

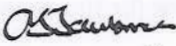


WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To: Heads of Delegations
WTO Members and Observers Fax No: WTO Members and Observers

From: Bridget Chllala
Director
Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation Date: 04/11/2020


Antony Taubman
Director
Intellectual Property, Government Procurement
and Competition Division Pages: 3 (including this one)

Ref: VIR20-22

WTO ADVANCED GLOBAL E-WORKSHOP ON THE PLURILATERAL WTO AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

7, 10 AND 14 DECEMBER (HALF DAYS)

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization is organizing **the 2020 Advanced Global E-Workshop on the Plurilateral WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA)**, which seeks to raise awareness of and deepen knowledge about the revised GPA for the benefit of participants from WTO Members and Observers (WT/COMTD/W/248/Rev.1). The online Workshop will be held **through a virtual platform over three half-days: 7 December (day 1), 10 December (day 2) and 14 December (day 3).**

Purpose and content of the activity

The main purpose of this Advanced Global e-Workshop on the Plurilateral WTO Agreement on Government Procurement is to familiarize participants with the objectives, content and benefits of the revised GPA and related policies like open, non-discriminatory and competitive international government procurement, good governance, and inclusive and sustainable development. Participants will be introduced to the flexibilities provided under the GPA (including in relation to emergency situations like COVID-19), the significance of the GPA in the context of domestic government procurement reform and the promotion of domestic good governance, the benefits of accession to the revised GPA and the possibility to negotiate transitional measures catering for development needs of newly acceding countries.

The programme will consist of presentations by the WTO Secretariat and leading international experts. The presentations will be pre-recorded or shared in "live" format. Owing to differences in time zones, however, it is expected that possibilities for live interaction will be limited. An effort will be made to allow for appropriate deferred interaction between the participants and presenters (Q&As, participant surveys, etc.). A draft programme is attached. The **e-Workshop** will be held in **English only**.*

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Participation in the activity

The Members and Observers to the WTO, who are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are invited to nominate **up to three senior capital-based officials** to be considered to participate in the above activity. Ideally, at least one official should be from your government's Trade Ministry and at least one from your Ministry of Finance, Procurement Authority or other Ministry or Agency with policy responsibility in this area. **Up to 60 participants** may be selected by the WTO Secretariat to participate in this activity.

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 and/or on the basis of the maximum number of participants.

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.

Participants will be required to contribute to the e-workshop by answering survey questionnaires as well as working in groups during the breakout session. Active participation in Q&A sessions is also anticipated and encouraged.

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/2020_advanced_global_e_workshop_qpa.
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 FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER.**
4. Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by fax or email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (Fax No: +41 22 739 5724; Email: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER.**

*Français/Español

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un atelier virtuel sur les marchés publics - Promouvoir le commerce, la bonne gouvernance et un développement durable et inclusif : L'Accord révisé de l'OMC sur les marchés publics (AMP) comme outil de facilitation, le 7 décembre (jour 1), 10 décembre (jour 2) et 14 décembre (jour 3) 2020. Cet atelier étant en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial de Comercio organiza un taller en línea sobre Contratación Pública - Promoción del comercio, la buena gobernanza y el desarrollo inclusivo y sostenible: El Acuerdo revisado de la OMC sobre Contratación Pública (ACP) como facilitador el 7 de diciembre (Día 1), 10 diciembre (Día 2) y 14 de diciembre (Día 3) 2020. Este seminario se impartirá en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.

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 Advanced Global E-Workshop on the Plurilateral WTO Agreement on Government Procurement, scheduled to take place on 7 December (day 1), 10 December (day 2) and 14 December (day 3) 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 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 criteria 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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