

Direct line: (+41 22) 739 6440 Email: Logistics.Unit@wto.org

**EMAIL** 

To:

Heads of Delegation

WTO Members and Observers

Email:

List attached

From:

Ms. Bridget CHILALA

Director

Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation

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# ADVANCED COURSE ON TRADE IN SERVICES (in English)\*

Geneva, 17-21 September 2018

## Invitation to present candidates

The WTO Secretariat is organizing an Advanced Course on Trade in Services (in English) from 17-21 September 2018 in Geneva. The Course is a "Level 3" specialized training activity implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework and it represents the highest level of learning among WTO training activities.<sup>1</sup>

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the advanced course are to:

- update participants' knowledge base of the main GATS provisions, including on issues related to classification and scheduling of commitments;
- familiarize participants with recent developments in the field of services, and provide an overview of analytical tools available for trade in services analysis;
- improve participant's understanding of services-related policies such as movement of persons;
- address selected policy- and emerging negotiating issues arising from changes in the trade in services landscape.

The course will be delivered through a mix of interactive exercises, lectures, case-studies, and peer learning.

### INVITATION TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES & CANDIDATE PROFILE

The course is targeted at government officials at mid- to senior level with at least two years relevant work experiences who are directly involved in the formulation of trade in services policy and/or the conduct of multilateral or preferential services negotiations.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For further details about the WTO Progressive Learning Strategy see the Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan 2018-2019 (WT/COMTD/W/227/Rev.1). The TA Plan can also be accessed through the following URL link: <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/devel\_e/teccop\_e/tct\_e.htm">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/devel\_e/teccop\_e/tct\_e.htm</a>

WTO OMC

Your Government is invited to submit the names, for consideration in the selection process, of **one or two officials** meeting the requirements set out below.

Candidates are required to have an advanced understanding of the General Agreement on Trade in Services. They should be willing to share experiences, prepare short contributions, and participate actively in all sessions. The course does not target experts from ministries regulating individual services sectors.

Candidates should have completed a WTO training activity (E-Learning<sup>2</sup> or a face-to-face course) on trade in services or have demonstrably commensurate knowledge or professional experience. They should also possess an excellent ability to communicate in English both orally and in writing.

Government officials from WTO Member and Observer developing countries, LDCs and economies in transition are eligible for nomination.

#### COSTS COVERED FOR SELECTED PARTICIPANTS

The Secretariat of the WTO makes available thirty (30) fellowships for this activity. Each fellowship covers the following: a round trip airplane ticket in economy class; daily subsistence allowance; a terminal expenses allowance; and accommodation for the duration of the course. In case no qualified candidates apply to fill the 30 funded places, up to five additional applicants may participate in the workshop at their own expense.

The attached Application Form must be returned, completed and signed by the candidate as well as by the nominating national authority which presents the candidate, <u>via the Permanent Mission/Embassy</u> to the WTO, at the latest by **Friday**, **20 July 2018**. Selected participants will receive confirmation directly. Additional administrative information, travel details and ticket will be sent shortly after the selection has taken place.

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.

# \*Francais/Español

L'Organisation Mondiale du Commerce organise un cours avancé sur le commerce des services, à Genève, du 17 au 21 septembre 2017. Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un curso avanzado sobre el comercio de servicios, en Ginebra, del 17 al 21 de septiembre de 2017. Este curso será dado en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please visit the E-Learning website, where you will find information about online courses at <a href="https://ecampus.wto.org">https://ecampus.wto.org</a> or you can also contact <a href="mailto:ecampus@wto.org">ecampus@wto.org</a>.