



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organisation

ICC SECRETARY GENERAL, JEAN-GUY CARRIER, PRESENTS BUSINESS VIEWS AT FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

ICC Secretary General, Jean-Guy Carrier was in Istanbul May 9-10 to join heads of state, ministers, private sector and civil society leaders to participate at the Fourth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), 9-13 May. The conference focuses on actions and opportunities to help the 48 nations at the base of the global pyramid achieve more stable, prosperous and sustainable economies and communities. With over 500 business representatives registered to attend, the conference provides an unprecedented opportunity to elevate the role of private sector investment in the LDCs, as well as mobilize business engagement towards development objectives.

Governments and the UN system now recognize that the business community is a critical partner in achieving United Nations goals and that more extensive and deeper collaboration with the private sector is required. Across the UN system, private sector collaboration has become a common and effective way of advancing societal goals at both the global and local levels.

On May 9 Jean-Guy Carrier, Muhtar Kent, CEO of the Coca Cola Company and other private sector leaders addressed the High-Level Meeting on Investment and Partnerships which brought together over 500 Heads of State, chief executives and other top leaders to showcase corporate practices in support of development, identify new models and announce partnerships between Government and business. The luncheon, opened by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey, was designed to maximize peer-to-peer interaction and generate commitments to action, leveraging both individual and collective efforts.

On May 10, Mr. Carrier joined the Secretary General of UNCTAD to host the 9th Session of the Investment Advisory Council (IAC) "A new partnership for LDCs development: Invest in the Poor, for the Poor and with the Poor". Established in 2001 by ICC and UNCTAD, the IAC provides government officials and business executives a platform for discussing practical ways of attracting foreign direct investment and benefitting from it.

In addition to the participation of ICC's Secretary General at the Conference, the ICC Permanent Representative to the UN, Louise Kantrow and Adam Greene, USCIB Vice President were part of the UN Private Sector Steering Committee created to organize the High-Level Meeting and the Global Business Partnership Forum, a multi-stakeholder, working-level platform for dialogue among business investors and government officials over four days of the conference.