





WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To:	Heads of Delegations WTO Members and Observers	E-mail:	List attached
From:	Bridget Chilala  Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	Date:	Geneva, 11 June 2024
	Antony Taubman  Director Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division	Pages:	Three
		Ref:	TC24-9

TRADE AND PUBLIC HEALTH WORKSHOP

Geneva, Switzerland, from 30 September to 4 October 2024.

Invitation to Submit Candidatures

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO), in close collaboration with the Secretariats of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is organizing a Workshop on Trade and Public Health. It is scheduled to take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 30 September to 4 October 2024. The Workshop will take place in English.

The Workshop's content is multidisciplinary and follows the approach of the 2nd Edition of the WHO-WIPO-WTO Trilateral Study "[Promoting Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation: Intersections between Public Health, Intellectual Property and Trade](#)". The overall objectives of the Workshop are to improve the capacity of government officials to: (i) analyze policies related to trade and public health and their implications for innovation and access to health technologies; (ii) effectively implement health-related provisions in WTO Agreements; and, (iii) create inter-disciplinary networks of colleagues working on trade and public health issues.

The programme combines lectures by experts, interactive debates, and practical case studies, as well as presentations on national experiences by selected participants. Given the range and complexity of topics to be covered, the schedule for this activity is intense and demanding.

The Workshop is intended for senior government officials working on trade, intellectual property, and public health issues, and fosters collaborative linkages and coordination between officials working in these three areas of public policy. WTO Members and Observers eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are cordially invited to submit up to four nominations of capital-based officials, from different government authorities or agencies, of which one could be possibly selected. The WTO has provision to finance 30 participants (i.e., a return economy-class ticket, terminal expenses, daily subsistence allowance, and accommodation for the duration of the activity). Other administrative arrangements shall be communicated directly to the selected participants by the WTO in due course. Selected participants will receive confirmation directly from the WTO.

Further details on the Workshop, as well as the profile of potential candidates and the application process, are provided on the following page. In case of questions regarding the substance of the Workshop, please contact WTO Secretariat's Trade and Public Health Team at: tph@wto.org.

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Trade and Public Health Workshop: Information on the Application Process

- Who should apply? Senior government officials with relevant experience in trade and public health and:
- A minimum of five years of direct responsibility for matters relating to the interaction between trade agreements, IP conventions, and public health, whether agencies responsible for foreign affairs, trade, IP, public health or from any other relevant government entity;
 - Demonstrable expectation of continuing to work, or being assigned responsibilities, specifically in this field;
 - Advanced level of knowledge about trade law and policy, including, but not limited to, the WTO's TRIPS Agreement, and public health policy; and
 - Full command of English, as the Workshop will require active participation in group work, discussion, and drafting.
- Application form: Interested candidates need to submit the online application form, available at: https://wto.formstack.com/forms/2024_trade_and_public_health_workshop
- The online application form requires uploading scanned copies of the candidate's passport and of an official nomination letter, duly signed and stamped by the competent government authority. A template for the nomination letter is attached as Annex 1.
- Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Missions/Embassies to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (email: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 19 JULY 2024.**
- Deadline: The complete application, including the form with the passport and nomination letter, and the validation by the respective Mission/Embassy should be submitted via the online application system **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 19 JULY 2024.**
- Due to the complex preparations and logistical arrangements for this activity, the WTO Secretariat is not in a position to consider any applications received after the deadline or incomplete ones.
- Selection of participants: Selected participants will receive a confirmation email directly from the WTO. Relevant administrative information, travel details, and economy-class tickets will be sent after the selected participant has confirmed her/his participation.
- Advance reading material will be made available to enable selected participants to prepare for the activity.

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel this activity in the event of *force majeure*, if sufficient funding cannot be secured in time, or for any other reason that renders the execution of the activity impracticable for the organizers.

ANNEX 1

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

The Government of:	[include name of WTO Member or Observer]
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Officially nominates [name of candidate:] to participate in the Workshop on Trade and Public Health, scheduled to take place in Geneva, from 30 September to 4 October 2024 and hereby confirms that the candidate has:

- A minimum of five years of direct responsibility for matters relating to the interaction between trade agreements, IP conventions, and public health, whether from authorities responsible for foreign affairs, trade, IP, public health or from any other relevant government entity;
- Demonstrable expectation of continuing to work, or being assigned responsibilities, specifically in this field;
- Established expertise and relevant experience in trade and public health, and an advanced level of knowledge about trade law and policy, including, but not limited to, the WTO's TRIPS Agreement, and public health policy; and
- All-round proficiency in English¹.

Details of the Government 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
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Important: The deadline to submit applications is Friday, 19 July 2024.

¹ The WTO reserves its right to randomly check during the selection process if the eligibility criteria of some of the applicants are met.