




WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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To: Heads of Delegations Members and Observers to the WTO	E-mail: List attached
From: Stefania Bernabe Chief of the Course Design and Training Section Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (ITTC) World Trade Organization (WTO)	Date: 06/05/2026
	
Number of Pages (including this one): 16	Ref: ATPC26-1/ ATPC26-2

2026 WTO BLENDED ADVANCED TRADE POLICY COURSES (in English)*

22 June – 17 July 2026 online - joint

**14 September – 9 October 2026 GENEVA (Switzerland) – first edition
OR**

16 November - 11 December 2026 GENEVA (Switzerland) – second edition

Invitation to present candidates

The Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation is organizing two editions of the WTO Advanced Trade Policy Course (ATPC), in English, during 2026. The ATPCs are level 3 training activities implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework and represent the highest level of learning among WTO training activities.¹ In accordance with the Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan for 2026-2027 (WTO/COMTD/W/299), the ATPCs have been redesigned and will be delivered in a blended format comprising four weeks online and four subsequent weeks in-person in Geneva, followed by the development and presentation of an individual action plan. For 2026, a **joint virtual segment** for the two editions of the ATPC will take place from 22 June to 17 July 2026. Two separate in-person segments will take place from 14 September to 9 October 2026 for the first edition of the course, and from 16 November to 11 December 2026 for the second edition of the course.

The purpose of the blended ATPC is to develop participants' autonomy in conducting WTO-related work by: (i) encouraging critical thinking to explore the linkages between WTO rules and disciplines and countries' trade policies and interests in the multilateral trading system; and (ii) enhancing analytical and negotiating skills to engage in trade policy formulation and implementation, monitoring and surveillance, WTO negotiations or dispute settlement. Both legal and economic aspects of WTO rules and disciplines will be examined in a series of interactive

¹ For further details about the WTO Progressive Learning Strategy, see the Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan 2026-2027 (WT/COMTD/W/299), pp. 24-26. The TA Plan can also be accessed through the following URL link:

<https://docs.wto.org/dol2festaff/Pages/SS/directdoc.aspx?filename=q:/WT/COMTD/W299.pdf&Open=True>

sessions focusing on case studies, simulations, and exercises, including hands-on use of WTO databases and analytical tools available online. Roundtable discussions will provide a platform for practical exchanges, sharing of experiences and best practices as well as debating present-day trade topics. The course also includes attendance at selected meetings of WTO bodies and briefings on WTO work-in-progress. Contacts with WTO Secretariat officials, delegates and representatives from Missions and other international organizations are also a common feature.

The course is targeted at government officials who are directly involved in WTO-related work and who already possess a sound knowledge of the general features of the WTO system and the WTO Agreements. Due to the applied nature of the ATPC, participants are expected to be actively involved throughout the course to further consolidate their knowledge and develop new skills through practice and case-based learning.

Members and Observers to the WTO, which are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are invited to present up to five candidates to participate in this course. Eligible candidates should have completed, preferably within the last five years, a "Level 2" Generalist path WTO training activity² or, in exceptional circumstances, when they have not completed a Level 2 activity, have demonstrably commensurate knowledge or professional experience. They must also possess an excellent ability to communicate in English both orally and in writing.

Two groups of 30 participants (60 in total) will be selected to take part in the two ATPCs. Selected candidates will be assigned to one of the in-person segments based on the availability indicated by the candidate in the application form. Note that all participants need to take part in the mandatory joint virtual segment taking place from 22 June to 17 July 2026. After successful completion of the joint virtual segment, participants will take part in the applicable in-person segment.

The Secretariat of the WTO will make available thirty (30) fellowships for each in-person segment of these two ATPCs. Each fellowship will cover 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. **As indicated in the Biennial Technical Assistance and Training Plan 2026-2027, self-funded participation is encouraged when possible, and should be indicated to the Secretariat.**

..... The attached Application Form 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 to the WTO, at the latest by 29 MAY 2026**. Selected participants will receive confirmation directly. Additional administrative information, travel details and ticket will be sent shortly after the selection has taken place.

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel any of these two activities in the event of force majeure, if sufficient funding cannot be secured in time, or for any other reason that render the execution of the activity impracticable for the organizers.

****Français/Español***



L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise deux cours avancés de politique commerciale mixtes. Le segment virtuel pour les deux cours aura lieu du 22 juin au 17 juillet 2026 et les segments présentiels auront lieu à Genève du 14 septembre au 9 octobre 2026 pour le premier cours et du 16 novembre au 11 décembre 2026 pour le deuxième cours. Ces cours étant donnés en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza dos cursos avanzados de política comercial en modalidad híbrida. El segmento virtual tendrá lugar del 22 de junio al 17 de julio de 2026 y los segmentos presenciales se desarrollarán en Ginebra, del 14 de septiembre al 9 de octubre de 2026 para el primer curso y del 16 de noviembre al 11 de diciembre de 2026 para el segundo curso. Estos cursos serán impartidos en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.





² Level 2 Generalist path activities include: Geneva-based Trade Policy Course; Regional Trade Policy Course (including online eRTPC); WTO E-Learning course on the Multilateral Trade Agreements and the WTO.

