**National Workshop on**

**WTO & Electronic Commerce**

**Astana, Kazakhstan**

**12-13 March 2019**

**Draft PROGRAMME**

**Tuesday 12 March**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | **Opening Session*** Welcome remarks
* Introductory remarks
 | Government RepresentativeWTO  |
| 9:30 – 10:45 | **Recent trends in global electronic commerce*** Who are the players
* Market trends and commercial models
* Technological advances
 | Ms. Lee Tuthill |
| *10:45 – 11:00* | *Coffee Break* |  |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | **The WTO Work Programme on electronic commerce**(WTO)* Decisions and ministerial mandates
* The moratorium on customs duties
* Work underway since the 11th Ministerial Conference
 | Ms. Zainab Mchumo |
| *12:30 – 14:00* | *Lunch Break* |  |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | **Elements of electronic commerce infrastructure*** Telecommunications & ICT, GATS & ITA
* Financial, logistics and distribution services
 | Ms. Lee Tuthill  |
| 15:00 – 16.00 | **National strategies for electronic commerce*** National policies and initiatives
* National projects and plans
* Domestic legal framework
 | Government representative |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | **Electronic commerce in practice*** Experiences of the private sector
* Opportunities and challenges
 | Private sector representative (s) |

**Wednesday 13 March**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9:00 – 10:30 | **WTO Agreements and their relevance to electronic commerce*** GATT
* GATS
* TRIPS, TFA, etc.
 | Ms. Lee Tuthill |
| 10:15 – 11:15 | **Discussions and proposals in the WTO** * Overview of current discussions
* Next steps
 | Ms. Zainab Mchumo |
| *11:15 – 11:30* | *Coffee break* |  |
| 11:30 - 12:45 | **Discussions and proposals in the WTO** *(continued)** *Interactive exercise by participants: Analysis of various topics and proposals*

*in group format* | Ms Zainab MchumoParticipants |
| *12:45 – 14:00* | *Lunch break* |  |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Electronic commerce in regional trade agreements*** Main obligations and disciplines
* Regional focus
* National participation in RTAs
 | Ms. Lee TuthillGovernment representative |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | **Workshop evaluation*** *Participants complete the workshop evaluation forms*
 | Ms Lee TuthillMs Zainab Mchumo |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | **Closing session*** Closing remarks
 | Government representativeWTO  |

WTO Resource Persons:

Ms. Lee Tuthill, Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division

Ms. Zainab Mchumo, Counsellor, Council and Trade Negotiations Committee Division

Background Material:

* Work Programme on E-Commerce
* Background document on E-Commerce
* Buenos Aires Ministerial outcome documents
* Recent submissions

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_