All Members/Members of the COA

Sub: Regarding study on promotion of India-Africa trade (Country-wise issues which are deterring our exports to Africa and suggestions on strategy to boost our exports to Africa)

Ref. No.: D.O No. 49057/1/2018-FT-(AF)

We wish to inform you that the Joint Director (FT- Africa), Department of Commerce is conducting study on promotion of India-Africa trade. The study identifies country/region wise commodities of potential for exports to Africa.

While, the Department would discuss the strategy to boost exports in detail with EPCs at a later date, following has been tentatively worked out as strategy to boost India’s exports to Africa.

i. Trade promotion activities under MAI such as Trade Exhibitions, BSM, RBSM (B2B)
ii. Time-bound resolution of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) through G2G
iii. Creating a mechanism for speedy resolution of payment defaults, partial/delayed payments by African importers- as this is a major deterrent.

This could include-

- Issuance of blanket advisory to Indian exporters for not undertaking any transaction without LoC and Legal contract with importer.
- Creating a database of African importers (in consultation with our missions and African authorities) so that antecedents/credentials of importers are known well in advance to our exporters.
- Capitalising on Indian (Diaspora) business community in Africa, this is expected to reduce to some extent, the risk of payment default.

In view of above, council has been advised to provide following information:

a) List of country-wise issues which are deterring our exports to Africa (including any kind of non-tariff barrier)
b) Suggestions on strategy to boost our exports to Africa

Members are therefore requested to provide inputs on country wise issues faced in Africa and also suggestions on boosting exports.

Your replies may please be sent to the undersigned at bharti@plexconcil.org latest by 26/02/2019

With best regards,
Yours sincerely,

Bharti Parave
(Sr. Executive)