

Seminar of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

"The quality of Valencia port helps us improve the management of other enclosures of the world"

- **Geneviève Féraud, Development Manager of UNCTAD, highlighted the role of Valencia in the training program for ports in developing countries promoted by this United Nations organism.**

Valencia, November 10th, 2016. - United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is holding a seminar in Valencia this week to help implement an efficient port management program in developing countries that is bringing together around twenty ports from all around the world.

The seminar has the participation of reference ports in training programs in the Spanish-speaking areas (Valencia and Gijón), English-speaking (Cork, Dublin, Belfast and Shannon Foynes), French-speaking (Marseille and Nantes) and Portuguese-speaking (Leixoes And Sines) and brings together port representatives from countries such as Peru, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Argentina, Angola, Ghana, Gabon, Senegal, Benin, Togo, Guinea, Mauritania, Haiti and Cameroon.

According to Geneviève Féraud, head of UNCTAD's development, the training program offered by this United Nations organism "is one of the best technical assistance programs to support the world's ports, especially those in developing countries, to improve its operation and effectiveness. For UNCTAD, Valencia, apart from being a reference partner in the training program for Spanish-speaking countries, is a very important enclosure for its know-how. "

Third seminar edition

This is the third edition of this seminar that brings together the different linguistic areas of the UNCTAD training program and the second consecutive time that is held in port of Valencia. In this regard, Mark Assaf, head of human resources at UNCTAD, stressed that "the seminar is important because it helps us to share our knowledge on a fundamental issue such as

the development of an integrated port control board. We have chosen Valencia because we want to make this tool known and this port has a wide experience in it. "In this regard, Gonzalo Ayala, Train for Trade program manager, said: "Valencia has been collaborating with UNCTAD for many years to promote the formation of middle ports in developing countries by providing experts and logistical support." Likewise, Josep Hiney, director of Drogheda Port Company, explained that "holding these conferences helps all participants to continue improving in our work".

The seminar, which closes tomorrow, is receiving very positive assessments from all participating countries. According to Mark Assaf "a large number of countries have shown interest in sending representatives to this conference because there is a very high interest in using the Balanced Scorecard to measure the different indicators of activity in port enclosures." Gonzalo Ayala also pointed out that "Valencia has always been a good host and its experience in the implementation of the Integral Scorecard, implemented in Valencia for more than 10 years, has always been very enriching for all participating countries."

All participants in the UNCTAD seminar have agreed on the quality of the operation of Port Authority of Valencia. In this regard, Gonzalo Ayala recalled that "the importance of the port of Valencia is intrinsically linked to the quality of its human resources, a factor that has been widely praised by all participants in this seminar."

Geneviève Féraud also acknowledged that "the experts of the Port Authority of Valencia enjoy great recognition for their quality" while Joseph Hiney wanted to highlight the quality of the port infrastructure in Valencia and the advanced efficiency of the systems implemented for the enclosure management.

UNCTAD Training Program

The training program provided by UNCTAD is widely appreciated by all the participating countries as "the aim is not merely to train people but to increase the efficiency of the ports, which ends benefiting the enclosures beneficial areas" as Gonzalo Ayala explained, he has continued with " the program is extremely useful since all participants in these training programs must develop a final work in which they identify a specific problem and analyze different solutions" And he has exemplified a port in the Dominican Republic "in which it was observed that the number of accidents of the port was higher at night due to the bad lighting. The implemented measure

allowed not only to reduce the number of accidents but also to reduce substantially the cost of energy consumption with savings of more than \$ 700,000 per year. "