



WTO OMC

**WTO REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FOR CENTRAL AND
EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIAN AND THE CAUCASUS COUNTRIES**

JOINT VIENNA INSTITUTE,
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

20-22 OCTOBER 2015

PROGRAMME

This Workshop is organized by the WTO Secretariat pursuant to the Secretariat's 2014-2015 Technical Assistance Plan (WT/COMTD/W/200), in co-operation with the Joint Vienna Institute, for the benefit of participants from Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus (CEECAC) countries.

The theme of the Workshop is: *Government procurement and international trade disciplines: relevant WTO activities, regional developments, and policy considerations for transition and emerging economies.*

The purpose of the Workshop is to provide a forum for both trade and procurement policy makers and experts to exchange information on national, bilateral, regional and multilateral trade-related activities and initiatives in the area of government procurement. The broad objectives of the programme are: (i) to familiarize participants with WTO activities related to government procurement, notably as they relate to trade, governance and economic performance; (ii) to elaborate on the benefits and challenges associated with accession to and implementation of the Agreement and the procedures and modalities to be followed, in addition to related policy issues; and (iii) to discuss international and regional standards, developments and trends in the area of government procurement.

The Workshop will be held in English. Interpretation into Russian will be financed and provided by EBRD.

The programme will follow an interactive approach emphasizing embedded policy discussion sessions on topical issues, networking, and the exchange of information and sharing of experiences, in addition to lectures and presentations.

It is anticipated that up to two participants each from the following countries will attend the Workshop: Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

To encourage the sharing and exchange of information and experiences on national and regional disciplines, participants are encouraged to come prepared, where possible, with relevant material to contribute to the workshop.

DAY 1, 20 OCTOBER 2015

08:00 MEETING POINT: LOBBY, INTERCITY HOTEL VIENNA

08:30 REGISTRATION AT JVI, VIENNA

SESSION 1: Opening

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
09:00 – 09:20	1.1 Opening remarks	Mr Norbert Funke Director, JVI Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
09:20 – 09:45	1.2 Participant introductions	

SESSION 2: Significance of government procurement for trade and growth in the prevailing economic environment

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
09:45 – 10:15	2.1 The GPA as an emerging pillar of international trade: competition, governance, value for money and the international dimension of government procurement	Prof Steven Schooner George Washington University Law School
10:15 – 10:30	2.2 General discussion	

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

SESSION 3: The revised WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA): potential market access benefits and outcomes of the recent renegotiation

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
11:00 – 11:30	3.1 The GPA: basic principles and aims, outcomes of the renegotiation and other developments, and relevance for transition and emerging economies	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
11:30 – 12:00	3.2 The e-GPA: how to use it to analyse potential market access benefits for acceding countries	Ms Anna Müller WTO Secretariat
12:00 – 12:30	3.3 General discussion	

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

SESSION 4a: Implementation issues: national and international perspectives

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
14:00 – 14:30	4.1 Procuring internationally: obstacles faced and solutions sought by the private sector in participating in procurements internationally	Mr Martin Oder Haslinger Nagele
14:30 – 15:00	4.2 Synergies between international regimes and domestic reforms: relevance of the revised UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement and complementarities with the revised GPA	Ms Caroline Nicholas UNCITRAL
15:00 – 15:30	4.3 General discussion	

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

SESSION 4b: Multilateralism, regionalism and other international developments in government procurement

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
16:00 – 16:30	4.4 Government procurement reform from a lawyer's perspective: the GPA and its relevance for transition economies	Mr Johannes Schnitzer Schnitzer Law
16:30 – 17:00	4.5 The use of framework agreements and other implementation issues for transition economies	Prof Steven Schooner George Washington University Law School
17:00-17:30	General discussion	

DAY 2, 21 OCTOBER 2015

SESSION 5: The Agreement on Government Procurement: introduction to the revised text and scope and coverage of the Agreement

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
09:00 – 09:30	5.1 The revised text of the GPA: key revisions, new elements and flexibilities for Parties and acceding members (Walk-through of the revised text)	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
09:30 – 10:00	5.2 Government procurement in regional trade agreements: results from empirical analysis, latest developments and implications for the GPA	Ms Anna Müller WTO Secretariat
10:00 – 10:30	5.3 General discussion	

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

SESSION 6: Accession to the GPA: potential benefits and costs and policy considerations for transition and emerging economies

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
11:00 – 11:30	6.1 Accession to the GPA: present situation, potential benefits and costs and policy considerations for transition economies	Prof Steven Schooner George Washington University Law School
11:30 – 12:00	6.2 Accession to the GPA, regional developments with regard to procurement and the work of the EBRD on procurement reform	Ms Eliza Niewiadomska EBRD
12:00 – 12:30	6.3 General discussion	

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

SESSION 7: Accession to the GPA: modalities and country experiences

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
14:00 – 14:20	7.1 Accession to the GPA: modalities and other procedural considerations and introduction to the revised Checklist of Issues	Ms Anna Müller WTO Secretariat
14:20 – 15:00	7.2 GPA accession step-by-step: recent experience from the region - <i>practical discussion session</i>	Participants
15:00 – 15:30	7.3 General discussion	

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

SESSION 8: GPA Institutional provisions

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
16:00 – 16:30	8.1 GPA Domestic review procedures: purpose, institutional design and relevant provisions	Prof Steven Schooner George Washington University Law School
16:30 – 17:00	8.2 WTO dispute settlement procedures under the GPA	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
17:00 – 17:30	8.3 General discussion	

DAY 3, 22 OCTOBER 2015

SESSION 9: E-procurement: domestic and international perspectives

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
09:00 – 09:30	9.1 E-procurement under the revised GPA	Ms Anna Müller WTO Secretariat
09:30 – 10:00	9.2 E-procurement reform: experiences from the region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The experience of Turkey The experience of Ukraine 	Mr. Serdar Gunbay, Turkey Mrs Tetiana Lisovska and Mrs Anna Milenina, Ukraine
10:00 – 10:30	9.3 General discussion	

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

SESSION 10: Additional implementation issues and prospects for the future evolution of the revised GPA

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
11:00 – 11:30	10.1 Notification requirements under the revised GPA, and the Future Work Programmes of the GPA Committee: relevance for transition and emerging economies	Ms Anna Müller WTO Secretariat
11:30 – 12:00	10.2 Measures to prevent collusive tendering: an important adjunct to a liberalised government procurement regime	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
12:00 – 12:30	10.3 General discussion	

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

SESSION 11: Competition and integrity in public procurement

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
14:00 – 15:00	11.1 Case study exercise on collusion and public health – <i>breakout session</i>	Participants
15:00 – 15:30	11.2 Reporting and general discussion	Participants

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

SESSION 12: Concluding session

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
16:00 – 16:30	12.1 Plenary evaluative comments	Participants
	12.2 Workshop summary and concluding remarks	Prof Steven Schooner George Washington University Law School Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
16:30	Close	