





# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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From:	Bridget Chilala Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	Date:	10/03/2023
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Pages:	8 (including this one)	Ref:	VIR23-2

## WTO ADVANCED GLOBAL E-WORKSHOP ON THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OF 2012

**17 APRIL - 12 MAY 2023**

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing **the Advanced Global WTO e-Workshop on the Agreement on Government Procurement of 2012 (GPA 2012)**, which seeks to raise awareness of and deepen knowledge about the GPA 2012 for the benefit of participants from eligible WTO Members and observers (WT/COMTD/W/248/Rev.1). The e-Workshop will be held **through a virtual platform from 17 April - 12 May 2023**.

### Purpose and content of the activity

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, trade, development and good governance**.

More specifically, the Workshop aims to familiarize participants with recent developments concerning the GPA 2012 and the WTO Committee on Government Procurement, and the synergies and complementarities between the GPA 2012 and other international instruments and regional trade agreements. Relevant aspects and recent developments relating to, among other things, sustainable procurement, SME participation in public procurement markets, e-procurement, and the role of government procurement in achieving desirable public health outcomes, will also be addressed. Furthermore, the Workshop will provide an opportunity to reflect upon the potential benefits, challenges and modalities of accession to, and participation in, the GPA 2012, and the flexibilities available to developing countries seeking accession.

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..... The programme consists of eight substantive modules, comprising a mix of mandatory and recommended pre-recorded presentations by WTO Secretariat and other international experts, and live sessions. An effort will also be made to allow for interaction between experts and participants (breakout sessions, interactive live and Q&A sessions). For further information, please refer to the attached draft programme and related timetable for the delivery of the workshop.

The **e-Workshop** will be held in the three official languages of the WTO, **English, French and Spanish**. The sessions will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation of live webinars and translation of key learning materials into French and Spanish through subtitling.

## Participation in the activity

The Governments of Members and observers to the WTO, who are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are invited to nominate government officials to be considered to participate in the above activity. Ideally, candidates should work in the government's Trade Ministry and Ministry of Finance, Procurement Authority or other Ministry or Agency with policy responsibility in this area.

**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. Excellent knowledge of one of the WTO official languages (English, French or Spanish) is also required.**

Selected participants will be required to contribute to the e-Workshop by participating in live events, watching video recordings, reading selected background materials, completing the final quiz as well as working in groups during the breakout sessions. Participants would also be expected to respond to specific questions related to their trade and procurement regimes and could be invited to share their national/regional experiences, particularly during the breakout sessions. E-Certificates will be awarded only to participants who will successfully complete the final quiz the questions of which will be based on mandatory pre-recorded materials.

## 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/2023\\_advanced\\_global\\_e\\_workshop\\_gp](https://wto.formstack.com/forms/2023_advanced_global_e_workshop_gp).
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 to this Invitation letter.
3. The application form, including the passport and nomination letter, should be submitted via the online application system **NO LATER THAN 26 MARCH 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 Email: [logistics.unit@wto.org](mailto:logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN 26 MARCH 2023.**

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

## For Further Information

Please contact the WTO Secretariat ([gpa@wto.org](mailto:gpa@wto.org)), if you need any further details.

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**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 WTO Advanced Global e-Workshop on Government Procurement, scheduled to take place from 17 April to 12 May 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, French or Spanish 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
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