



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To:	Heads of Delegation Members and Observers to the WTO	Email:	List attached
From:	Ms Bridget Chilala <i>Bilala</i> Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	Date:	29/09/2017
	Mr. Antony Taubman <i>AS Taubman</i> Director Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division		
Number of pages (including this one):	15	Ref:	TC17/21

Advanced Global Workshop on Government Procurement

Geneva, Switzerland

20 - 24 November 2017

Within the framework of the World Trade Organization's Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan for 2016–2017 (WT/COMTD/W/211), the WTO Secretariat is organizing an **Advanced Global Workshop on Government Procurement**, for the benefit of participants from eligible WTO Members and Observers from around the world.

The purpose of the Workshop is to **share perspectives and build participants' knowledge and skills relating to current issues concerning the interface of government procurement policy, trade liberalization, development and good governance**. More specifically, the Workshop aims to:

- Familiarize participants with ongoing work on government procurement in the WTO and other international fora, including recent developments concerning the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) and current developments regarding e-procurement;
- Reflect upon and exchange perspectives on the significance of the GPA/related work at the national and regional level for domestic policy reforms, development and good governance;
- Provide opportunities to explore and reflect upon the relevance of the GPA for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and sustainability, including its environmental and social aspects;
- Exchange perspectives regarding the benefits and costs of GPA accession and develop skills in assessing related market access opportunities and undertaking relevant negotiations; and
- Develop understanding of the potential significance of procurement reforms/GPA participation for good governance and the prevention of supplier collusion.

..... For further information, a draft programme is attached.

The Workshop will be held in **English**, with simultaneous translation into French and Spanish.

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Participation in the activity

The WTO Secretariat will fund **up to two officials per eligible Member or Observer to the WTO, up to a maximum of 40** participants, for the above activity. Additional participants may be accepted on a self-funded basis. Participants eligible for funding will be individually selected on the basis of their current responsibilities and experience in this and related areas.

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

You are invited to nominate **two or more 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 trade ministry and one from your ministry of finance, procurement authority or other ministry or agency with policy responsibility in this area.

..... 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 13 October 2017**, 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.

Additional applications for self-funded participants are welcome; however, **no logistical arrangements can be made for such 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 invited 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.