



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To: Heads of Delegations
Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia
and the Caucasus (CEECAC) countries

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Regional Workshop on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Caucasus (CEECAC) Members and Observers

Vienna, Austria from 12 to 15 November 2024

(In English *)

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in collaboration with the Joint Vienna Institute (JVI) is organizing a Regional Workshop on the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and contemporary policy issues for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Caucasus (CEECAC) Members and Observers to be held in Vienna (Austria), from 12 to 15 November 2024. The Workshop will take place in English.

The Workshop, in the context of the WTO Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan for 2024-2025 ([WT/COMTD/W/273](#)) aims to facilitate the more effective participation of the CEECAC countries in the work of the World Trade Organization.

The overall objectives of the Regional Workshop are to improve the capacity of government officials to analyse policy choices, address multidisciplinary issues, and foster smooth domestic coordination. This will be achieved through an enhanced understanding of policy issues related to public health, technology transfer, and their relationship with WTO Agreements. Special focus will be given to the challenges faced and lessons learned from technology transfer in various sectors, including the diffusion of climate change and adaptation technologies. The Workshop will combine lectures by experts, interactive discussions, and case studies, as well as knowledge sharing by participants. An outline of the programme is attached.

The workshop is intended for a regional audience, focusing on government officials working in trade, intellectual property, public health, and technology transfer. It aims to foster coordination among officials involved in these areas of public policy. WTO Members and Observers from the Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus region, 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, for consideration by the selection committee.

The WTO Secretariat has provision to finance **34 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 as well as confirmation directly from the WTO Logistics Unit.

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

Who should apply? Government officials with relevant experience¹ in trade and Intellectual Property (IP) and:

- 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, technology transfer offices 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
- Proficiency in English.

Application form: Interested candidates need to complete and submit the online application form, which is available at: [2024 TRIPS Policy Issues Workshop for CEECAC Members and Observers - Application Form](#)

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 that is nominating the candidate. 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) at the latest **by 23 August**.

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 at the latest **by 23 August**.

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 confirmation directly by email from logistics.unit@wto.org. Relevant administrative information, travel details and economy-class tickets will be sent after the selection has taken place.

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.

¹ At least 5 years of experience working on issues of trade and intellectual property.

Français/Español

**L'Organisation Mondiale du Commerce (OMC) organise un Atelier régional sur les ADPIC pour la région ECOACC, du 12 au 15 Novembre 2024. Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.*

**La Organización Mundial del Comercio (OMC) organiza un Taller Regional sobre los ADPIC para la región ECOACC, del 12 al 15 de noviembre de 2024. Este curso será dado en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.*

WTO OMC

- 4 -

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 Regional Workshop on TRIPS Agreement for CEECAC Members and Observers, scheduled to take place in Vienna, Austria, from 12 to 15 November 2024 and hereby confirms that the candidate has:

- Direct responsibility for matters relating to the interaction between trade agreements, IP conventions, and policy issues, whether from authorities responsible for foreign affairs, trade, IP, public health, technology transfer offices 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 experience¹ in trade and intellectual property and an advanced level of knowledge about trade law and policy, including, but not limited to, the WTO's TRIPS Agreement; and
- All-round proficiency in English.

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 23 August 2024

¹ At least 5 years of experience working on issues of trade and intellectual property.