

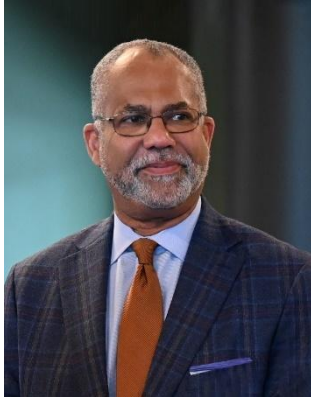
MIAMI-DADE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONSORTIUM

FY 2022-23 Annual Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE ITC INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	3
ABOUT ITC	4
OUTREACH, MARKETING, & PROTOCOL EVENTS	5
TRADE MISSIONS	14
SISTER CITIES PROGRAM	21
ITC BOARD MEMBERS	24
ITC BOARD COMMITTEES	26
ITC MEETINGS	29
ACCOUNT BALANCES	30
BCC TOMBSTONE	31

MESSAGE FROM THE ITC INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



On behalf of the International Trade Consortium, I am pleased to submit our Annual Report for the fiscal year starting October 1, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023.

I am proud to report that FY 2022-23 was a remarkable and productive year under the new leadership of The Honorables Oliver G. Gilbert, III, and Kevin Marino Cabrera, respectively Chairman and Vice Chairman of ITC's Board of Directors. We extend a thank you and congratulations to former Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz.

The ITC Board and staff have collaborated diligently to foster stronger ties with the international diplomatic and trade community, bolstering global trade relations while uplifting our local small business community.

ITC was honored to host a total of 34 inbound delegations and coordinated two outbound trade missions, led by Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, from Miami-Dade County to Cape Town, South Africa in February and Paris and Marseille, France in June.

ITC will be joining Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, for an outbound trade mission to Japan at the end of November 2023, and is preparing to host the 26th InterAmerican Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities on February 22-23, 2024, in Miami, Florida.

I express my gratitude to Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, ITC Vice Chairman Kevin M. Cabrera, every member of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commission, and the ITC Board of Directors for their unwavering support. I also extend appreciation to the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA) and Miami-Dade Seaport Department (PortMiami) for their invaluable assistance in establishing trade connections worldwide, solidifying the County's stature as a global trade and logistics hub. Finally, a heartfelt thanks to the dedicated ITC team for their tireless dedication and efforts. Together, our collective contributions have been instrumental in ITC's success, and I eagerly anticipate our continued collaboration in promoting Miami-Dade County as the "Global Gateway."

Respectfully,

Gerard Philippeaux
Interim Executive Director

INTRODUCTION

Established by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on November 19, 2002, the office of the International Trade Consortium (ITC) serves as Miami-Dade County's primary liaison to foreign governments and as a one-stop information and referral resource on international trade and investment for local businesses and organizations that require assistance. The ITC office provides staff support to the consortium – an advisory board of 14 member organizations from public and private sectors of economic development agencies in the community and 16 members appointed by the Mayor and County Commission.

Together with the consortium, the ITC office advises the County's elected officials on international trade issues and helps promote Miami-Dade as a global trade hub. The ITC office works closely with Miami-International Airport and PortMiami, as well as other strategic trade partners including foreign diplomatic and trade offices, bi-national chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, and local, state, and federal government agencies.

As primary liaison to the diplomatic community, the ITC office plans the County's official outbound trade and business development missions, supports inbound trade missions, and manages the Sister Cities program of Miami-Dade County.

MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of ITC is to promote Miami-Dade County as a "Global Gateway" to international trade and enhance access to economic development opportunities for local companies.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the ITC are to:

- Advocate and support the development of Miami-Dade County as a premier hemispheric platform for two-way trade
- Promote Miami-Dade County as a Global Gateway both locally and abroad by developing and expanding trade opportunities with Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Western Hemisphere
- Establish and maintain a database of local businesses involved in international trade to foster import and export opportunities
- Recommend trade policies to the Board of County Commissioners
- Administer and cultivate relations with Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities
- Represent and advocate Miami-Dade County's economic development and international trade interests at the local, state, and federal level
- Coordinate and act as a proactive liaison between the County and the Consular Corps of Miami, Trade Offices, and Chambers of Commerce
- Submit an annual report to the County Commission detailing the ITC office activities, goals, outcomes, and statement in all its accounts
- Perform any other such functions reasonably related to ITC Office responsibilities

OUTREACH, MARKETING, & PROTOCOL EVENTS

The ITC aims to solidify the County's position as a "Global Gateway" for international trade by working closely with foreign governments and other offices to enhance international relations, cultural understanding and trade. In addition, the ITC team coordinates courtesy protocol meetings and attends National Day or trade-related events to build and strengthen relations with the diplomatic community.

ITC participated and supported the following 61 events in FY 2022-23:

OCTOBER 5, 2022: Extenda USA

Extenda USA, the trade and investment agency of Andalusia in the USA, expressed interest in exploring opportunities to work with ITC and promote bilateral trade relations. ITC staff briefed the visitors on the role of ITC and how to do business in Miami-Dade County.

OCTOBER 6, 2022: National Day Celebration hosted by the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Miami

ITC joined The Honorable Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners and ITC, at the National Day Celebration of Taiwan, hosted by the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Miami (TECO Miami). Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz provided welcome remarks.

OCTOBER 10-13, 2022: AfriCANDO Event

ITC was proud to support its member organization, The Foundation of Democracy, at the 2022 AfriCANDO. Program participants included: Fred Oladeinde, President, The Foundation for Democracy in Africa; The Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice Chairman, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, and ITC; The Honorable Dennis C. Moss, former Commissioner, Miami-Dade County, District 9; Jimmy Nares, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), ITC Board Member; Richard de Villiers, Miami-Dade Seaport Department, ITC Board Member; David Whitaker, President/CEO, Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau; Bill Talbert, Interim President/CEO, Miami-Dade Beacon Council. ITC Interim Director Maria Dreyfus participated in a panel discussion which highlighted Miami as a global trade hub. We thank our ITC Board Member, Drew McKinney, for allowing the opportunity to support this event and promote international trade in Miami-Dade County.

OCTOBER 14, 2022: Consulate General of France in Miami

ITC facilitated a meeting between Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and the new Consul General of France in Miami, Raphael Trapp. ITC introduced the new Consul General to the Mayor, provided background information and talking points to the Office of the Mayor, and briefed the delegates about the role of ITC.

OCTOBER 17, 2022: Embassy of Australia in the U.S.

A delegation from the U.S. Embassy of Australia expressed interest in trade and investment opportunities in Miami-Dade County. ITC briefed the delegation about the role of ITC and discussed areas of collaboration to work together in the future. ITC also helped the delegation schedule a meeting with Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.

OCTOBER 18, 2022: Sister Cities International Networking Reception

ITC attended the Sister Cities International Networking Reception and briefed the guests about Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities Program.

OCTOBER 19, 2022: Consulate General of Ireland in Miami

ITC met with Consul General Sarah Kavanagh, Consulate General of Ireland in Miami, to explain the role of ITC and discuss details about the official opening of the Consulate to coincide with St. Patrick's Day in March 2023.

