# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

**EMAIL**

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| To: | Heads of Delegations | Email: | See list attached |
| From: | Bridget Chilala<br>Director<br>Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation | | |
| | | Date: | 03/08/2023 |
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## 2023 WTO-JVI REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT (GPA 2012) FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS (CEECAC) REGION

### *VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 24-26 OCTOBER 2023*

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in cooperation with Joint Vienna Institute (JVI) is organizing **a regional workshop on Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA 2012) for the Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus (CEECAC) region**. The Workshop will take place on **24-26 October 2023 in Vienna, Austria**.

### The Workshop

The main objectives of the Workshop are: (i) to familiarize participants with the GPA 2012 and related WTO activities on government procurement, with a focus on such GPA 2012 features as trade opening, good governance, and economic and sustainable development; (ii) to elaborate on the process and the benefits and costs of accession to the GPA 2012; and (iii) to explore the interaction between the GPA 2012 and bilateral/regional free trade agreements in the CEECAC region. Another objective is to provide a forum for both trade and procurement experts from the CEECAC region to exchange experience and views on the international trade and government procurement nexus.

The programme will comprise presentations by WTO Secretariat and other international experts. A draft programme is attached. The Workshop will be held in **English**. Interpretation into Russian will be provided courtesy of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

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## Participation in the activity

The Governments of the WTO Members who are eligible to benefit from this regional workshop are invited to nominate **up to four senior capital-based officials** for consideration by the selection committee. Ideally, at least one official should be from your government's trade ministry and one from your government procurement agency or other ministry or agency with policy responsibility in an area of government procurement and/or related aspects of trade policy.

**Preference will be given to nominees with policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in government procurement and/or related aspects of trade policy. The Organizers reserve the right to select or reject candidates.**

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 selected candidates. Further administrative details will be communicated directly to the participants.

Participants will be required to contribute to the Workshop by providing input based on their national experiences and actively participating in the group exercise and should come duly prepared.

## The application process

The application process consists of the following steps:

1.  Interested candidates need to duly complete and submit the online application form, which is available at: **https://wto.formstack.com/forms/gpa_regional_ceecac_2023**

2.  The online application form requires uploading a scanned copy of the passport and of the official nomination letter, signed and stamped by the competent government authority that is nominating the candidate. A template for such a letter to be signed and stamped by the national authority can be found in Annex 1 of this invitation letter.

3.  The application form, including the passport and nomination letter, should be submitted via the online application system **NO LATER THAN 21 AUGUST 2023.**

4.  Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (E-mail: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN 21 AUGUST 2023.**

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel this activity in the event of force majeure, or for any reason that renders the execution of the activity impracticable for the organizers.

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## *Français/Español

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un Atelier régional OMC-JVI sur l'AMP 2012 pour la région de l'Europe centrale et orientale, de l'Asie centrale et du Caucase (CEECAC), à Vienne, du 24 au 26 octobre 2023. Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation est distribuée en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un Taller regional OMC-JVI sobre el ACP 2012 para la región de Europa Central y Oriental, Asia Central y el Cáucaso (CEECAC), en Viena, del 24 al 26 de octubre de 2023. Teniendo en cuenta que este curso se imparte en inglés, la invitación será distribuida únicamente en inglés.

## ANNEX 1

### TEMPLATE FOR NOMINATION LETTER TO BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND STAMPED BY THE RELEVANT AUTHORITY NOMINATING THE CANDIDATE

The [Ministry/Directorate/National Office] of [Member/Observer] officially nominates [name of candidate] to participate in the 2023 WTO Regional Workshop on GPA 2012 for the CEECAC region, scheduled to take place on 24-26 October 2023 and hereby confirms that: (i) the candidate has policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in trade and/or government procurement matters; (ii) has full command of English and will be able to successfully and actively participate in the programme; and (iii) is fully aware that this nomination is subject to the decisions of the WTO Selection Committee and to the conditions described in the conditions to participate in WTO technical assistance activities.

**Details of the official responsible for nominating this candidate:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | |
| Family Name | |
| Current Post | |
| Government Authority | |
| Telephone | |
| Email address | |

**By signing this form, the Nominating Authority certifies that all the information included is complete and correct.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Date | Signature | Stamp |