



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To: WTO Members and Observers Heads of Delegations	E-mail: Attached List
From: Ms. Bridget CHILALA <i>p.p. R. Valdes</i> Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation World Trade Organization (WTO)	Date: 20 August 2018
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SEMINAR ON IP AND KNOWLEDGE FLOWS IN A DIGITAL ERA

GENEVA, 05-06 NOVEMBER 2018

INVITATION TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES

Your Government is invited to nominate candidates who are government officials for possible selection as participants in the 2018 session of the WTO Seminar on IP and Knowledge Flows in a Digital Era that will take place at the WTO in Geneva from 5 to 6 November 2018. This is a Level 3 Specialized Course in the area of intellectual property.

Background on the Seminar

Development policy increasingly concerns the knowledge component of trade, and how to make best use of the opportunities provided by the knowledge economy: SDG 9, notably, identifies innovation as such as a goal for sustainable development. The disruptive effect of technological change has impacted especially on the area of intellectual property (IP), and the exercise of policy options under the TRIPS Agreement, opening up new avenues for development as IP in itself becomes a tradable good and IP plays a pivotal role in dispersed international production chains and in facilitating knowledge transfer. Policymakers therefore confront an entirely new set of challenges integrating TRIPS measures into trade policies that respond to a digitally transformed knowledge economy; these challenges extend to basic capacity to measure and to map the IP dimension of trade.

This Seminar will systematically review the current legal and policy landscape for trade in knowledge and provide an integrated overview, deploying a selective, yet necessarily broad-based range of cutting edge expertise from internationally renowned economists, lawyers and policy makers. They will examine how to map knowledge flows across borders and the impact of these flows, and then will chart the legal, economic and policy dimensions of such flows. A wide range of materials are being prepared that will serve as a complementary resource for future technical

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assistance and trade and development policy support in the contemporary knowledge economy. Suitably qualified candidates selected for the course from developing economies and economies in transition are fully funded.

..... A copy of the draft programme is attached (Attachment A). The working language will be English.

Eligibility and selection

Thirty (30) places are available for allocation to a selection of applicants from developing economies and economies in transition.¹

To be considered for possible selection, applicants must:

- be a senior government official responsible for intellectual property and related policy issues in his/her country, including matters relating to the interaction between trade and IP in a digital era;
- have completed the WTO on-line e-Training TRIPS course or possess proven commensurate knowledge or professional experience;
- demonstrate an extensive practical background in intellectual property law, policy and practice; and
- possess an excellent knowledge of English.

Applicants should be aware that participation is necessarily highly selective and that only candidates who meet the above criteria will be considered for possible selection. Incomplete or late applications, applications for candidates who lack these qualifications, and applications that are not nominated by the supporting government, will not be considered at all.

Logistics and support

..... The attached Application Form (Attachment B) must be returned, completed and signed by the candidate as well as by the nominating national authority which presents the candidate, via the Permanent Mission/Embassy. Nominations received from other sources will not be taken into consideration.

The deadline for submitting candidates is 20 September 2018. Nomination and candidate application forms should be transmitted to:

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In light of complex arrangements involved in the organization of these activities, the WTO Secretariat will not be in a position to process the names of further nominees identified beyond this deadline. Permanent Missions and candidates will be informed of the selection results.

The WTO Secretariat will provide an economy round-trip air-ticket (excursion fare, if applicable), hotel accommodation and other necessary arrangements to selected participants for the duration of the stay. Other administrative arrangements shall be communicated directly to the nominees by email in due course.

The 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.

¹ Candidacies received from WTO Members and Observers subject to Administrative Measures at the time of selection will be not considered (category III for WTO Members or category II for WTO Observers).