OCTOBER 21-22, 2022: 40th Annual MedWeek Conference & Awards Gala

ITC attended the 40th Annual MedWeek Business Conference to introduce the small business community to ITC and connect with attendees. We congratulate Gloria Fonseca, ITC Board Member who represents the Miami-Dade Chamber, on being recognized and receiving an award at the conference.

NOVEMBER 3, 2022: Embassy of Portugal in the U.S.

ITC organized a meeting between Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and a delegation from the Embassy of Portugal in the U.S. to discuss bilateral relations and the possibility of increasing consular staff in Miami.

NOVEMBER 3, 2022: Consulate General of Canada in Miami Farewell/Hello Reception

ITC attended the Consulate General of Canada in Miami's Farewell/Hello Reception hosted by the World Trade Center Miami. ITC presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Consul General Susan Harper for her years of service to the County and welcomed new Consul General Sylvia Cesaratto.

NOVEMBER 8, 2022: Air Cargo Americas Show & Supply Chain Americas Show

ITC attended the Air Cargo / Supply Chain Americas Show to support the air cargo and transport industry in Miami-Dade County and network with inbound delegations participating in the show.

NOVEMBER 10, 2022: Consulate General of France in Miami Networking Reception

ITC attended the Consulate General of France in Miami's Networking Reception to represent Miami-Dade County and network with guests.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022: Embassy of Hungary to the U.S.

ITC extended support to The Honorable Szabolcs Takács, Ambassador of Hungary to the U.S., and ensured that we will work with Kubatov Aniko, Vice Consul of Hungary in Miami, to organize meetings with our elected officials and other entities during the President's visit.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022: Consulate General of Japan in Miami Welcome Reception

The Consulate General of Japan in Miami hosted a Reception to welcome the Japan Florida Business Tour 2022 Delegation. ITC joined colleagues and partners from Enterprise Florida, Miami-Dade Beacon Council,

and Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce in welcoming the delegation to Miami and extended ITC's support to Japanese businesses establishing their companies in the community.

NOVEMBER 15, 2022: Miami-Dade County Proclamation in recognition of ITC's 20th Anniversary

BCC & ITC Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz presented a proclamation declaring November 15, 2022, as the "Jay Malina International Trade Consortium of Miami-Dade County 20th Anniversary Day". Miami-Dade County International Trade Consortium was created by Ordinance on November 19, 2002, and sponsored by Commissioner Javier D. Souto.

NOVEMBER 28, 2022: U.S. State Department of Commerce / Consulate General of Bangladesh in Miami

ITC organized a meeting for a delegation from the U.S. State Department of Commerce with ITC, Consul General Iqbal Ahmed, and Jimmy Morales and Mia Devane, Office of the Mayor. The discussion focused on the possibility of bringing a delegation from Bangladesh to do workshops on capacity building for the municipal corporations of Dhaka.

NOVEMBER 28, 2022: National Day Reception hosted by the Consulate General of Romania in Miami

ITC attended Romania's National Day Reception hosted by the Consulate General of Romania in Miami.

DECEMBER 13, 2022: Consulate General of the Bahamas in Miami

ITC arranged a meeting to introduce Mayor Daniella Levine Cava to The Honorable Curt Hollingsworth, Consul General of the Bahamas in Miami. ITC briefed the Mayor before the meeting and provided talking points highlighting the latest engagements and trade relationship between Miami-Dade County and The Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

DECEMBER 13, 2022: Consulate General of Barbados in Miami

ITC assisted in coordinating a meeting to introduce Mayor Daniella Levine Cava to The Honorable Rudy Grant, Consul General of Barbados in Miami. ITC Connect the Mayor's office to the Consulate, briefed the Mayor before the meeting, and provided Talking Points about the trade relationship between Miami-Dade County and Barbados.

JANUARY 9, 2023: Consulate General of Colombia in Miami

ITC helped organize a meeting to introduce Mayor Daniella Levine Cava to The Honorable William Rene Salamanca, Consul General of Colombia in Miami. ITC also provided relevant information to the Mayor including the bio of the new Consul General and trade facts between Miami-Dade County and Colombia.

JANUARY 9, 2023: Meeting with AMCHAM Haiti

ITC met virtually with AMCHAM Haiti to establish communication and discuss how ITC can provide support to AMCHAM Haiti in hosting an inbound delegation from Haiti.

JANUARY 17, 2023: ProEcuador

ITC met with ProEcuador's new Trade Commissioner, Pilar Neira, to discuss areas of collaboration to strengthen trade ties between Miami-Dade County and Ecuador. ITC provided support in helping promote their Macrorueda Business Matchmaking Event.

JANUARY 19, 2023: Consulate General of Saint Lucia in Miami

ITC met with The Honorable Darrel Montrope, the new Consul General of Saint Lucia in Miami, to introduce the role of ITC and discuss opportunities to work together to promote two-way trade.

JANUARY 24, 2023: Southeast & Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership 2023 Conference

The Office of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and the Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience participated in a panel discussion at the Southeast & Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership (SCDRP) 2023 Conference. At the request of the Mayor's office, ITC managed the RSVP list for all guests in the international community. ITC attended the event and reception.

FEBRUARY 2, 2023: Consulate General of Barbados in Miami / Invest in Barbados

ITC attended a Networking Breakfast hosted by the Consulate General of Barbados in Miami where Invest in Barbados provided a presentation on business opportunities in Barbados. Invest in Barbados announced plans to bring a delegation to Miami in the future.

MARCH 1, 2023: Consulate General of France in Miami

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, met with Consul General Raphael Trapp to deepen relationships between Miami-Dade County and France, especially in the areas of connectivity and mobility, innovation, and fashion. ITC briefed the Consul General about opportunities in Miami-Dade County and recent activities with Sister City – Aix-Marseille Provence Metropolis, France.

MARCH 9, 2023: Consulate General of Canada in Miami

ITC met with new Consul General Sylvia Cesaratto and Ms. Marjanovic to provide a briefing on the role of ITC, and discuss areas of collaboration, focusing on priority industries and initiatives, to solidify commercial ties between Miami-Dade County and Canada.

MARCH 9-10, 2023: Concordia Americas Summit 2023

ITC Executive Director Maria Dreyfus-Ulvert participated in the Summit on March 10, and established contact with Kevin O'Reilly, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere, who is the U.S. National Summit Coordinator.

MARCH 20, 2023: National Day Celebration hosted by Consulate General of Bangladesh in Miami

ITC participated in the National Day celebrations hosted by the Consulate General of Bangladesh in Miami. On behalf of Mayor Levine Cava and Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, ITC Executive Director Maria Dreyfus-Ulvert presented a proclamation to Consul General Iqbal Ahmed.

MARCH 23, 2023: Consulate General of Paraguay in Miami

ITC coordinated the participation of ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera in the opening reception of the new office location of the Consulate General of Paraguay in Miami. Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera provided welcome remarks during the inauguration ceremony.

MARCH 24, 2023: Consulate General of Spain in Miami

Commissioner Raquel Regalado, in collaboration with CIS University and International Studies Foundation (ISF), Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (Miami), International Finance Bank, and the Consulate General of Spain in Miami, announced a new edition of the Saint James Way Program in Spain for students in Miami-Dade County. ITC staff joined ITC Board Member Julian Linares to welcome Consul General of Spain in Miami, The Honorable Jaime Lacadena.

