

**Regional Workshop on Trade Barriers to Trade for**

**Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus Countries**

28 – 30 September 2022

Joint Vienna Institute, Vienna (Austria)

*Draft 14.07.2022*

|  |
| --- |
| Wednesday, 28 September |
| 08:30 – 09:00 | **Opening** (*JVI, name tbc*) |  |
| 09:00 – 09:0509:05 – 10.30 | **Welcome** (*JVI Director, name tbc*)**Introduction** (*All*) |
| 09:15 – 10:15 | **WTO General**: Putting TBT into context (*WTO, Erik Wijkström*) |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | *Coffee – Tea* |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | **NTMs***Non-tariff Measures and the TBT Agreement* The purposes, scope and key principles of the TBT Agreement. Linkage with other WTO Agreements: SPS, Trade Facilitation Agreement. Why do these Agreements matter? How do they complement each other? (*WTO, Wijkström*) |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | NTMs: the perspective of UNESCAP (*Alexey* *Kravchenko - tbc*) |
| 12:00 – 13:30 | *Lunch* |
| 13:30 – 15:30 | **Overview of the key principles of the TBT Agreement** Illustrated through disputes. (*WTO, Lauro Locks*) |  |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | *Coffee – Tea* |
| 15:45 – 17:00 | **One case study of a "Specific Trade Concern"**Topic / speaker to be confirmed. (*WTO*) |
| Thursday, 29 September |
|  9:00 – 10.15 | **Technical Regulations**What does the WTO say about the development of technical regulations? What are the "good regulatory practices"? What is the relationship between standards and technical regulations. How does it look in the region? (*Wijkström, WTO*) |  |
| 10:15 - 10:30 | *Coffee - Tea*  |
| 10:30 – 12:30 | **Standards**How do standards support the development of technical regulations? Why are standards important for international trade? What does the TBT Agreement say about standards development? (Locks, WTO)The benefits of international standards -and the role of the national standardizing body (*ASI, Jochen Fornather - tbc*) |  |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Lunch |
| 14:00 – 15:45 | **International Standards** What is the role of international standards – and what role to international standardizing *bodies* have? To what extent do international and regional standards help participant countries harmonize national technical regulations? Panel of speakers followed by discussion:1) ISO (*Noelia Garcia Nebra - tbc*))2) IEC (*Antoinette Pitteloud - tbc*))3) ASI (*Jochen Fornather - tbc*))4) WTO – as discussant (*Locks*) |  |
| 15:45 - 16:00 | *Coffee – Tea* |  |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | **Conformity Assessment and Quality Infrastructure**What is the Quality Infrastructure (QI) and how do governments establish a QI policy? How can regulators use the QI to develop measures consistent with the WTO TBT Agreement? How does QI work at the regional level? Panel of speakers followed by discussion:1) UNIDO (*Dominka Dor - tbc*))2) WTO – as discussant (*Wijkström*) |
|  |  |
| Friday, 30 September |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Summary exercise**(*WTO - Wijkström / Locks, participants*) |  |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | *Coffee – Tea* |
| 10:45 – 12:30 | **Wrap-up Panel**What are the key "take-aways" from the workshop? What are the main challenges in the region looking ahead? (*Participants – WTO*) |  |
| 12:30 – 13.30 | **Evaluation and Closure**(*All*) |  |

*Contacts at WTO*

Erik Wijkström (erik.wijkstrom@wto.org) and

Lauro Locks (lauro.locks@wto.org)