

SRI LANKA LOGISTICS & FREIGHT FORWARDERS ASSOCIATION

TRAINING & EDUCATION REPORT 49th FAPAA ECM 10th June 2023



TRAINING, EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAMS

The Association has always been mindful of the developments taking place in the international freight forwarding arena and continue to keep the local freight forwarding industry abreast with the rest of the world. The Association is working towards raising standards within the industry and making the industry a dynamic and more professional trade sector. Thus, the Association has placed great emphasis on human resource development within the industry through local and international training programs.

The Academy of International Trade and Transport (AITT) is the training arm of the Sri Lanka Logistics & Freight Forwarders Association (SLFFA). It is a body endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) and an Accredited Training School (ATS) of International Air Transport Association (IATA). It is also a training institute approved by the Directorate of Merchant Shipping (DMS), Ministry of Ports & Aviation.

AITT conducts 3 training courses, namely, the Foundation Course in Multi-Modal Transport and Logistics, targeted for school leavers and anyone who is keen to start a career in Logistics; Certificate Course in Freight Forwarding and Multi-Modal Transport, which is targeted for those who wish to further their knowledge on the industry, and which is a requirement by the DMS to have a minimum of 2 staff members qualified in this course as this program is approved by the DMS; and finally the FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding and Logistics, an international qualification for those who wish to pursue higher studies in the Freight Forwarding industry. This certificate is recognized internationally.

All 3 training courses are currently being delivered virtually. In year 2022, a total of 145 students participated in all 3 courses, 66 students in the Certificate course, 46 students in the Foundation course and 33 students in the FIATA diploma course. All 3 courses were completed by December 2022.

The 1st batch of the Foundation course for year 2023 was completed in April with a total participation of 26 students and the 2nd batch will commence in June. The 1st batch of the Certificate course is currently in progress with a participation of 45 students and will be completed in July 2023. Its 2nd batch will commence in July. In addition the next FIATA diploma course is scheduled for June.

Therefore, we are pleased to record a total of 216 participants for the above 3 courses completed training during the year under review.

SLFFA held its graduation ceremony in March 2022, for students passing out on all 3 training courses. This event was held on a grand scale at Shangri-La Hotel Colombo with over 120 students receiving their awards, of which 75 students were awarded from the Certificate Course, 31 students were awarded from the Foundation Course and 18 students were awarded from the FIATA course.

Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) Training Program

As the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has upgraded its Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) training program to the Competency Based Training Assessment (CBTA) system, SLFFA has successfully completed the necessary procedures and have granted the Certificate of Accreditation to conduct the training programs for year 2023.

For the 21st consecutive year, SLFFA conducted its annual Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) training program with CBTA modules for the staff of its member companies. The response from the membership for the DGR training programs has been very positive and encouraging.

2 DG Refresher courses were conducted in the month of April and November 2022 with 19 and 24 students in attendance respectively. In addition, another Refresher course was conducted in April 2023 with 14 students participating in order to re-validate their certificates.

Therefore, we are pleased to record a total of 57 DGR course participants completed training during the year under review. We are looking forward to conduct the next DGR initial program in the month of May 2023.

The DGR programs were once again conducted by SLFFA's own in-house trainer, Mr. Suminda Hettiarachchi who is well experienced and received his initial and subsequent training directly from IATA Singapore. He has also been a lecturer at AITT from its inception.



DG Refresher course held in April 2023