

Logenix

Global Insider

The Official Newsletter of Logenix International

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MARCH 2025

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

In January 2025, the Trump administration launched a sweeping review of U.S. foreign aid, resulting in a stop-work order for all USAID programs. On March 10th, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the cancellation of roughly 83% of USAID's programs. The administration has proposed a major restructuring of U.S. foreign aid, which includes consolidating certain aid functions within the State Department. The following timeline outlines the key developments of March.

- March 5** ● The Supreme Court rejects Trump's bid to freeze foreign aid, requiring the administration to release more than \$1.5 billion. [Read More.](#)
- March 6** ● A federal judge orders the Trump administration to pay select USAID partners by Monday March 10th for work completed before February 13th, 2025. [Read More.](#)
A US District Court judge denies a temporary restraining order to stop the government from terminating USAID personal services contractors. [Read More.](#)
- March 11** ● USAID staff are instructed to shred and burn classified documents. [Read More.](#)
- March 14** ● USAID staff are told to review awards, including those that have already been canceled. [Read More.](#)
- March 18** ● A federal judge rules DOGE's USAID dismantling likely violates the Constitution. [Read More.](#)
- March 20** ● Trump officials propose plan revamping US foreign aid, replacing USAID with new a humanitarian agency. [Read More.](#)
- March 21** ● USAID spending cuts estimated to be around 34% according to leaked lists of terminated and retained programs. [Read More.](#)
- March 25** ● Congressional reauthorization for PEPFAR expires, but the program faces bigger problems as a result of cuts to USAID. [Read More.](#)
- March 26** ● A 281-page spreadsheet is released listing the administration's plans for thousands of foreign aid programs, including ending vaccine funds for poor countries. [Read More.](#)



GLOBAL MARKET UPDATE

Rising tariffs imposed by the Trump Administration are reshaping global trade dynamics, causing widespread market volatility and economic concerns. Projections for 2025 estimate a 15% effective tariff rate (ETR) on trade with Europe, Canada, and Mexico, and 35% for China, raising the overall U.S. ETR to 18% – a 15.7% increase from 2024. Economic models predict that by 2026, these tariff hikes could reduce GDP by about 1% in the US, China, and Europe.

The ocean freight market remains uncertain due to shifting trade policies, evolving regulations, and fluctuating demand. While Xeneta forecasts nearly 13% growth in the shipping container market for 2025, spot rates on key routes are declining—some by as much as 50%. Drewry's World Container Index also dropped 4% this week, mirroring the post-COVID downturn of August 2023. Although rates are still above pre-pandemic levels, suggesting a recovery, analysts caution that weakening demand and potential U.S. tariffs could introduce further volatility.

At the same time, ongoing geopolitical tensions add further instability to global shipping networks. The Red Sea crisis continues as major shipping companies refuse to resume operations without a Middle East peace accord or a decisive defeat of the Houthi militia. Despite a pause in attacks since December, recent missile exchanges between the U.S. and the Houthis in Yemen suggest that a full-scale return of container shipping in the region remains unlikely.

AIR INSIGHTS

- AIRLINES ARE FLYING FULL OUT OF INDIA DUE TO HIGH DEMAND BASED ON FINANCIAL YEAR CLOSING AT END OF MARCH.
- BACKLOGS ON BRITISH, VIRGINIA ATLANTIC AND AIR INDIA PERSIST DUE TO RECENT CLOSURE OF HEATHROW AIRPORT.
- SF CARGO AIRLINES COMMENCES ALL-CARGO OPERATIONS BETWEEN URUMQI (URC) INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN NORTHWEST CHINA, AND ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN (ISB).
- MALAYSIA AIRLINE LAUNCHES FOUR-TIMES-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN KUALA LUMPUR (KUL) AND PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT (CDG).

OCEAN INSIGHTS

- CMA CGM HAS IMPOSED A PEAK SEASON SURCHARGE ON ALL CARGOS FROM THE FAR EAST & INDIA EAST COAST TO TANZANIA.
- CMA CGM HAS ANNOUNCED PEAK SEASON SURCHARGE EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST APRIL TO WEST AFRICA.
- MSC HAS BEGUN FULL-FLEDGED OPERATIONS IN VIZHINJAM SEAPORT AS AN INDIAN HUB. RECENTLY LAUNCHED SERVICES CONNECT THE SEAPORT DIRECTLY TO DESTINATIONS INCLUDING BANGLADESH, DJIBOUTI, AND GHANA.
- MSC WILL EXTEND ITS AFRICAN EXPRESS SERVICE TO THE PORT OF KRIBI IN CAMEROON AND INCREASE ITS FLEET TO 13 VESSELS ON THIS SERVICE. MSC WILL ALSO REDEPLOY SEVERAL 24,000 TEU VESSELS FROM THE FAR EAST-EUROPE CORRIDOR TO THE ROUTE.
- MAERSK HAS IMPLEMENTED AN OPERATING COST IMPORT (OCI) SURCHARGE FOR ALL CONTAINERS FROM THE FAR EAST TO WEST AFRICA, EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2025.

In the airfreight market, global air cargo demand continues to trend upwards, with volumes rising by +3% worldwide over the past two weeks. The increase is driven primarily by the continued rebound of Asia Pacific following their post Lunar New Year lull. Tonnages from Asia Pacific saw the most significant increase during that time of +8%, with the next closest performer being North America (+1%). Global air freight spot rates increased over the past two weeks as well, with a marginal gain of +1%. This increase was driven entirely by the Asia Pacific market with a +2% increase.

From an annual perspective year-over-year, air spot rates from Asia Pacific origins have seen the largest increase at 7%, followed by a 6% rise from Africa origins. Global airfreight spot rates remain +3% higher year-over-year. Demand, measured in chargeable weight flow, is also up +4% year-over-year. Asia Pacific (+9%) and Africa (+4%) origins account for the most significant increases in volume. It should be noted that while global air tonnages have had consistent growth over the past year, capacity has been stagnant in comparison, with increases of only +1% over the year.





Industry News

Opinion: No, DOGE Can't Fix the Deficit. Here's Why.

"In theory, reining in the national debt is a bipartisan slam dunk. In practice, the process of picking where to cut expenses or raise taxes invariably leads to some degree of political blowback."

[Read Article](#)

Bolloré Faces Corruption Complaint Over African Ports

"A coalition of 11 African non-governmental organisations (NGOs) has filed a legal complaint in France against French billionaire Vincent Bolloré, his son Cyrille, and the Bolloré Group."

[Read Article](#)

World Growth Forecasts Cut Sharply as US Starts Global Trade War

"The new US administration has started a global trade war that will reduce US and world growth, push up US inflation and delay Federal Reserve rate cuts, Fitch Ratings believes."

[Read Article](#)

Forwarders Predict Fall in Airfreight Rates as E-Commerce Eyes Sea Freight

"Forwarders are warning that although the airfreight market currently seems stable, conditions could change very quickly, and the longer-term outlook could be challenging for airlines."

[Read Article](#)



Thank You

We would like to thank all of our clients and partners for the impactful collaborations both featured and not featured in this newsletter.

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