



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To: Heads of Delegations Members and Observers to the WTO	Fax No: List attached
From: Bridget Chilala  Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	Date: 17/03/2017
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ADVANCED COURSE ON WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (IN ENGLISH)*

Geneva, Switzerland

12-16 June 2017

Invitation to present candidates

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing an Advanced Course on WTO Dispute Settlement (ADS) in English. This course will take place at the WTO in Geneva, from 12 to 16 June 2017. In addition to topical issues in WTO dispute settlement, this year's course will also include enhanced, hands-on training on the new Digital Dispute Settlement Registry (DDSR). A team of WTO staff and external experts will engage with the participants through a series of lectures and interactive exercises during the course.

The ADS is a "Level 3" training activity implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework and it represents the highest level of learning among WTO training activities. The course is targeted at participants who already possess a sound knowledge of the WTO system in general and the WTO dispute settlement mechanism in particular. This year's course will specifically target capital-based officials with direct responsibility for WTO dispute settlement and who need to acquaint themselves with the DDSR.

Pursuant to Article 27.3 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, this training activity is open to all WTO Members and Observers. As a result your government is invited to nominate one or more candidates to be considered for participation in this course. Candidates will be considered for selection only if the following criteria are met:

- a. All-round proficiency in English. This is an essential prerequisite for participation given that the course will be conducted in English.
- b. Participants have to be directly involved at a technical, practical and/or policy level with WTO dispute settlement. Preference will be given to candidates who:
 - a. have already completed a "Level 2" WTO training activity, in particular the "Level 2 WTO thematic dispute settlement course" or who have commensurate knowledge or professional experience; and

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- b. as part of their regular work, require practical training concerning the functioning of the DDSR, including active work on disputes that involves consulting the timetable, record, and making submissions in a proceeding.

The Secretariat of the WTO makes available 30 fellowships for this activity. Each fellowship covers the following: a round trip airplane ticket in Economy class, Daily Subsistence Allowance, Terminal Expenses Allowance, and hotel accommodation for the duration of the course.

The Application Form must be returned, completed, and signed by the candidate, as well as by the nominating national authority which presents the candidate, **via the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO**, at the latest by **Friday, 21 April 2017**.

Selected participants will receive directly a confirmation of their selection, additional administrative information, and their travel details and ticket, shortly after the selection has taken place.

Participants will be expected to review assigned reading in preparation for the sessions, and to actively participate by raising questions and through interactive discussions during the course. The assigned training materials will be transmitted in due course.

..... An Application Form is attached to this invitation. A detailed description of the course can be found via the following link: **<http://www.wto.org>** (Building Trade Capacity, Technical Assistance and Training, List of Activities 2016/2017).¹

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel this activity in the event of force majeure or other reasons that render the execution of the activity impracticable for the organizers.

Français

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un cours thématique avancé d'une semaine sur le règlement des différends à l'OMC, à Genève, du 12 au 16 juin 2017. Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation et les formulaires de candidature et de nomination sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

Español

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un curso temático avanzado de una semana sobre la solución de diferencias en la OMC, en Ginebra, del 12 al 16 de junio de 2017. Este curso será dado en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y los formularios de candidatura y de nominación serán distribuidos sólo en inglés.

¹ This can be accessed at https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/train_e/course_details_e.htm.