



## DECLARATION

### World Free Zone Convention

### 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, London

Around the world Free Zones, Special Economic Zones, Free Trade Zones and Export Processing Zones are engines for economic growth, societal advance, open trade, economic competitiveness, infrastructure development and commercial innovation and best practice.

At the 2012 Convention in London Zones & Zone Associations from all continents have agreed to redouble their efforts to maximise the contribution which they can make to the global growth agenda.

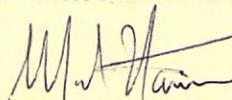
They highlight in particular:

- a. The continuing backwash of the financial crisis and the need to prioritise wealth-creating trade.
- b. The opportunities to create new zone cities and architectural and environmental showpieces using the free zone concept.
- c. The role of zones as exemplars of modern infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities, integrating services, logistics and transport networks.
- d. The contribution of dynamic innovation and a business-friendly environment, particularly beneficial for small and medium sized enterprises.
- e. The effectiveness of zones in replacing red tape with a red carpet by providing single window clearances for inward investment and company location.
- f. The contribution of zones to national development.

Drawing upon these advantages the participants in the World Free Zone Convention commit further to advance the work of their zones in interacting with international and regional organisations, economic and political groupings, national governments and legislators in demonstrating the contribution to the future world economy and societies which zones can make.

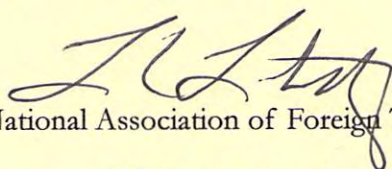
The Declaration is endorsed by the following national and regional Zones Associations present at the 12<sup>th</sup> Convention.

Africa Free Zones Association



AZFA Free Trade Zone Association of the Americas

Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs, India



National Association of Foreign Trade Zones, USA



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