



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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WTO ADVANCED GLOBAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT WORKSHOP 2018

Geneva, Switzerland

10-14 September 2018

Within the framework of the World Trade Organization's Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan for 2018-2019 (WT/COMTD/W/227/Rev.1), the WTO Secretariat, with the financial assistance of the Global Trust Fund, is organizing an **Advanced Global Workshop on Government Procurement** for the benefit of participants from eligible WTO Members and Observers. Participants eligible for funding will be individually selected on the basis of their current responsibilities and experience in trade, government procurement policy and related areas.

The Workshop will be held on **10 to 14 September 2018**, at the headquarters of the WTO in **Geneva**. The Workshop aims to: (i) familiarize participants with the WTO work on government procurement, notably as it relates to trade, good governance and inclusive sustainable development; (ii) elaborate the content of the GPA, and explore the opportunities for enhanced global policy coherence, building on synergies and complementarities with other international instruments; (iii) reflect upon the relevance of the GPA to evolving policy developments, such as on SMEs, sustainability and e-procurement, and consider their implications for future domestic reforms and for the UN SDGs; and (iv) elaborate the potential benefits, challenges and modalities of accession to the Agreement. It thus seeks to facilitate policy analysis and dialogue on this issue both nationally and internationally. A draft programme is attached.

The Workshop will be held in **English**. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided into French and Spanish, in each case subject to the inclusion of at least five officials in the final list of WTO-funded participants in the applicable language. Some workshop documentation will be available in English only. For this reason, a working knowledge of English is desirable for French and Spanish-speaking participants.

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Participation in the activity

The WTO Secretariat will fund **up to two senior capital-based officials per eligible country up to a maximum of 30** participants to participate in the above activity. Additional participants up to a total of **20** may be accepted on a **self-funded** basis, **subject to an overall maximum of 50** WTO-funded and self-funded participants.

Preference will be given to nominees having policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in trade and/or government procurement policy matters. The Organisers reserve the right to select candidates and to decline the candidature of nominees who do not meet these requirements and/or on the basis of the maximum number of funded participants.

Nominations and logistical matters

Your Government is invited to nominate **up to four senior capital-based officials, of whom up to two may be selected and funded** to participate in the activity. Ideally, one official should be from your government's trade ministry and one from your ministry of finance, procurement authority or other ministry or agency with policy responsibility in this area.

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The Application forms, duly signed by the authorities presenting the nominees and validated by the Permanent Mission, should be transmitted with a **copy of passport and a one-page-CV** to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation, Logistics Unit (email: logistics.unit@wto.org or fax +41 22 739 5724) **NO LATER THAN 16 JULY 2018.**

A round trip airplane ticket in economy class, accommodation for the duration of the course, a daily subsistence allowance and a terminal expenses allowance will be provided to funded candidates. Further administrative details will be communicated to selected funded participants directly by email. **No logistical arrangements can be made for self-funded participants.**

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel the activity in the event of overriding circumstances beyond its control.

Participants will be required to contribute to the activity by providing comments on their national experiences, particularly during the breakout sessions and the general discussions sessions for each topic area, and should come duly prepared.