MARCH 24, 2023: Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Miami

ITC met with Charles Choue, new Director General of the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Miami (TECO Miami), and Vice Consul Alice Chu. Discussion topics included an overview on the role of ITC, priority sectors and how ITC can help in planning inbound missions from Taiwan, and the County's Sister City relationship with New Taipei City. Director General Chou expressed interest in working on Smart Cities, Food & Beverage, and Technology.

APRIL 4, 2023: Consulate General of Netherlands in Miami

ITC met with Consul General Ruth Emmerink and Economic Policy Officer Gijs van Doorn Jr. to discuss the details of the Flag Raising Ceremony to celebrate Europe Day, which will be held at the Stephen P. Clark Center on May 9. ITC is organizing the event and inviting Miami-Dade County officials and other Consulates of E.U. to attend.

APRIL 10, 2023: Consulate General of the Dominican Republic in Miami

ITC organized a meet and greet meeting between Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and newly appointed Consul General of Dominican Republic in Miami, Geanilda Vasquez. ITC briefed the Mayor before the meeting and provided talking points with relevant information including the latest interactions and trade stats between Miami-Dade County and the Dominican Republic.

APRIL 17, 2023: Sister Airports MIA & INFRAERO Initial Meeting

ITC connected the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA) and Brazil's Airport Authority to hold their first zoom meeting to reactivate activities.

APRIL 18-19, 2023: Emerge Americas Conference 2023

ITC connected with a delegation from the Dominican Republic led by AMCHAM Dominican Republic. ITC also attended the EMERGE/EGOV Panel Discussion to support Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III as a panelist.

APRIL 19, 2023: French Tech Capital Days in Miami

ITC attended a networking meeting hosted by the Consulate General of France in Miami to meet with French startups attending French Tech Capital Days in Miami.

APRIL 20, 2023: PortMiami Perishables Committee Meeting

ITC attended the meeting. Among the items discussed were the top ranked fresh perishables and overall totals for the Port. Shipment Disposition Summary for Fresh Perishable Cargo Commodities Inspected by CBP.

MAY 3, 2023: MIA Q3 Trade & Logistics Committee Luncheon in conjunction with the Miami-Dade Beacon Council

The main topics included MIA's top trade trends of 2023, priority trade initiatives and how is the global supply chain shifting.

MAY 4, 2023: Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies Meeting

ITC met with the Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA) to discuss the role of ITC and explore areas of collaboration to promote bilateral trade. CAIPA is planning to host the Caribbean Logistics Investment Conference (CLIC 2024), an event aimed to promote business and logistics investment opportunities in the Caribbean.

MAY 5, 2023: International Women's Day Award Ceremony

ITC team attended World Trade Center Miami's International Women's Day Award ceremony. Mayor Daniella Levine Cava was one of the 2022 award recipients. International Women's Day has been celebrated by the United Nations (UN) since 1975. The UN's annual commemoration serves to highlight women's issues globally and focuses on their achievements. In 2004, the World Trade Center Miami decided to sponsor this event annually to recognize women who have inspired others to make major achievements in international business. This award recognizes exemplary women and their role and leadership in international business or trade, their commitment to advancing relations between our community, state and/or the U.S. & other countries as well as their role in creating and supporting jobs and fostering economic development.

MAY 5, 2023: Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Kick-Off Ceremony

ITC attended the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month annual kick-off celebration hosted by the Miami-Dade County Asian-American Advisory Board (AAAB). Miami-Dade County Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, presented a proclamation, and provided remarks as well as Vice Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, and other elected officials. The event is coordinated by the AAAB Executive Board and the AAPI Heritage Month Committee and included performances highlighting the significant contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the development of the arts, sciences, government, military, commerce, and education in the United States.

MAY 9, 2023: Raising the European Union Flag in celebration of Europe Day

ITC organized the EU flag-raising ceremony in collaboration with the Consulate General of the Netherlands in Miami to mark Europe Day. ITC invited Miami-Dade County elected officials, including Mayor Levine Cava and Chairman Gilbert, Consulates of EU, and ITC Board to attend the event. This event was organized in recognition of “Europe Day”, celebrated every year on 9 May, marking the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration which was presented in 1950. This founding document of the European Union laid the groundwork for cooperation, solidarity, and lasting peace on our continent. Europe Day continues to symbolize the EU's commitment to democracy, diversity and unity.

MAY 24, 2023: Ambassador of France to the U.S. / Consulate General of France in Miami

ITC set up a meeting with Chairman Gilbert and Ambassador Laurent Bili, the new Ambassador of France to the United States and Consul General of France in Miami, Raphael Trapp. The dignitaries discussed the County's upcoming business development mission to France and other bilateral issues related to trade, urban mobility, and green fuel.

MAY 24, 2023: World Trade Center Miami Networking Reception

ITC attended a Networking Reception hosted by World Trade Center Miami to connect with attendees.

MAY 30, 2023: Help Haiti NGO

Help Haiti NGO requested to meet with Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. ITC met virtually with Help Haiti NGO to discuss the role of ITC and explore potential areas of collaboration supporting relief efforts.

MAY 31, 2023: Annual Haitian Heritage History Bee

This event highlighted the history of Haiti and its numerous contributions. Miami-Dade County Public School students competed and showcased their knowledge of the rich cultural legacy of Haiti.

JUNE 2, 2023: ITC/GMCC Consular Corps Reception

ITC, along with its partners at the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and Baptist Health International, sponsored a reception targeted to the accredited foreign diplomats posted in Miami-Dade County. This year's Consular Corps Reception program was part of the GMCC Goals Conference and remarks were made by the Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners and the ITC, remarks were also made by representatives from the U.S. Commercial Service, and the Consular Corps of Miami. This event was robustly attended with more than 150 consular officials and trade representatives, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, ITC Board Members, and business officials.

JULY 13, 2023: Consular Corps of Miami - Airport Operations Seminar 2023

Miami International Airport hosted an Airport Operations Seminar for the Consular Corps of Miami. The event provided an overview on MIA's Airport Operations, presented by MIA, State and Federal agencies, and local partners and stakeholders. ITC attended the event.

JULY 14, 2023: Bastille Day Celebrations hosted by the Consulate General of France in Miami

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III along with ITC staff attended the Bastille Day celebrations organized by the Consulate General of France in Miami.

JULY 18, 2023: Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce International Committee Meeting

ITC participated in the first International Committee meeting of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce in the fiscal year 2023-2024. The agenda included the upcoming mission to Japan, collaborating on inbound delegations and working with the Consular Corps of Miami in a cohesive manner.

JULY 26-28, 2023: Sister Cities International 2023 Leadership & Annual Business Meeting

ITC attended the Sister Cities International 2023 Leadership and Annual Business Meeting. ITC talked about the Sister Cities initiatives in Cape Town and Aix Marseille Provence Metropole among others and connected with other Sister Cities programs across the U.S. and the globe.

