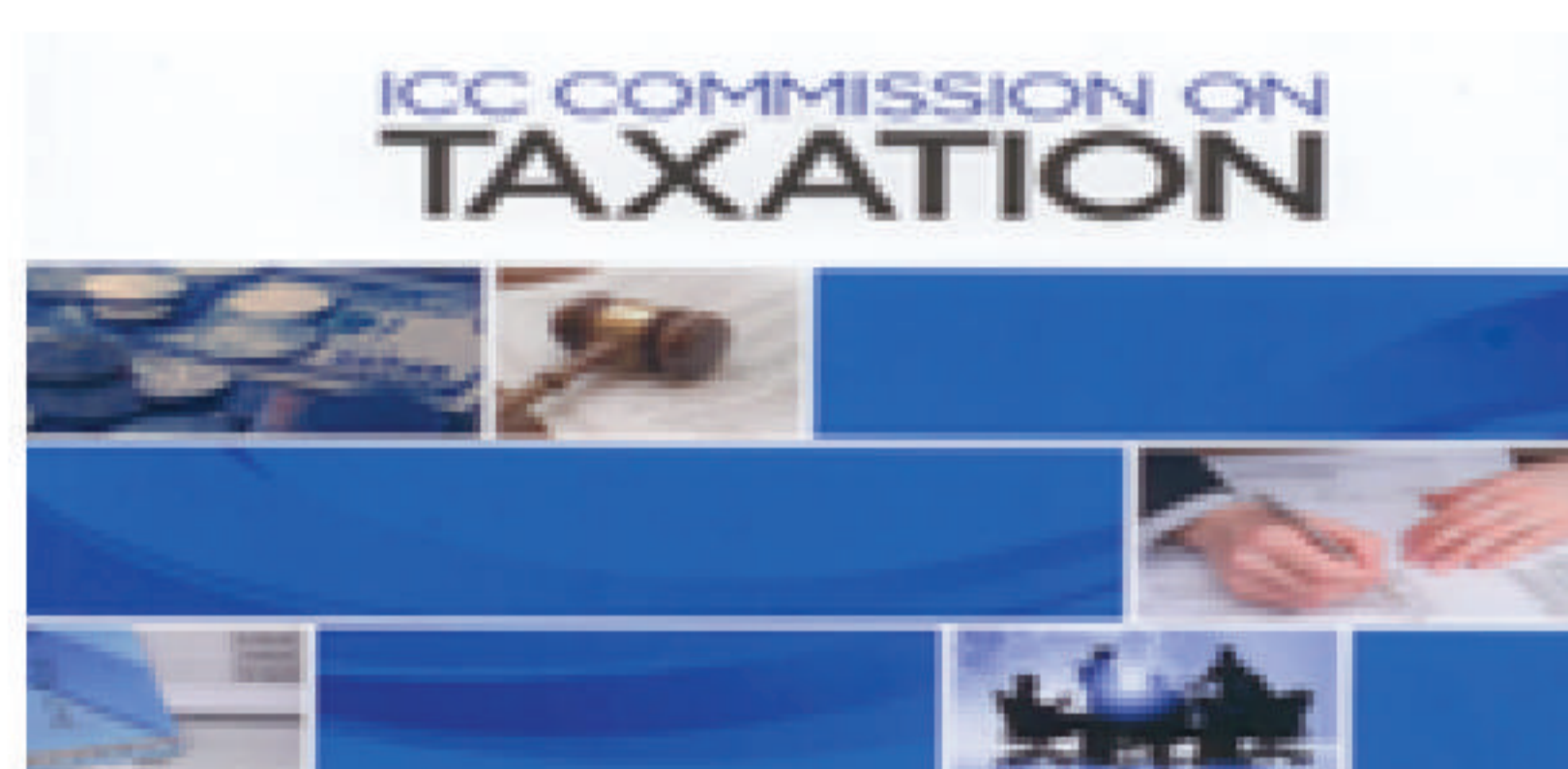
### 4. Intellectual Property



#### Mandate

To promote efficient intellectual property (IP) systems that support international trade, encourage investment in creation and innovation, and facilitate sustainable economic development

### 5. Taxation



#### Mandate

To promote transparent and non-discriminatory treatment of foreign investments and earnings that eliminates tax obstacles to cross-border trade and investment.

