




# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Number of pages: 3	Ref: TC24-24

## **THEMATIC COURSE ON SERVICES ASPECTS OF ELECTRONIC COMMERCE (in English)\***

**Geneva, 12-15 November 2024**

### **Invitation to present candidates**

The WTO Secretariat is organizing a Thematic Course on Services aspects of Electronic Commerce (in English) from 12 – 15 November 2024, in Geneva. The Course is a "Level 3" specialized training activity implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework, and it represents the highest level of learning among WTO training activities.<sup>1</sup>

The course aims to provide an extended training for trade officials engaged in negotiations on e-commerce and trade in services. It will explore the relationship and interdependence of e-commerce with services trade, and its relationship of existing GATS disciplines. The course will also address various services sectors that are enablers of e-commerce or are enabled by it. It will further provide an overview of the moratorium, as well as current discussions in the WTO.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the advanced course are to:

- enhance participants' understanding on the relationship between the GATS and e-commerce;
- allow participants to gain knowledge with the trade regime for key services sectors that are enablers of e-commerce as well as sectors that are enabled by e-commerce;
- Improve participants' familiarity with current WTO discussions on e-commerce, particularly as they relate to trade in services.

The course will be delivered through a mix of, lectures, interactive exercises, case-studies, and peer learning.

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<sup>1</sup> For further details about the WTO Progressive Learning Strategy see the Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan 2024-2025 (WT/COMTD/W/273 and WT/COMTD/W/273/Corr.1) The TA Plan can also be accessed through the following URL link: [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/devel\\_e/teccop\\_e/tct\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/teccop_e/tct_e.htm).

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## INVITATION TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES & CANDIDATE PROFILE

The course targets government officials at mid- to senior level with at least two years of relevant work experience who are directly engaged in the formulation of e-commerce policy and/or discussions and negotiations on trade and e-commerce in the WTO or regional context.

Members and Observers to the WTO, which are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are invited to submit the names of **two or three officials** meeting the requirements set out below, for consideration in the selection process.

Candidates are required to have an advanced understanding of the General Agreement on Trade in Services and e-commerce issues. They should be willing to share experiences, prepare short contributions, and participate actively in all sessions.

Candidates should have completed a WTO training activity (E-Learning<sup>2</sup> or a face-to-face/virtual course) on trade in services and/or e-commerce or have demonstrably commensurate knowledge or professional experience.

Candidates should also possess an excellent ability to communicate in English both orally and in writing.

A passport photocopy and one-page CV must be attached to the application.

## COSTS COVERED FOR SELECTED PARTICIPANTS

The Secretariat of the WTO makes available thirty (30) fellowships for this activity. Each fellowship covers the following: a round trip airplane ticket in economy class; daily subsistence allowance; a terminal expenses allowance; and accommodation for the duration of the course.

Interested candidates need to duly complete and submit the online application form available at:

[https://wto.formstack.com/forms/thematic\\_course\\_on\\_services\\_aspects\\_of\\_electronic\\_commerce\\_12\\_15\\_november\\_2024](https://wto.formstack.com/forms/thematic_course_on_services_aspects_of_electronic_commerce_12_15_november_2024)

- The online application form requires the uploading of a scanned copy of: (i) the applicant's passport and (ii) the official nomination letter signed and stamped by the competent government authority nominating the applicant.
- The application form, including the passport and nomination letter, should be submitted via the online application system **no later than Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024.**
- 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](mailto:logistics.unit@wto.org)) **no later than Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024.**

The WTO Secretariat reserves 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Please visit the E-Learning website, where you will find information about online courses at <https://www.learning.wto.org/> or you can also contact [elarning@wto.org](mailto:elarning@wto.org)

**\*Français/Español**

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un cours thématique sur les aspects du commerce électronique liés aux services, à Genève, du 12 au 15 novembre 2024. Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont publiés en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un Curso Temático sobre los Aspectos del Comercio Electrónico relacionados con los Servicios, en Ginebra, del 12 al 15 de noviembre de 2024. Este curso se impartirá en inglés, por lo que la invitación y el formulario de candidatura se publicarán en inglés solamente.