AUGUST 2, 2023: World Trade Center Miami & MIA Briefing Session on the Air Cargo/Supply Chain Americas Conference

Members of the WTC and MIA provided a briefing on the Air Cargo/Supply Chain Americas Conference Program schedule, taking place October 30, 2023 - November 2, 2023.

AUGUST 9, 2023: International Committee Meeting

ITC staff attended the International Committee meeting. Consul General Sylvia Cesaratto, Consulate General of Canada in Miami presented on trade and investment relations between Canada and the US.

AUGUST 15, 2023: Consulate General of Japan in Miami

ITC met with Consul General Kazuhiro Nakai, Consulate General of Japan in Miami to discuss the growing ties between Japan and Miami-Dade County and new economic development opportunities.

AUGUST 17, 2023: Consulate General of Germany in Miami

ITC met and welcomed the new Consul General of Germany in Miami, Consul General Christofer Burger. ITC worked with him and his team on Urban Mobility, Renewable Energy and FinTech Sectors and set up a meeting for the Consul General with the Miami-Dade County Emergency Management Team.

AUGUST 22, 2023: ITC Sister Cities, Consular Corps, & Protocol Committee Meeting

ITC Organized the Sister Cities, Consular Corps & Protocol Committee Meeting. Chairwoman Del Cristo reported on ITC business development missions to Cape Town and Aix Marseille Provence Metropole. ITC Staff reported on Sister Cities initiatives.

AUGUST 28, 2023: Global Ties Miami

ITC met with Global Ties Miami to discuss the visit of a delegation from Europe on September 18. ITC will organize a briefing session for the delegation.

AUGUST 30, 2023: World Trade Center Miami's Stakeholders Meeting

ITC attended World Trade Center Miami's Stakeholders Meeting and networking reception. The platform provided the opportunity for participating organizations to ideate on how to promote the County and improve trade and investment opportunities in a collaborative fashion.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023: Consulate General of Italy in Miami

ITC met and welcomed the new Consul General of Italy, Michele Mistò to Miami. ITC will be working with his office on leveraging the Sister Cities relationships with Asti and Viareggio and in sectors like food and beverage, tech, and fashion.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023: Hispanic Coalition

ITC met with Rosa Kasse, Director, Hispanic Coalition, to discuss areas of collaboration. The Hispanic Coalition in Miami is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a wide range of community resources and support services. Their initiatives include education, leadership development, immigration assistance, health services, and employment resources. They aim to enhance and inform the Hispanic community in Miami.

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 (+ OCTOBER 1-2, 2023): International Trade and Business Expo organized by Collectif Coopération Export Martinique

ITC met with the Collectif Coopération Export Martinique Team on September 29 to discuss final details on the International Trade and Business Expo (ITBE 2023). The event, taking place in Miami from October 1-2, 2023, aims to promote trade and investment opportunities with small-scale businesses in Martinique, French Guiana, and Guadeloupe. ITC Board Member Brenda Betancourt will provide welcome remarks and ITC staff will engage in a roundtable discussion to provide an overview about the role of ITC and trade ties between Miami-Dade County and the Caribbean region.

TRADE MISSIONS

Inbound trade missions consist of reciprocal visits made by cities visited by Miami-Dade County and come as a result of an invitation made or of missions organized by consulates, trade offices and local or foreign partner organizations. The ITC office greets inbound trade missions, provides agenda coordination with local government and economic development organizations, and offers logistical support.

Outbound missions consist of meetings with high-level government officials and economic development agencies to promote Miami-Dade County's role abroad as a "Global Gateway" and the "Gateway to the Americas" for international trade.

ITC hosted a total of **36** inbound trade missions and organized **two** outbound missions in FY 2022-23, which were as follows:

OCTOBER 20, 2022: Mayor of Santo Domingo del Este, Dominican Republic

The Honorable Miguel Jimenez, Mayor of Santo Domingo del Este, Dominican Republic, led an inbound delegation to Miami-Dade County. Mayor Jimenez expressed interest in working closely with ITC to advance trade between Miami-Dade County and Santo Domingo del Este, Dominican Republic.

OCTOBER 20, 2022: AMCHAM Barranquilla

During a meeting with ITC, AMCHAM Barranquilla expressed interest in working together with ITC to promote bilateral trade between Miami-Dade County and Barranquilla, Colombia.

OCTOBER 24, 2022: Collectif Coopération Export Martinique

ITC met with Denis-Antoine Hérault and Viviane Chiffirin, Collectif Coopération Export Martinique (CEEM), to discuss the International Trade and Business Expo (ITBE 2023), an event aimed to promote trade and investment opportunities with small-scale businesses in Martinique, French Guiana, and Guadeloupe, that CEEM is planning to host in Miami in October 2023. ITC offered support by promoting the event via business trade alerts and social media. ITC also recommended CEEM to connect with local Chambers.

NOVEMBER 1, 2022: Indo-American Chamber of Commerce

ITC organized a briefing and networking day for an inbound delegation from India, led by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, comprising nine companies from multiple sectors such as healthcare, IT, green-tech industries, legal, and consulting. The 43 delegates met with potential business partners and expressed interest in setting up an office in South Florida. Vice Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, met with the delegates to discuss two-way trade between Miami-Dade County and India.

NOVEMBER 3, 2022: Inbound Delegation from Honduras led by Calle 8 InterAmerican Chamber of Commerce

ITC made arrangements for the inbound delegation from Honduras, led by the Calle 8 InterAmerican Chamber of Commerce, to meet with Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, BCC & ITC Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz, and coordinated briefings with the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), and a site visit at PortMiami.

NOVEMBER 9, 2022: Business Development Trade Mission led by AmCham Bolivia

ITC hosted an inbound business development trade mission led by AmCham Bolivia. ITC coordinated meetings with BCC & ITC Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, briefings by Enterprise Florida, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, PortMiami, and secured a venue for their reception at World Trade Center Miami.

NOVEMBER 10, 2022: Sister Cities Signing Ceremony with Mancomunidad Gran Ciudad del Sur de Guatemala

ITC organized the Sister Cities Signing Ceremony between Miami-Dade County and Mancomunidad Gran Ciudad del Sur de Guatemala, Guatemala. BCC & ITC Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, and Mayor Minor Orellana signed the agreement and shared best practices to begin advancing bilateral relations between both regions.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022: Xunta de Galicia Institutional Visit

An inbound delegation from the Xunta de Galicia expressed interest in solidifying the trade relationship between Miami-Dade County and Galicia, Spain. ITC arranged meetings for the delegation with Miami-Dade County elected officials: Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, BCC & ITC Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, and Senator Javier D. Souto.

NOVEMBER 16, 2022: Business Development Mission led by AmCham Panama

ITC hosted an inbound business development mission led by AmCham Panama. The delegation comprised of 18 delegates seeking business opportunities in Miami-Dade. ITC provided a presentation about Miami-Dade County as a global trade hub, the role of ITC, and trade trends between Panama and Miami.

NOVEMBER 17, 2022: AmCham Panama & ProPanama

ITC attended a welcome reception hosted by ProPanama and AmCham Panama. ITC provided welcome remarks and introduced the inbound delegation to the Panamanian American Chamber of Commerce as well as ITC Board Members, Carlos Guerra, Alejandra Collarte, Joe Chi, and Ilona Vega.

