



Hi,

This month we were busy reading, discussing and listening to politicians and experts talk about Africa and the G8.

Africa has been on the G8 Agenda for over 10 years but sadly, despite some positive impact from debt relief and aid, not much has been gained in terms of actual development for Africa. Perhaps, it is time for us not to look at the G8 as a saviour but more as a Group that will help Africa achieve its goals of development and advancement by assisting in specific economic programmes focused on job creation, enterprise development, trade and investment (including from the Diaspora).



All the excitement about the G8 and Africa gives a misguided impression that the fate of the Continent lies in the hands of the G8 nations. The destiny of Africa can only be changed by its leaders and its people. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter.

**Dr Mohan Kaul**  
Director General, CBC

### Quotes



*We do not want to just continue to give the patient blood transfusion. We want to be able to develop the bone marrow of the patient so that the patient can build up its own blood stock*

**President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda at the G8 Africa Business Forum in London**



*CBC is the best way to attract investment. The result of CBF 2005 in Malta was a record year in investment for the following 48 months.*

**Malta Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi at the CBF launch in London**

### Zambian President praises CBC, Tony Blair



Zambian President Levy Patrick Mwanawasa addressing delegates at the G8 Africa Business Forum

Thanking the Commonwealth Business Council for its fireless efforts in continuing to bring together leaders from the government, the business sectors and donors to forge an alliance against poverty, Zambian President Levy Patrick Mwanawasa said at the G8 Africa Business Forum on June 5th, "This Forum, like its 2005 predecessor, is closely associated with the G8 meetings, which then took place in Gleneagles in the UK...we urge Chancellor Merkel to take advantage of her chairman-

ship of the G8 to advance the poverty agenda." He added, "2005 is indeed going to be remembered as a year when the G8 countries made the bold decision to relieve the world's poor of the onerous debt burden that they had carried for years. This burden for long had been contributed to the inability of poor countries to provide basic social services to their people. For this historical gesture of debt relief, I wish once again to thank the G8 and, in particular, the outgoing British Prime Minister Tony Blair for the personal passion that he dedicated towards the issue."

### President Pohamba of Namibia woos investors

President Pohamba of Namibia and a series of government and business speakers told a packed conference organised by the CBC in London on June 6th of their successes in bringing investment, jobs and a steadily rising standard of living to the booming South West African nation.

Inviting investors President Pohamba, who was making his first official visit to the UK, said, "Globalisation requires that nations think regionally and globally and sharpen their productive capacity and competitiveness. For Namibia and many other developing economies to successfully compete in the global economy, their

### Upcoming Events

**India-UK Business Leaders Forum**  
26th June 2007  
London, UK

**Africa Investment Forum**  
September 2007  
Durban, SA

**Pakistan Investment Forum**  
3rd-4th Sept 2007  
Islamabad, Pakistan

**Africa Small Business Summit**  
October 2007  
Lagos, Nigeria

**Commonwealth Business Forum**  
20-22 Nov 2007  
Kampala, Uganda

## Links

Nation  
Museveni rallies  
Ugandans in the UK

Reuters  
Zambian leader chal-  
lenges West over invest-  
ment

BBC  
Private firms work on  
Africa's future

Financial Express  
We are influential, but in  
an informal way'

Daily India  
Broadband connectivity  
can improve village life:  
Kalam

Zee News  
India moots common  
telecom policy for  
Commonwealth nations

CIOL  
Uganda to become  
Africa's Bangalore

Sunday Vision  
Fortunes and failures

RxPG News  
India-US nuke deal  
lauded by  
Commonwealth  
Business Council

Commonwealth Business  
Chief to Visit Uganda  
The New Vision



President Pohamba of Namibia with CBC  
Director General Dr Mohan Kaul

economies must be encour-  
aged on the path of growth  
through increased invest-  
ments, transfer of technology  
and skills as well as easy mar-  
ket access."

Encouraged by government  
policies based on rigorous  
governance and a business-  
friendly environment,  
Namibia has built on the  
underpinning strengths of its  
mining and minerals sector to  
widen its economic base and

create an infrastructure which has made it the principal commu-  
nications hub of the region.

More than 120 delegates attended the afternoon business work-  
shop which included panel discussions on key sectors in the min-  
ing industry and case studies from tourism, fisheries and agro-  
industry.

The CBC's partners in organising the event were De Beers and  
Rio Tinto whose mining operations put Namibia high on the list of  
the world's leading supplier of diamonds and uranium. Case  
studies were provided by De Beers, Rio Tinto, Skorpion Zinc Mine,  
Leading Lodges of Africa, NovaNam and Ohlthaver & List Group,  
with a presentation on sources of finance by HSBC.

Earlier in the day the CBC also organised a strategy and oppor-  
tunities workshop in association with the EU/SADC Investment  
Promotion Programme on current opportunities arising in  
Southern Africa from the creation of economic development  
corridors providing a network of cross-border communications in  
the region linked to harbour outlets.

