



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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WIPO-WTO ADVANCED COURSE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

GENEVA, 20-31 MARCH 2023

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Secretariat and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Secretariat will jointly organize the **Annual WIPO-WTO Advanced Course on Intellectual Property for Government Officials, from 20 to 31 March 2023**. Governments of Members and Observers which are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities are invited to nominate up to three candidates to participate in this activity.

Background

The Advanced Course is multidisciplinary in character and is open to capital-based officials currently working on legal and policy issues touching on intellectual property (IP).

The main objective of the course is to update government officials from technical assistance beneficiaries on the activities and instruments of WIPO and the WTO, and to provide a forum for them to exchange information and ideas with the two Secretariats and with a range of policymakers and organizations based in Geneva. This course forms part of an overall strategy to build self-sufficient capacity of governments to assess and analyse their policy options and to strengthen national expertise in relation to intellectual property. The emphasis will be on recent developments and policy issues, including those currently under debate in the two Organizations and in other international organizations.

..... An outline of the programme is enclosed as Attachment A.

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As an Advanced Course, it is designed for officials who already have a strong background in IP matters, including the international legal and policy dimensions. This programme is not suitable as an introductory course for those who do not already have a strong background in IP law and policy, and nominees without the requisite background in IP cannot be considered.

Suitably qualified candidates selected for the course from technical assistance beneficiaries are fully funded. The course is also open, provided space is available, to a limited number of capital-based officials from developed countries who participate at their own expense.

Eligibility and Selection

Thirty (30) places are available for allocation to a selection of applicants from technical assistance beneficiaries.

To be considered for possible selection, applicants must:

- be a senior government official responsible for intellectual property and related policy issues in his/her country;
- have completed the WTO on-line e-Training TRIPS course or possess proven commensurate knowledge or professional experience;
- demonstrate an extensive practical background in intellectual property law, policy and practice;
- possess an excellent knowledge of English; and
- be nominated by their government.

For past sessions of this course, many more eligible applications have been received than there are places available. Applicants should be aware that participation is necessarily highly selective and that only candidates who meet the above criteria will be considered for possible selection. Incomplete or late applications, applications for candidates who lack these qualifications, and applications that are not nominated by the supporting government, will not be considered at all.

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 [2023 WIPO-WTO IP Advanced Course - Formstack](#)
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 Attachment B 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 3 February 2023**.
4. Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Missions/Embassies to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by fax or email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (Email: logistics.unit@wto.org or Fax No: +41 22 739 5724) **no later than 3 February 2023**.

Please note that the complex preparations and logistical arrangements for this activity mean that the organizers cannot consider any applications received after that date and/or without the validation by the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO.

Selected participants will receive confirmation directly. Relevant administrative information, travel details and economic-class ticket will be sent after the selection has taken place.

Logistics and Support

The organizers will provide selected participants from technical assistance beneficiaries with a return economy class ticket, hotel accommodation for the duration of the course, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses allowance. All participants should obtain entry and transit visas, as required, and satisfy all other applicable formalities prior to commencing their travel.

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The WTO and WIPO Secretariats reserve 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.

For Further Information

Mr Roger Kampf (Tel: +41 22 739 62 18; Email: roger.kampf@wto.org) and Ms Laura Saitz (Tel: +41 22 739 67 92; Email: laura.saitz@wto.org) are at your disposal for any further information concerning the Course.

***Français/Español**

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un cours avancé sur la propriété intellectuelle en collaboration avec l'Organisation mondiale de la propriété intellectuelle (OMPI). Il se tiendra à l'OMC, Genève, du 20 au 31 mars 2023. 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 propiedad intelectual en colaboración con la Organización Mundial de la Propiedad Intelectual (OMPI). Se celebrará en la OMC, Ginebra, del 20 al 31 de marzo de 2023. Este curso será dado en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.