NOVEMBER 28, 2022: Consulate General of Turkey in Miami / Turkish Airlines

ITC organized a meeting with Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and the Consul General of Turkey in Miami with a high-level delegation from Turkish Airlines, which included the Chairman of the Board of Turkish Airlines. The meeting served to promote bilateral trade ties between Miami-Dade County and Turkey.

NOVEMBER 30, 2022: National Day Reception hosted by the Consulate General of Romania in Miami

At the request of the Consulate General of Ireland in Miami, ITC met with Consul General Sarah Kavanagh and Dr. Josephine Igoe. Dr. Igoe is working with Florida International University to set up a student exchange program for postgraduate students undertaking the M.Sc. in International Management in the University of Galway, Ireland, and students undertaking the Master of International Business at FIU. During the meeting, Dr. Igoe requested ITC to brief students, in partnership with the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA) and the Miami-Dade Seaport Department.

DECEMBER 8, 2022: Inbound Delegation from LATAM

ITC provided insight about Miami-Dade County and the role of ITC to an inbound delegation from Argentina, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Panama. The delegation was led by the Fundacion de Lideres Globales.

JANUARY 9-10, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Aix-Marseille Provence Metropolis, France

ITC organized a business roundtable to brief an inbound delegation from Aix-Marseille Provence Metropolis, France on new opportunities in Miami-Dade County. Roundtable participants included the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and the French American Chamber. The delegation met with Miami-Dade College Business & Innovation Center, Fashion School and Business School. The delegation also visited PortMiami for a briefing and site tour. ITC set up a meeting with Mayor Levine Cava and they also met with the leadership at CMA CGM Miami. This engagement allowed for Miami-Dade County to strengthen the Sister Cities and bilateral trade relations, and discuss upcoming opportunities in both regions, with focus on the innovation and tech sector.

JANUARY 28, 2023: Official Visit of the President of the Dominican Republic

ITC joined Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, and ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez, Commissioner Juan Carlos "JC" Bermudez, and Senator René García, for a Dialogue with The Honorable Luis Abinader, President of the Dominican Republic. The Commissioners presented a Key to the County and an Official Distinguished Visitors Certificate to President Luis Abinader. We thank the Consulate General of the Dominican Republic in Miami for the invitation.

FEBRUARY 20-24, 2023: Outbound Mission from Miami-Dade County to Cape Town, South Africa

ITC organized a mission to Cape Town, South Africa, to participate in the first Sister Cities International (SCI) Africa Summit in February 2023. The mission was led by Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, who was joined by ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, along with the Miami-Dade Seaport Department, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), and Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. The delegation participated in the SCI Africa Means Business Roundtable and met with the Port of Cape Town, Executive Mayor of Cape Town, The Honorable Geordin Hill-Lewis, Alderman James Vos, H.E. Reuben E. Brigety, II, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, The Honorable Todd Haskell, U.S. Consul General in Cape Town, and Ndileka Mandela, Founder/CEO of the Mandela Foundation. The mission was a great opportunity to promote bilateral trade, economic cooperation, culture, and tourism between Miami-Dade County and Cape Town, which helped solidify our existing Sister Seaports and Sister Cities relations and connect with other African countries attending the Summit to further explore and foster business/trade development opportunities with them.

MARCH 6, 2023: Embassy of Thailand in the U.S.

Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III met with The Honorable Tanee Sangrat, Ambassador of Thailand to the U.S., at the Asian Cultural Festival. ITC set up a briefing session for the Thai delegation with Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and Enterprise Florida to discuss trade and investment opportunities between South Florida and Thailand.

MARCH 9, 2023: Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami

ITC organized a meeting for The Honorable Janio Rosales, Minister of Economy in Guatemala, with Commissioner Roberto Gonzalez, the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), and Miami-Dade Seaport Department. The Minister was briefed by both departments and discussed business development opportunities as well as a Trade Fair being organized by the Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami.

MARCH 13, 2023: Costa Rica Chamber of Commerce

ITC met with the Costa Rica Chamber of Commerce and provided an introduction to a business owner from Costa Rica seeking business opportunities in Miami. The Chamber shared details about a networking event, taking place March 28, to promote business and investment opportunities in Costa Rica. ITC offered the Chamber support by promoting the event via Business Trade Alerts and social media.

MARCH 13, 2023: Consulate General of Mexico in Miami / Ambassador of Mexico to the U.S.

ITC coordinated a meeting between Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, and The Honorable Esteban Moctezuma, Ambassador of Mexico to the U.S. The discussion focused on advancing bilateral trade ties, specifically on the East coast of Mexico, as PortMiami has been targeting Mexico to increase sea cargo logistics productivity. Ambassador Esteban Moctezuma extended an invitation to Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, to visit Mexico in the future.

MARCH 27, 2023: Consulate General of Argentina in Miami / Ministry of Tourism of Argentina

Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III welcomed an inbound delegation from Argentina led by The Honorable Matias Lammens, Minister of Tourism and Sports of Argentina. The delegation included Hernan Vanoli, Director de Promocion del INPROTUR, and was accompanied by The Honorable Fernandez Suarez, Consul General of Argentina in Miami. ITC welcomed the delegation and provided protocol support during the visit.

MARCH 28, 2023: Embassy of Czech Republic in the U.S.

ITC met with an inbound delegation from the Czech Republic led by The Honorable Miloslav Stasek, Czech Ambassador in the U.S., to discuss improving commercial bilateral trade ties and solidifying the County's Sister Cities relationship with Prague. The delegation included The Honorable Tomas Kopecny, Government Envoy, and Stanislav Jansta, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Miami. ITC briefed the delegates about the role of ITC, supporting inbound missions, upcoming trade events and Sister Cities initiatives. The Ambassador plans to bring a trade delegation to Miami in the future.

MARCH 31, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Ghana

ITC met with The Honorable Nancy Q. Sam, Vice President, ECOWAS Tourism Private Sector Confederation COPITUR. Discussion topics included possible collaboration for an inbound delegation from Ghana that will attend the Food & Beverage Show and expressed interest in Sister City relationship.

APRIL 17, 2023: Director General of Special and Strategic Projects for the Presidency of the Dominican Republic

ITC hosted Roberto Angel Salcedo, Director General of Special and Strategic Projects for the Presidency of the Dominican Republic and coordinated a meeting with Commissioner Keon Hardemon as well as the Wynwood Business Improvement District.

APRIL 18, 2023: AMCHAM Dominican Republic Networking Event

ITC attended the networking event to welcome AMCHAM DR and connect with a Tech Delegation from the Dominican Republic who were selected as finalists for the Emerge Americas startup competition.

APRIL 20, 2023: Minister of the Grand Bahama, Bahamas / Sister Cities Caribbean Lead Representative

ITC hosted the Honorable Ginger Moxey, Minister of the Grand Bahama, Bahamas, who is also the Caribbean representative of Sister Cities International. During her visit, ITC connected her with Emerge Americas to have her attend the conference.

MAY 19, 2023: Inbound Delegation from the University of Galway, Ireland

ITC hosted a 56-member delegation from the University of Galway, Ireland. The delegation was briefed on economic development opportunities in the County by Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, Miami-Dade College, and ITC.

