**National workshop on Trade in Services**

**luanda, Angola, March 2019**

**To be organized jointly by UNCTAD and WTO**

**Background**

Under the commercial diplomacy subcomponent of the Angola project, activities are planned to seek to strengthen human, institutional and policy-making capacities so as to support the analysis, formulation and implementation of national trade in services policy frameworks as well as effective participation in multilateral, regional and sub-regional trade negotiations and agreements conducive to economic, human and social development and poverty alleviation in Angola. Specifically tailored training will be provided to ensure that Angola reaps the benefits and successfully addresses the challenges associated with trade in parallel negotiations in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), in the Tripartite (COMESA, EAC, SADC) Free Trade Area, between SADC and the EU under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), in the context of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA), and under the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements.

**Objectives of the workshop:**

The main goal of the workshop is to provide training to Angolan services negotiators and line ministries to enable them to engage effectively in multilateral and regional negotiations on trade in services. The workshop will consolidate knowledge on the key concepts and legal obligations under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services, and the ACFTA Annex on trade in Services, with particular emphasis on the scheduling of specific commitments. Throughout the seminar, time will be set aside to allow participants to ask questions and to provide comments. The activity aims to achieve the following objectives:

Objective 1: Increase participants' understanding of main services concepts in multilateral and regional instruments

Objective 2: Enhance participants' knowledge of scheduling techniques and technical aspects thereof, including through practical exercises focusing on the interpretation and drafting of schedules of specific commitments.

Objective 3: Collect information on Angola's applied regime, so as to enable negotiators to prepare services offers in the context of services negotiations.

The training is expected to be helpful to Angolan officials involved in the services negotiations to prepare services offers, particularly in the context of SADC, where Angola plans to submit its offer before April 2019.

**Participants:**

1) officials from the following government agencies:

o Ministry of Commerce;

o Ministry of Planning and Territorial Development

o Ministry of Finance,

o Ministry of Transport,

o Ministry of Environment, as well as

o Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations Office in Geneva

o Ministry of Petroleum,

o Ministry of Industry,

o Ministry of Public works,

o Ministry of Geology and Mines,

o Ministry of Water and Energy,

o Ministry of Posts and Communication,

o Ministry of Hotels and Tourism

o Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development,

o Ministry of Youth and Sports,

o Ministry of Health,

o Ministry of Education,

o Ministry of Culture,

o Ministry of Family Affairs and Women Promotion, and

o Various regulatory entities.

2) Participants from the Private sector/civil society/Women groups/Parliamentarians

• the Angola Industry Association

• the Chambers of Commerce

• the major universities and research institutions

• NGOs working on economic development issues

• Women groups

• Parliamentarians

**Time and duration:** 4 days in the week of 4 March, or 11 March or 25 March 2019.

**Day 1:**

| **Session** | **Subject** |
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| 08.00 - 08.45 | **Registration and Morning Coffee** |
| 09.00 - 09:30 | **Opening Session**   * Welcome and Opening Remarks – representative from Angola and EU delegation in Angola * Welcome and Opening Remarks – representatives from UNCTAD and WTO * Presentation of the speakers and the objectives of the workshop * Participants' expectations |
| 09:30 - 10:00 | **'Before' Trade in Services knowledge test** |
| *10:00 - 10:20* | *Coffee break* |
| 10:20 - 12:00 | **Session 1: Introduction to trade in services**   * The role and economic importance of services and services trade * Measuring trade in services * Main players, Trade by sectors and Modes * Relevant Trends in Africa and Angola * "Servicification", global value chains and regional/mega-regional/multilateral negotiations: How it all connects * Q&A |
| *12:00 - 13:30* | *Lunch Break* |
| 13:30 - 15:15 | **Session 2: Overview of trade in services basic concepts - the GATS (and any variations in the SADC/AfCFTA frameworks)**   * Objectives, structure and scope of application * Key obligations and disciplines under the GATS * The concept of progressive liberalization * MFN and other general obligations * Q&A |
| *15:15 - 15:35* | *Coffee Break* |
| 15:35 - 16:30 | **Session 3: Scheduling Services Commitments**   * Structure of schedules * Classification * Market Access * National Treatment * Additional Commitments * Horizontal commitments; * Scheduling techniques * Review Quiz and Q&A |

**Day 2:**

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| **Session** | **Subject** |
| 08:30 - 09:00 | **Morning Coffee** |
| 9:00 - 10:20 | **Session 4: Scheduling Exercises**   * How to read a schedule of specific commitments? * How to transpose national policy objectives and constraints into schedules? |
| *10:20 - 10:40* | *Coffee break* |
| 10:40 - 12:00 | **Session 4: Scheduling Exercises (continued)**   * Avoiding scheduling mistakes |
| *12:00 - 13:30* | *Lunch Break* |
| 13:30 - 15:15 | **Session 4: Scheduling Exercises (continued)**   * Drafting Exercises (sectors, tbc) |
| *15:15 - 15:35* | *Coffee break* |
| 15:35 - 16:30 | **Session 4: Scheduling Exercises (continued)**   * Drafting exercises (sectors tbc) |

**Day 3:**

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| **Session** | **Subject** |
| 08:30 - 09:00 | Morning Coffee |
| 9:00 - 10:00 | **Session 5: Angola's stake in regional and multilateral trade in services negotiations - [to be delivered by Angola services team]**   * Background to regional trade in services negotiations, including roadmaps, timelines, and expected deliverables -SADC, |
| *10:00 - 10:20* | *Coffee break* |
| 10:20 - 12:00 | **Session 6: Generally applicable laws and regulations affecting trade in services**   * Investment legislation and policies (Commercial Presence) * Labour and Immigration regulations (Presence of natural Persons) * Other |
| 12:00 - 12:45 | **Session 7: Services Priority Sectors – Communication Services**   * Courier Services |
| *12:45 - 13:45* | *Lunch Break* |
| 13:45 - 15:30 | **Session 7 (ctd): Services Priority Sectors – Communication Services**   * Telecommunication Services * Audio-visual Services |
| *15:30 - 15:50* | *Coffee break* |
| 15:50 - 16:30 | **Session 8: Services Priority Sectors – Tourism Services** |

**Day 4:**

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| **Session** | **Subject** |
| 08:30 - 09:00 | Morning Coffee |
| 9:00 - 10:30 | **Session 9: Services Priority Sectors – Financial Services**   * Insurance * Banking and other Financial Services |
| *10:30 - 10:50* | *Coffee break* |
| 10:50 - 12:30 | **Session 10: Services Priority Sectors – Transport Services**   * Road Transport * Air Transport * Rail Transport * Auxiliary Transport Services |
| *12:30 - 13:30* | *Lunch Break* |
| 13:30 - 15:30 | **Session 11: taking stock of issues discussed**   * Overview of the information obtained * Discussion of next steps and follow-up |
| 15:30 - 16:30 | **Final Session: Evaluation of the workshop and closing**   * 'After' GATS knowledge test * Final debriefing with participants |

**Background Material**

* General Agreement on Trade in Services
* Trade in Services – Extended Set of Documents 2015 (including the Scheduling Guidelines S/L/92)
* SADC Protocol on Trade in Services (P)
* SADC Schedules of Trading Partners
* ACFTA – Annex on Trade in Services
* Angola – GATS schedule (E, S, F)