



The Commonwealth

COVID-19 Policy Briefing Series

Revitalising Commonwealth Trade Post-COVID: Leveraging Maritime Trade and Shipping

Thursday 29 July 2021, 1500–1600 BST

Maritime trade is indispensable for global growth and prosperity – around 80 per cent of world trade by volume and more than 70 per cent by value is seaborne. The maritime sector is also at the heart of trade and economic activity for the Commonwealth. Many Commonwealth countries have invested significantly in developing their port capacity and this is reflected in a stellar performance historically. However, the unprecedented pandemic has severely affected maritime trade, shipping and seaports that connect Commonwealth countries to each other and world markets.

This webinar will discuss the findings of a recent study by the Commonwealth Secretariat on the impact of COVID-19 on maritime trade. It will explore the maritime trade landscape in the Commonwealth and demonstrate how maritime trade and shipping can help to revitalise Commonwealth trade post-COVID.

Speakers

Salamat Ali

Trade Economist,
Commonwealth Secretariat

Ganeshan Wignaraja

Senior Fellow, Institute of South Asian
Studies, National University of Singapore

Discussants

Julian Abril Garcia

Head of Facilitation,
Maritime Safety Division, IMO

Hassiba Benamara

Economic Affairs Officer, Division on
Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD

Moderator

Opeyemi Abebe

Head of Trade Competitiveness Section, Commonwealth Secretariat

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