MAY 24, 2023: Inbound Delegation from France

ITC coordinated a meeting between Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III and Ambassador Laurent Bili, the new Ambassador of France to the United States, and was accompanied by Raphael Trapp, Consul General of France in Miami. The dignitaries discussed the County's upcoming business development mission to France and other bilateral issues related to trade, urban mobility, and green fuel.

JUNE 2, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Senegal

ITC hosted a delegation from Senegal and set up briefings with the Miami-Dade County Commission for Women and the Beacon Council.

JUNE 4-8, 2023: AMCHAM DR Trade Mission to Miami

ITC briefed an inbound delegation led by AMCHAM DR which was composed of business owners from the Dominican Republic. Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, provided remarks at the Welcome Reception and presented a plaque to AMCHAM DR in honor of their 100th year anniversary.

JUNE 13-14, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Mozambique

ITC hosted H.E. Alfredo Nuvunga, Ambassador of Republic of Mozambique and coordinated a meeting with the Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, Chairman, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, & International Trade Consortium; briefings/tours of Lindsay Hopkins Technical College, Florida International University Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management, Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau, Multicultural, Tourism & Development, and PortMiami.

JUNE 14-24, 2023: Outbound Delegation to Paris and Marseille, France

ITC, in coordination with the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, organized the outbound business development mission to Paris and Sister City, Aix Marseille Provence Metropole led by the Board of County Commissioners and ITC Chairman, The Honorable Oliver Gilbert and Commissioner of District 6 and ITC Vice Chair, The Honorable Kevin Cabrera and Commissioner District 3, The Honorable Keon Hardemon. The delegation of over 40 delegates attended the Paris Air Show and participated in meetings set up by the Beacon Council and ITC in Paris. ITC organized multiple G2G and G2B meetings in Aix Marseille Provence including Port of Marseille and CMA CGM. The End of Mission report is available on the ITC website.

JUNE 15, 2023: Minister of Tourism of Saint Lucia

ITC met with The Honorable Dr. Ernest Hilaire, Minister of Tourism of Saint Lucia, at the 2023 World Travel Expo Miami event, and discussed future collaboration between the two regions.

JULY 24, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Senegal

ITC hosted a delegation from Senegal comprising Mayors and entrepreneurs interested in expanding their businesses in Miami-Dade County. ITC suggested they open a trade office in the County for better access to business opportunities.

JULY 31, 2023: Visit of Mayor of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

ITC hosted The Honorable Jhonny Fernandez Saucedo, Mayor of Santa Cruz, La Sierra, Bolivia and coordinated meetings with the Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, and ITC; Miami-Dade Seaport Department, PortMiami Tunnel, Miami-Dade Transit and Public Works, and Zoo Miami.

AUGUST 16, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Barranquilla, Colombia

ITC met with a delegation from Barranquilla, Colombia and talked about the Sister City initiatives and promoting economic development through the platform.

AUGUST 22, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Taiwan

ITC participated in the culinary display of master chefs from Taiwan organized by the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office (TECO) in Miami in collaboration with Miami Culinary Institute.

AUGUST 31, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Serbia

ITC was invited by Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA) to participate in the Business Roundtable for the ministerial delegation from Serbia. ITC briefed the delegation about the role of ITC and how ITC can help them in bilateral trade promotion initiatives. Serbia is exploring new air routes with MIA and business opportunities with the County in emerging tech, food and beverage sectors.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023: Inbound Delegation from the Middle East

ITC, in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel in Miami, organized a briefing session for the Sharaka Delegation. ITC invited Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), PortMiami, Beacon Council, Board Member Lynare Robbins, Embassy of Bahrain and Asian American Advisory Board for the session.

SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

Founded in 1981 by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, the Sister Cities program of Miami-Dade County is administered by the office of International Trade Consortium. The program serves to promote international cultural understanding by developing programs that enhance citizen diplomacy, create international goodwill, and support the County's global trade agenda.

Miami-Dade County has established Sister Cities relationships with cities in South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and Asia. Throughout these years, the program has developed innovative projects which have furthered international cooperation and understanding between the County and its respective Sister Cities.

Sister Cities International was created during President Eisenhower's 1956 White House summit on citizen diplomacy, where he envisioned a network that would be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds between people from different communities around the world. The goal of the Sister Cities program is to create and strengthen partnerships between the U.S. and communities around the world through local government cooperation, cultural understanding, and economic development activities.

Miami-Dade County has a Sister Cities Agreements and MOUs with the following **38** cities:

1. Asti Province, Italy
2. Asuncion, Paraguay
3. *Barcelona, Spain***
4. Cape Town, South Africa
5. Cabildo of Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain
6. Cayman Islands, UK
7. City of Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos Islands
8. Commonwealth of the Bahamas
9. *Community of Madrid, Spain***
10. County Cork, Ireland
11. Curitiba, Brazil
12. Dakar, Senegal
13. Departamento Santa Cruz, Bolivia
14. Federation of St. Kitts & Nevis Islands
15. Iquique, Chile
16. Kingston, Jamaica
17. Lamentin, Guadeloupe
18. *Madrid, Spain***
19. Maldonado, Uruguay
20. Mancomunidad Gran Cuidad del Sur del Departamento de Guatemala, Guatemala
21. Metropolis of Aix-Marseille-Provence, France
22. New Taipei City, Taiwan
23. Paramaribo, Suriname
24. Pereira, Colombia
25. Petit Goave, Haiti
26. Prague, Czech Republic
27. Province of Mendoza, Argentina
28. Pucallpa, Peru
29. San Jose, Costa Rica
30. San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic
31. Santo Domingo Distrito Nacional, Dominican Republic
32. Sao Paulo, Brazil
33. *Southampton, UK***
34. State of Monagas, Venezuela
35. Stockholm County, Sweden
36. *Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel***
37. Viareggio, Italy
38. Veracruz, Mexico

MOU**

ITC engaged in the following **8 Sister Cities** initiatives in FY 2022-23:

NOVEMBER 10, 2022: Sister Cities Signing Ceremony with Mancomunidad Gran Ciudad del Sur de Guatemala

ITC organized the Sister Cities Signing Ceremony between Miami-Dade County and Mancomunidad Gran Ciudad del Sur de Guatemala, Guatemala. Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, and Mayor Minor Orellana signed the agreement and shared best practices to begin advancing bilateral relations between both regions.

JANUARY 9-10, 2023: Inbound Delegation from Aix-Marseille Provence Metropolis, France

ITC organized a business roundtable to brief an inbound delegation from Aix-Marseille Provence Metropolis, France on new opportunities in Miami-Dade County. Roundtable participants included the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MIA), Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and the French American Chamber. The delegation met with Miami-Dade College Business & Innovation Center, Fashion School and Business School. The delegation also visited PortMiami for a briefing and site tour. ITC set up a meeting with Mayor Levine Cava and they also met with the leadership at CMA CGM Miami. This engagement allowed for Miami-Dade County to strengthen the Sister Cities and bilateral trade relations, and discuss upcoming opportunities in both regions, with focus on the innovation and tech sector.

