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### Dubai to host 2014 TPO Network World Conference and Awards

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The International Trade Centre (ITC) and Dubai Exports today announced that the Tenth Trade Promotion Organizations (TPO) Network World Conference and Awards will be held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, on 3-5 November, 2014.

The event, which is jointly organized by ITC and Dubai Exports, will bring together more than 200 experts from TPOs, trade support institutions and academia, and will focus on innovative solutions that support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in increasing their export competitiveness. A particular emphasis at next year's event will be on the economic empowerment of women and on how to better promote and boost services exports.

Arancha González, ITC's Executive Director, said: 'I am particularly pleased that the 2014 TPO Network Conference and Awards will be hosted by Dubai Exports, a leader in providing innovative solutions to SMEs. I expect that this event will provide an opportunity for TPOs across the world to share best practices and innovative tools to foster SME competitiveness.'

Eng. Saed Al Awadhi, CEO of Dubai Exports Development Establishment - Government of Dubai, said: 'We are very pleased to host this unique and prestigious event in Dubai. The conference provides a platform where TPOs and their partners from around the world can gather to consolidate views and objectives to collectively improve their services for their SMEs and government audiences. Dubai is well known for hosting world-class events and conferences, offering an exciting business backdrop to this event.'

TPOs are instrumental in assisting their country's SMEs to become internationally competitive. The critical services that TPOs provide help create and sustain favorable business environments while building the skills and knowledge of SMEs to benefit from new opportunities and reach international markets.

Bringing together ITC's key partners, the TPO Network World Conference provides an arena for exchange and debate on the latest innovations in TPO management and services offered. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase best practices, share expertise with their peers and forge new partnerships.

The 2014 TPO Network Awards will be announced at a gala dinner on the first night of the conference. The call for applications for the Awards will be announced during the first quarter of 2014. For more information on the TPO Network Conference and Awards, please visit [TPOnetwork.net](http://TPOnetwork.net)

ITC is the joint agency of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations. ITC assists small and medium-sized enterprises in developing and transition economies to become more competitive in global markets, thereby contributing to sustainable economic development within the frameworks of the [Aid-for-Trade agenda](#) and the [Millennium Development Goals](#).

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