## Working Groups

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## GALLERY

### From Malta to Kampala: CBF Marches on

The President of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni and the  
Prime Minister of Malta, Dr Lawrence Gonzi yester-  
day launched the Commonwealth Business Forum  
(CBF) at a function that was organised by the  
Commonwealth Business Council.

President Museveni revealed that in anticipation of  
CHOGM and the Commonwealth Business Forum,  
there is already much stimulation in the hotel and  
construction sector. "Now we have more rooms. CBF  
has helped us build room capacity". He also said "Now Uganda  
will be able to hold big meetings which we avoided in the past.  
This is a training ground for us."

Malta Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi who hosted the 2005 CBF  
said, "CBF is the best way to attract investment. The result of CBF  
2005 in Malta was a record year in investment for the following 48  
months."

President Museveni stressed on role of the business community  
in creating wealth to enable millions of Commonwealth citi-  
zens trade their way out of poverty.

The private and public sectors in Uganda are collaborating in  
a joint search for fast-track solutions, under the aegis of the  
Commonwealth. "Objectives include building bilateral trade  
between Commonwealth countries, especially within Africa -  
by simplifying banking procedures, reducing the 'digital  
divide', and minimising bureaucratic obstacles," explained  
Dr. Mohan Kaul, Director General of CBC. "Just as the  
potential of the mobile phone has been seized on in Africa  
and successfully transformed large areas of the informal pri-  
vate sector, so the CBC's focus is on finding other 'keys' to  
unlock more economic potential, with low-cost, high  
impact ideas," he added.

"Examples of successful initiatives to date" said Foreign Minister  
Kutesa, "are an IT park planned for Entebbe, near Kampala. It will  
act as an IT centre for East Africa, creating jobs and, we hope,  
many new opportunities - locally and internationally."



Malta PM Lawrence Gonzi, CBC  
Director General Dr Kaul and  
Uganda President Museveni at the  
CBF launch in London



Uganda Investment Roundtable in  
progress at the Marlborough House

# Commonwealth Business



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## MEDIA PARTNERS



**African  
BUSINESS**

## Forthcoming Events

### DFID Inclusive Banking to tackle the issue of unbanked

CBC strongly believes in getting unbanked people into the formal banking sector and has been working closely with the governments and private sector to promote inclusive banking. There are an estimated 2 billion or more financially excluded people in the developing world. Reaching this market presents a significant challenge - and opportunity - for development and for business. The CBC is organising the High Level Financial Inclusion Conference on June 19th on behalf of the Department for International Development (Dfid) and Her Majesty's Treasury. HRH Princess Máxima of the Netherlands and President Kaberuka of the African Development Bank are the keynote speakers.



Zambian President Levy Patrick Mwanawasa with Dr MOhan Kaul, CBC Director General

### India UK Business Leaders Forum on supply chain partnerships

The Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in association with UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) are delighted to host the 3rd Annual India UK Business Leaders Forum on 26th June in London. This year's forum will focus on "India-UK" supply chains. India's retail sector is going through an unprecedented growth. Currently only 5% of country's retail sector is in the organised form. However, in the next 5 years that figure is likely to rise to 35-40%. Various estimates currently put India's retail market at \$250-300bn. Participants will discuss ways in which UK and India can collaborate on supply chain Infrastructure, in use of technology for rapid movement of goods and on the impact of EU-India Free Trade Agreement. For more info email [Sunayna.Sethi@cbcbglobal.org](mailto:Sunayna.Sethi@cbcbglobal.org)



Lord Triesman with President Museveni

## MEMBER News:

### CBC welcomes Allen & Overy LLP as our new member

Allen & Overy is an international legal practice with approximately 5000 staff, including some 450 partners working in 24 major centres worldwide. It constantly deepens the technical and legal skills of its lawyers to meet the increasing sophistication of markets. The company strives to know its clients better and to understand their businesses, strategies, internal structures and people. The company advises the most demanding clients in the world, engaged in the most complex and innovative work. It has a unique view of the markets which enables it to manage risks and develop opportunities for their clients.

**ALLEN & OVERY**

### CBC congratulates Crown Agents

CBC congratulates Crown Agents for winning the Large Consultancy Firm of the Year 2006 British Expertise International Award for Record Debt Relief to Reduce Poverty in Nigeria. Crown Agents is an international development company, which provides direct assistance, consultancy and training for public sector modernisation, particularly in financial management, banking, and procurement and logistics. It works for more than 110 countries, and for international development agencies and institutions. To integrate more fully within local economies, it forms companies and associations within its client countries, with at present more than forty country offices and agents.



## MEDIA news:

We are proud to announce that **Commonwealth Business Journal's** special issue on 'Inclusive Banking' has been published. It has interesting, informative and thought provoking articles from ministers, business and banking experts on how technology and micro finance can work towards reducing poverty.

A 60-page CBC report titled 'Impact on Liberalisation of legal market in India' will be published shortly. It will have comprehensive information on the impact of liberalisation on GDP, FDI, competition in legal service market in India. For media information please call +44 207 024 8274. Email [Ishara.bhasi@cbcbglobal.org](mailto:Ishara.bhasi@cbcbglobal.org)