FEBRUARY 20-24, 2023: 2023 Sister Cities International First Africa Summit

On February 20-24, 2023, Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III led a trade mission to the City of Cape Town, South Africa, one of Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities, to participate in the first Sister Cities International Africa Summit (SCI). Chairman Gilbert was joined by ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera and Commissioner Keon Hardemon, as well as PortMiami, Miami International Airport (MIA), and the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB).

The delegation participated in the SCI Africa Means Business Roundtable and met with the Port of Cape Town, Cape Town Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis, Mayoral Committee Member Alderman James Vos, H.E. Reuben E. Brigety II, Ambassador of the U.S. Embassy South Africa, Consul General Todd Haskell, U.S. Consulate General Cape Town, and Ndileka Mandela, Founder & CEO of the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

The mission provided the opportunity to promote bilateral trade, economic cooperation, culture, and tourism between Cape Town and Miami-Dade County. In addition, the mission helped further solidify Sister Seaports and Sister Cities relations between Miami-Dade County and Cape Town, and discover business and trade development opportunities with other African countries that also attended the event.

On behalf of the Miami-Dade County delegation, we extend a thank you to Lorna Johnson, SCI Summit Convener, and the SCI Operations and Planning Committee for a very successful first Africa Summit.

MARCH 28, 2023: City of Prague

ITC met the Ambassador of the Czech Republic on March 28, who is keen to work with ITC on bringing trade delegations from Prague and introduced ITC to the new team at the Office of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. ITC set up a virtual call with the City of Prague on April 11, 2023, to discuss priority sectors, synergies, inbound missions, and future initiatives.

APRIL 20, 2023: Minister of the Grand Bahama, Bahamas / Sister Cities Caribbean Lead Representative

ITC hosted the Honorable Ginger Moxey, Minister of the Grand Bahama, Bahamas, who is also the Caribbean representative of Sister Cities International. During her visit, ITC connected Minister Moxey with Emerge Americas to have her attend the conference.

JUNE 16-24, 2023: Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III leads Business Development Mission to France

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, led a business development mission on June 16-24, 2023, from Miami-Dade County to France. The delegation which included members of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, PortMiami, Miami International Airport (MIA), and the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB), met with French officials and business leaders in Paris and Marseille.

France is South Florida's 12th largest trading partner and second largest trading partner from the European region. Marseille Provence Airport is the fourth largest airport in France, with Compagnie Maritime d'Affrètement (CMA) and Compagnie Générale Maritime (CGM), a French shipping and logistics company, world headquarters also located in Metropolis of Aix-Marseille-Provence — one of Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities.

CMA & CGM's has an office located in Miami, Florida. PortMiami also has a Sister Port Agreement with the Port of Marseille, while Miami International Airport (MIA) has a direct air service route to Paris. ITC looks forward to further strengthening economic ties between Miami-Dade County and France.

JULY 26-28, 2023: Sister Cities International 2023 Leadership & Annual Business Meeting

ITC attended the Sister Cities International 2023 Leadership and Annual Business Meeting. ITC talked about the Sister Cities initiatives in Cape Town and Aix Marseille Provence Metropole among others and connected with other Sister Cities programs across the US and the globe.

AUGUST 22, 2023: ITC Sister Cities, Consular Corps, & Protocol Committee Meeting

ITC Organized the Sister Cities, Consular Corps & Protocol Committee Meeting. Chairwoman Del Cristo reported on ITC business development missions to Cape Town and Aix Marseille Provence Metropole. ITC Staff reported on Sister Cities initiatives.

ITC BOARD MEMBERS

The ITC Board advises on issues related to the Miami-Dade County's international trade agenda. The Miami-Dade County Mayor and Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners appoint 16 citizen volunteers, from the public and private sectors to the ITC Board. Key economic development agencies in the community appoint 14 representatives to the ITC Board.

Please note: The Honorable Jose “Pepe” Diaz served as ITC Chairman from October 1, 2022 - November 18, 2022. He was succeeded by ITC Vice Chairman, The Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III, as the Interim ITC Chairman on November 22, 2022 and assumed the position officially as ITC Chairman on December 6, 2022. The Honorable Kevin Marino Cabrera was appointed as the ITC Vice Chairman on December 22, 2022. The ITC Board members concluded FY 2022-23 as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III

Chairperson
Appointee of the Chairman

Kevin Marino Cabrera

Vice Chairperson
Appointee of the Mayor

Gerald Zadikoff

Appointee of the Mayor

Olga Ramudo

Appointee of the Mayor

Kirk Wagar, Ambassador

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 1

Jeff Lozama

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 2

Brenda Betancourt

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 3

Michele Burger

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 4

Lynare Robbins

Appointee Board of County Commissioners
District 5

Eric Diaz-Padron, Esq.

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 6

Julian Linares

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 7

Alexander Heckler, Esq.

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 8

Vacant

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 9

Luis Lauredo

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 10

Vacant

Appointee of Board of County Commissioners
District 11

Jacqueline Del Cristo Berens, Esq.

Appointee Board of County Commissioners
District 12

Manuel Huerta

Appointee Board of County Commissioners
District 13

Lenny P. Feldman, Esq.

Appointee of Florida Custom Brokers &
Forwarders Association

Alice E. Ancona

Appointee of World Trade Center Miami

Jose "Joe" L. Chi

Appointee of CAMACOL

Daniel Jacobson, Esq.

Appointee of District Export Council of Florida

Drew McKinney

Appointee of The Foundation for Democracy in
Africa

Carlos Guerra

Appointee of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Richard de Villiers

Appointee of PortMiami

Jimmy Nares

Appointee of Miami International Airport

Andrew J. Markus, Esq.

Appointee of The Beacon Council

Christopher Rollins

Appointee of the Greater Miami Convention &
Visitors Bureau

Alejandra Collarte

Appointee of the Greater Miami Chamber of
Commerce

Wayne Shah

Appointee of Florida International Bankers
Association

Preeya Disyanan

Appointee of the Miami-Dade County Asian
American Advisory Board

Gloria Fonseca

Appointee of the Miami-Dade Chamber of
Commerce

ITC BOARD COMMITTEES

ITC committees support ITC's mission of promoting Miami-Dade County as a global gateway. The committees work with the Consular Corps, bi-national chambers of commerce, and other strategic trade partner organizations.

The ITC Committees and ad hoc committees in FY 2022-23 were as followed:

Executive Committee

To maintain operational continuity, the ITC Board has an Executive Committee that acts on behalf of the ITC Board when the full ITC Board cannot meet. This committee is responsible for implementing ITC policies and certifying incoming and outgoing trade missions. The Executive Committee is composed of the following members:

- Oliver G. Gilbert, III, ITC Board Chair
- VACANT, ITC Board Secretary (Elected)
- Manuel Huerta, ITC Board Treasurer (Elected)

Missions Committee

This committee identifies and recommends countries for trade promotion activities including regions for inbound or outbound business development to strengthen ties with Miami-Dade County leading trade partners. The Missions Committee is composed of the following members:

- Lenny P. Feldman, Esq., Committee Chair
- Jacqueline del Cristo, Esq., Committee Vice Chair
- Alejandra Collarte
- Alexander Heckler, Esq.
- Carlos Guerra
- Christopher Rollins
- Daniel Jacobson, Esq.
- Jeff Lozama
- Jimmy Nares
- Richard de Villiers

Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Committee

This committee provides direction to the Miami-Dade County Sister Cities program and guides our relations with foreign governments. It is the official liaison to the Consulates General and Honorary Consuls in Miami-Dade County. The Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Ad Hoc Committee is composed of the following members:

- Jacqueline del Cristo, Esq., Committee Chair
- Alejandra Collarte, Committee Vice Chair
- Brenda Betancourt
- Gerald Zadikoff
- Gloria Fonseca
- Jose "Joe" L. Chi
- Lynare Robbins
- Preeya Disyanan

Summit of the Americas Ad Hoc Committee

The Summits of the Americas are institutionalized gatherings of heads of state and government of the member states of the Western Hemisphere. They discuss common concerns, seek solutions, and develop a shared vision for their future development of the region, be it economic, social, or political in nature.