### 6. Trade and Investment Policy



#### Mandate

To promote cross-border trade and investment by business and an open global economy to foster job creation, sustainable development, and improve living standards.

# JCI Syria – Activities

## 1. Massaolitna (Our Responsibility) Project:

### Partnership of the International Chamber of Commerce Syria with JCI Syria

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, ICC Syria and JCI Syria launched the “Our Responsibility” project, within the framework of Corporate Social Responsibility.

It aims to give an award to local and national Syrian companies to distinguish them in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic within the private sector and to highlight the distinguished practices of companies to limit the spread of the virus.

92 local companies within 7 Provinces, and 21 national companies, participated.

32 local referees and 5 national referees participated in the arbitration process.

The winners of National companies:

First place: Sham Bank.

Second place: Banque Bemo Saudi Fransi.

Third place: Bank of Syria and Overseas

National winners of Local companies:

First place: Al-Mateen Group for Plastic Industries.

Second place: Noah Shipping Services Company.

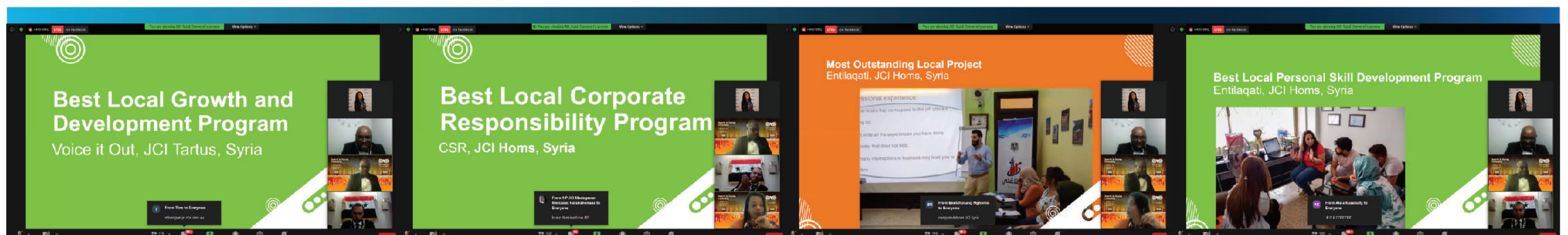
Third place: Preview Advertising Company



## 2. JCI Syria Awards

At 2020 JCI Africa & Middle East Conference, JCI Syria got awards for 4 projects achieved during the year 2019:

1. Best local growth and development program (Voice it out , JCI Tartus , Syria ).
2. Most outstanding local project (Entilaqati , JCI Homs , Syria ).
3. Best local skills development program (Entilaqati , JCI Homs , Syria ).
4. Best local corporate responsibility program ( CSR , JCI Homs , Syria ).



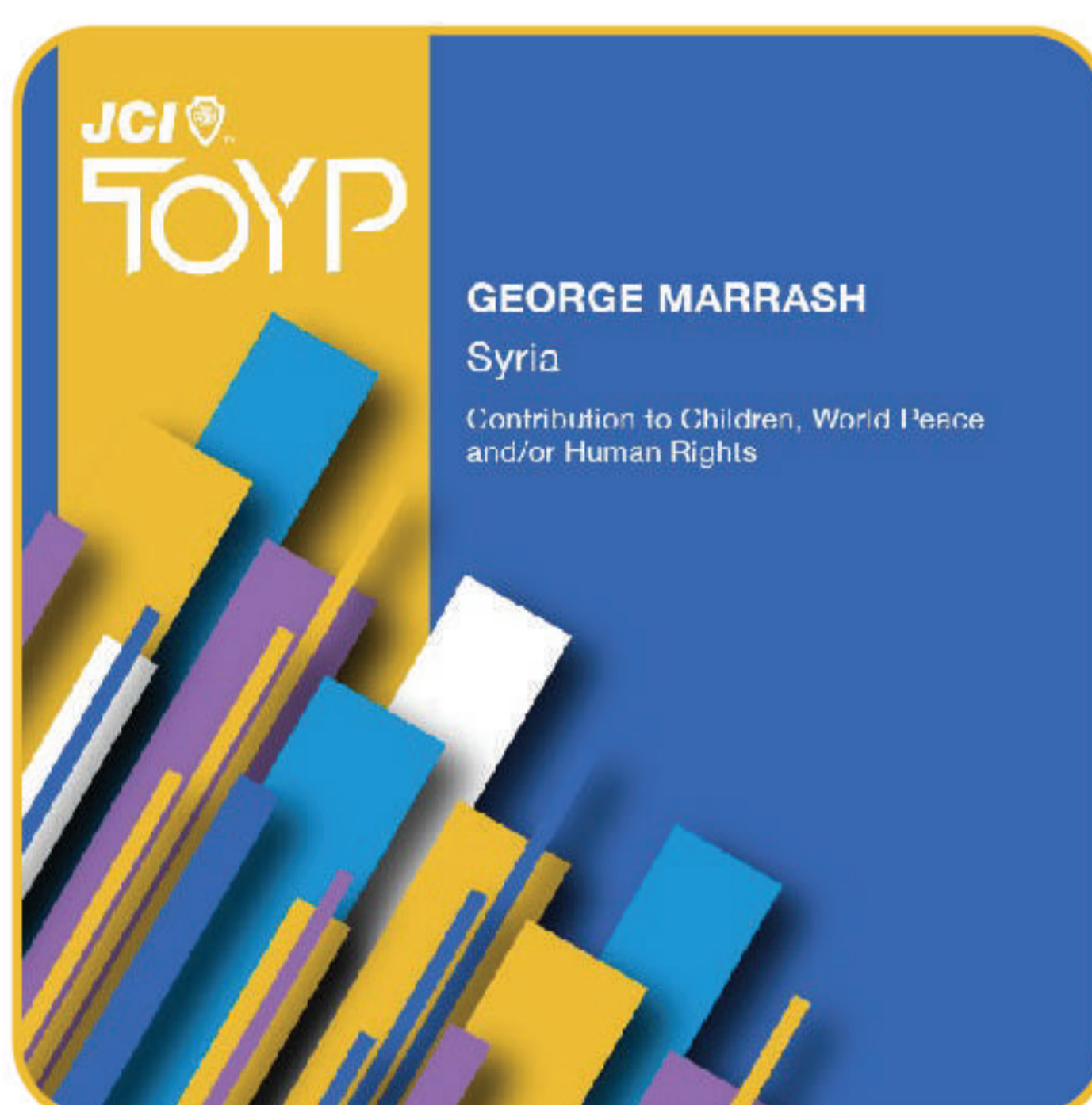
### 3. JCI Syria International Presence

At JCI World Congress in Yokohama, Japan 2020. JCI Syria was awarded for achieving 100% Efficiency World Program for the year 2020.



Mr. George Marrash JCI Syria nominee was the winner of 2020 JCI Ten Outstanding Young Persons TOYP Program of the category: Contribution to Children, World Peace and/or Human Rights.

JCI Syria has provided many online trainings to many JCI National Organisations around the world.



### 4. JCI Syria National Activities

- JCI Syria had committed nationally to Let's Do It & Peace Is Possible International Campaigns.
- 12th JCI Syria National Convention held in Homs- Al - Wadi with +400 participants.
- JCI Syria had achieved +300 projects in 2020.

### 5. Launching Active Youth Campaign

The Campaign adopted by JCI Syria during the year 2020 aims to promote the principle of active citizenship among Syrian youth, and to motivate young people to exercise their Social Role enabling them to create the positive change.

All JCI Syria local organisation participated in the active youth campaign by implementing more than 65 projects.



International Court of Arbitration®  
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ICC Syria - Report



ICC Syria - Website