Advanced Trade Policy Course (ATPC) Virtual segment – 22 June – 17 July 2026




Week 1

Monday, 22 June 2026	Tuesday, 23 June 2026	Wednesday, 24 June 2026	Thursday, 25 June 2026	Friday, 26 June 2026
<p>11:30 – 12:30 12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Overview of ATPC and introduction to the course. Get to know each other</p>		<p>11:30 – 12:30 12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Market Access & Customs topics</p>		




Week 2

Monday, 29 June 2026	Tuesday, 30 June 2026	Wednesday, 1 July 2026	Thursday, 2 July 2026	Friday, 3 July 2026
<p>11:30 – 12:30</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Trade Policy Presentation Project (TPPP)</p> <p>12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Current status of globalization</p> <p>13:50 – 14:50</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Trade and Industrial Policy Framework</p>		<p>11:30 – 12:30 12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Agriculture Agreement</p>		

Week 3

Monday, 6 July 2026	Tuesday, 7 July 2026	Wednesday, 8 July 2026	Thursday, 9 July 2026	Friday, 10 July 2026
<p>11:30 – 12:30 12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: SPS and TBT</p>		<p>11:30 – 12:30</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Trade and Environment</p> <p>12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: TPPP session</p>		

Week 4

Monday, 13 July 2026	Tuesday, 14 July 2026	Wednesday, 15 July 2026	Thursday, 16 July 2026	Friday, 17 July 2026
<p>11:30 – 12:30 12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Trade Negotiation Simulation (TNS) - Theory</p>		<p>11:30 – 12:30</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Trade in the Digital Era</p> <p>12:40 – 13:40</p> <p> Live Zoom session: Introduction to E-commerce</p>		

In person segment (WTO, Geneva) – 14 September – 9 October 2026

Week 1

	Monday, 14 Sept. 2026	Tuesday, 15 Sept. 2026	Wed., 16 Sept. 2026	Thur., 17 Sept. 2026	Friday, 18 Sept. 2026
09:00 – 10:20	Opening & Administrative matters	Market Access Mauritius Case	ITC	SPS practical exercise	Trade and Environment
10:40 – 12:30	Introduction to in-person segment and get to know each other	Market Access Mauritius Case	ITC	SPS practical exercise	TPPP group work
14:00 – 15:20	Market Access databases – exercises and questions	Market Access Mauritius Case	Agriculture – Case/exercise	TBT Transparency and ePing	14:00-15:00: The WTO and MC14
15:40 – 17:30	Market Access databases – exercises and questions	Market Access Mauritius Case	Agriculture – Case/exercise	TBT practical exercise	15:30 - 17:00 Roundtable Global trade governance: The WTO and MC14

Week 2

	Monday, 21 Sept. 2026	Tuesday, 22 Sept. 2026	Wed., 23 Sept. 2026	Thur., 24 Sept. 2026	Friday, 25 Sept. 2026
09:00 – 10:20	Trade Remedies in perspective	Cotton Case	TPPP group presentation	TRIPS – Case/exercise	DSB meeting
10:40 – 12:30	Trade Remedies in perspective and Introduction to the Cotton Case	Cotton Case	TPPP group presentation	TRIPS – Case/exercise	DSB meeting
14:00 – 15:20	Fisheries Agreement	Cotton Case	TPPP group presentation	TRIPS – Case/exercise	Introduction to action plan
15:40 – 17:00	TPPP group work	Cotton Case	TPPP group presentation	TRIPS – Case/exercise	GATS Review and introduction to GATS negotiation
17:00 – 18:00	TPPP group work	TPPP group work			

Week 3

	Monday, 28 Sept. 2026	Tuesday, 29 Sept. 2026	Wed., 30 Sept. 2026	Thur., 1 October 2026	Friday, 2 October 2026
09:00 – 10:20	GATS Negotiation	GATS Negotiation	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise
10:40 – 12:30	GATS Negotiation	GATS Negotiation	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise
14:00 – 15:20	GATS Negotiation	GATS Negotiation	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise
15:40 – 17:00	GATS Negotiation	GATS Negotiation	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise

Week 4

	Monday, 5 Oct. 2026	Tuesday, 6 Oct. 2026	Wed., 7 October 2026	Thur., 8 October 2026	Friday, 9 October 2026
09:00 – 10:20	Roundtable on negotiations	Moot Court	Moot Court	Dispute Settlement Roundtable	Workshop on action plan
10:40 – 12:30	Trade Negotiation Simulation Exercise debriefing	Moot Court	Moot Court	Dispute Settlement Roundtable	Workshop on action plan
14:00 – 15:20	WTO Dispute Settlement	Moot Court	Moot Court	RTAs	Evaluation session and wrap up
15:40 – 17:30	WTO Dispute Settlement	Moot Court	Moot Court	GPA	Closing of the in-person segment of the ATPC

Individual Action Plan (online) 12 October 2026 – 23 October 2026

Monday, 12 October 2026	Tuesday, 13 October 2026	Wednesday, 14 October 2026	Thursday, 15 October 2026	Friday, 16 October 2026
Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan

Monday, 19 October 2026	Tuesday, 20 October 2026	Wednesday, 21 October 2026	Thursday, 22 October 2026	Friday, 23 October 2026
Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Time for individual work on the action plan	Deadline for submission of the individual action plans

Monday, 26 October 2026	Tuesday, 27 October 2026	Wednesday, 28 October 2026	Thursday, 29 October 2026	Friday, 30 October 2026
		Presentation of action plans	Presentation of action plans	Final closing of the course and distribution of certificates