The Summit of the Americas Ad Hoc Committee was created for ITC Board members to share information about the Summit of the Americas and further explore the possibility of hosting the Ninth Summit of the Americas in Miami-Dade County. The Committee is composed of the following members:

- Jose “Joe” L. Chi
- Ambassador Kirk Wagar
- Alejandra Collarte
- Alice Ancona
- Julian Linares
- Manuel Huerta

Under the leadership of Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, the ITC staff worked diligently with the support of the Office of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and its administration to prepare the bid. The ITC staff secured letters of support from elected officials and from the following local civic and business groups:

1. Mayor of Miami-Dade County
2. Chairman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
3. Mayor of the City of Miami Beach
4. Mayor of the City of Miami
5. Asociación Iberoamericana de Cámaras de Comercio, Industria y Servicios, A.C. (AICO)
6. Brazil American Chamber of Commerce of Florida (BACCF)
7. Latin American Chamber of Commerce of USA (CAMACOL)
8. The Coalition of Miami-Dade County Chambers of Commerce
9. Aventura Marketing Council/Aventura Chamber of Commerce Chamber
10. South Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce
11. Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce
12. Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
13. Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau
14. Greater Miami Hotel & Beaches Association
15. Hialeah Chamber of Commerce & Industry
16. Key Biscayne Chamber of Commerce
17. Miami-Dade Beacon Council
18. Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce
19. Miami-Dade Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
20. Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce
21. Miami Springs/Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
22. South Dade Chamber

Summit of the Americas Ad Hoc Committee Timeline:

On June 9, 2021, during the ITC Board Meeting, the ITC discussed the possibility of Miami-Dade County hosting the Ninth Summit of the Americas and an Ad Hoc Committee was formed. The Ninth Summit of the Americas is coming back to the U.S. after 27 years. It was scheduled to be held in 2021 but was rescheduled to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 18, 2021, the Summit of the Americas Ad Hoc Committee met and recommended that Miami-Dade County submit a bid to host the Summit of the Americas.

On August 20, 2021, The U.S. Department of State published Federal Register number 2021-17852 announcing the requirements to submit the bid for the Ninth Summit of the Americas with a deadline of September 3, 2021.

On September 3, 2021, Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz submitted the bid to host the Ninth Summit of the Americas. The same day, Chairman Diaz received an email from Kevin Michael O’Reilly, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemispheres Affairs, United States Department of State, acknowledging receipt of Miami-Dade County’s bid. The ITC staff along with the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Office in Washington DC kept in communication with the U.S. Department of State throughout the reviewing and bid approval process.

On September 20, 2021, Interim Director Maria Dreyfus-Ulvert received communication that The Major Events Division within the Office of the Chief of Protocol at the U.S. Department of State had compiled and reviewed all of the materials that were submitted, and will provide further updates once a decision has been reached by The White House, with regards to the bids in final consideration, as a potential host city for next year’s summit.

On January 18, 2022, President Joe Biden released a statement announcing Los Angeles as selected Host City for the Ninth Summit of the Americas.

ITC MEETINGS

ITC staff coordinates Board of Directors meetings and Committee meetings where ITC Board Members meet to discuss opportunities in global trade and investment and other objectives that focus on advancing economic development initiatives in Miami-Dade County.

The following six meetings were held in FY 2022-23:

ITC Board of Directors Meeting:

- November 1, 2022
- April 12, 2023
- September 11, 2023

Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Committee Meeting:

- October 18, 2022
- August 22, 2023

Missions Committee Meeting:

- October 24, 2022

OCTOBER 18, 2022: Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Committee Meeting

ITC organized a meeting with members of the Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Committee to provide updates and upcoming initiatives with Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities Program.

OCTOBER 24, 2022: Missions Committee Meeting

ITC organized a meeting with members of the Missions Committee to discuss inbound/outbound mission activities and report updates on priority countries for outbound missions.

NOVEMBER 1, 2022: ITC Board of Directors Meeting

ITC organized the last ITC Board of Directors Meeting of 2022 with Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz as the ITC Chair. The Board approved the Minutes of the previous Meeting.

APRIL 12, 2023: ITC Board of Directors Meeting

The Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III and Kevin Marino Cabrera kicked off the first 2023 ITC Board Meeting, as the new Chairman and ITC Vice Chairman, respectively. Chairman Gilbert welcomed all newly appointed and reappointed ITC Board Members, and provided remarks regarding working together to promote Miami-Dade County as a global trade hub.

AUGUST 22, 2023: Sister Cities, Consular Corps, and Protocol Committee Meeting

Committee members met to discuss updates on Sister Cities engagements and upcoming initiatives.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023: ITC Board of Directors Meeting

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III welcomed ITC Vice Chairman Kevin Marino Cabrera and ITC Board Members at the ITC Board of Directors Meeting on April 12, 2023. Jackie del Cristo, Chairwoman, Sister Cities Committee, provided updates on recent collaborations and future opportunities with Miami-Dade County's Sister Cities. ITC Staff reported on past and upcoming events and economic development initiatives. Potential target countries for future outbound missions will be presented at the next ITC Board of Directors Meeting.

FY 2022-23 ACCOUNT BALANCES

Fund Description	Ending Balance
Jay Malina International Trade Consortium	\$ 128,488.52
Sister Cities 42 nd Annual International Conference	\$ 1,218.42
Miami-Dade Sister Cities Scholarship	\$ 6,051.16
Miami-Dade Sister Cities Program	\$ 6,134.78
Trade Mission Center of the Americas Bank Account Balances	
City National Bank Unrestricted Funds	\$ 44,804.36
City National Bank Restricted Funds	\$ 20,583.80



Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Chairman

Anthony Rodriguez
Vice Chairman

Oliver G. Gilbert, III
District 1

Marleine Bastien
District 2

Keon Hardemon
District 3

Micky Steinberg
District 4

Eileen Higgins
District 5

Kevin Marino Cabrera
District 6

Raquel A. Regalado
District 7

Danielle Cohen Higgins
District 8

Kionne L. McGhee
District 9

Anthony Rodriguez
District 10

Roberto J. Gonzalez
District 11

Juan Carlos Bermudez
District 12

Senator René García
District 13

Juan Fernandez-Barquin
Clerk of the Court and Comptroller

Pedro J. Garcia
Property Appraiser

Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney