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To:

Heads of Delegation

Members and Observers to the WTO

From:

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Date:

16/03/18

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## WTO THEMATIC SEMINAR ON COMPETITION POLICY, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT: REVIEWING PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH EXISTING WTO AGREEMENTS

Geneva, Switzerland

12-14 June 2018

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization is organizing a Trade and Competition Policy Seminar for the benefit of participants from WTO Members and Observers (WT/COMTD/W/227/Rev.1).

The Seminar will be held on 12-14 June 2018. The purpose of this Seminar is: (i) to enhance participants' awareness of the role of competition policy in trade and development, and build capacity at the national level in that regard; (ii) to familiarise participants with competition policy elements in existing WTO Agreements, and related experience at the national and international levels; and (iii) to facilitate policy dialogue on competition policy issues among WTO Members. A draft programme is attached.

The Seminar will be held in English only.\*

## Participation in the activity

The WTO Secretariat will fund up to two officials per eligible country subject to a maximum of 30 participants for the above activity. Additional participants may be accepted on a self-funded basis.

Preference will be given to nominees having policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in competition policy and/or related aspects of trade policy.

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## Nominations and logistical matters

You are invited to nominate **up to four senior capital-based officials** to be considered for funding to participate in the above activity. Ideally, at least one official should be from your government's trade ministry and one from your competition enforcement agency or other ministry or agency with policy responsibility in this area. **Up to two officials** per country will be selected by the WTO Secretariat to participate in this activity, **subject to the maximum of 30 funded participants**. Additional participants may be accepted on a self-funded basis, subject to an **overall maximum total of 50 WTO-financed and self-funded participants**.

The nominations, on the attached registration form and accompanied by a brief one-page curriculum vitae (CV), must be returned, duly completed and signed by the candidate as well as by the nominating national authority, via the Permanent Mission / Embassy to the WTO, no later than FRIDAY, 13 APRIL 2018, to Logistics Unit, WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (E-mail: logistics.unit@wto.org or Fax: +41 22/739 57 24).

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. 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 seminar 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.

## \*Français/Español

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un atelier sur la politique de la concurrence: Révision de l'expérience pratique concernant les Accords de l'OMC, à Genève, du 12 au 14 juin 2018. Cet atelier étant en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial de Comercio organiza un Taller sobre la política de competencia: Revisión de la experiencia práctica con relación a los Acuerdos de la OMC en Ginebra, del 12 al 14 de junio de 2018. Este taller será en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.