



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRADE IN SERVICES FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE,
CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS COUNTRIES**

23-25 May 2018

Joint Vienna Institute, Vienna, Austria

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Resource persons:

- Ms Ruosi Zhang, Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization
- Joscelyn Magdeleine, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization
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General objective of the workshop:

Enable participants to have a better understanding of the disciplines of the General Agreement on Trade in Services and their relevance to policy considerations in various service sectors. Discuss the linkages between the multilateral and ongoing bilateral, regional and WTO accession negotiations on trade in services, including the resulting opportunities and challenges.

Specific objectives:

- Objective 1:** Enhance participants' understanding of the disciplines and functioning of the GATS, including scheduling issues;
- Objective 2:** Familiarize participants with information tools for trade in services analysis;
- Objective 3:** Enlighten participants on the linkages between the multilateral and other negotiations on trade in services, including the resulting opportunities and challenges.

Day 1: Wednesday 23 May 2018

Session	Subject
09.00 - 9:15	<u>Opening Session</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Welcome➤ Presentation of the speakers and the objectives of the seminar➤ Participants' expectations
09:15 - 09:30	Quiz - self-assessment
09:30 - 11:00	<u>Session 1: Trade in services and the multilateral trading system</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Services trade: evolution, trends and challenges• Services and Value-added – TiVA, "Servicification"• Introduction of multilateral rules: the GATS• Scope and coverage of the agreement• Four modes of supply• Main obligations (MFN, Market Access, National Treatment)
11:00 - 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15 - 12:30	<u>Session 2: Scheduling of Commitments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principles and rules for scheduling commitments• Services classification• Scheduling issues• WTO Jurisprudence
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<u>Session 3: Application of the GATS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exercises
15:30 - 15:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:45 - 17:00	<u>Session 4: National and regional experiences - WTO Accession</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation by participants<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Services issues to consider for acceding countries○ Lessons learnt from the negotiating process

Day 2: Thursday 24 May 2018

Session	Subject
9:00 – 10:30	<u>Session 5: GATS and E-Commerce</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of e-commerce • Measurement of e-commerce • Services trade and e-commerce: technical and regulatory issues • GATS perspective
10:30 - 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 - 12:30	<u>Session 6: Case study on e-commerce</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<u>Session 7: Trade and Investment Interface</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overlap between trade in services and investment • Recent developments (RTAs, International Investment Agreements and other fora) • Investment facilitation in the WTO – process, scope, ongoing discussions • Link with existing GATS disciplines and Domestic Regulation proposals
15:30 - 15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:45 - 17:00	<u>Session 8: National and regional experience – Trade negotiation and domestic reforms</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by participants

Day 3: Friday 25 May 2018

Session	Subject
09:00 - 10:30	<u>Session 9: Services Economic Integration Agreements</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent developments in regional trade agreements covering services • Understanding GATS Article V • Emerging issues in services-related rule making (e-commerce, data localization, etc.) • The different scheduling approaches in RTAs
10:30 - 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>

10:45 - 12:30	<p><u>Session 10: Services Trade Statistics and Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring services trade – BOP, FATS • Services Trade Restrictiveness Indices • Joint WB-WTO work on services trade regulations • I-TIP services • Other analytical tools
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:00	<p><u>Session 11: Services negotiations in the WTO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of play • LDC waiver • Other work
15:00 - 15:30	<p>Concluding Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz - self-assessment • Evaluation

Reading material:

- GATS Agreement
- Trade in Services – Extended Set of Documents 2015 (esp. Scheduling Guidelines S/L/92)
- UN CPC prov. – Part Three (pp. 173-285)