**National WTO WORKSHOP FOR THE PHILIPPINES**

**ON**

**the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) 2012 AND GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT CHAPTERS in fREE TRADE AGREEMENTs (ftas)**

**Manila, Philippines**

 **30 July - 1 August 2024**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

This Workshop is organized by the WTO Secretariat, in cooperation with the government of the Philippines, to facilitate internal policy dialogue and reflection on strategic trade policy options.

The Workshop has three main parts:

* Initially, it focuses on the WTO's GPA 2012 as the only binding trade agreement with a global aspiration and an exclusive government procurement focus and with the status of an international best practices instrument. It will familiarize participants with the international trade, good governance and development aspects of the GPA 2012 as well as the benefits of accession to it.
* In a middle part, Workshop participants are asked to role-play and actively participate in a simulated trade negotiation focusing on the exchange of market access opportunities in respect of government procurement.
* In the final part, the Workshop focuses on government procurement chapters in FTAs, their relationship with the GPA 2012, the significance of the GPA 2012 in that context and the situation in the Asian region.

The programme adopts an interactive approach with various embedded Group exercises to facilitate active and mutual learning. Participants are encouraged to come prepared to contribute to the Workshop.

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**Tuesday, 30 July 2024**

**08:30 Registration**

**SESSION 1: Opening**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:00 – 09:15 | 1.1 Opening remarks | Representative of the PhilippinesWTO Secretariat |
| 09:15 – 09:30 | 1.2 Participant introductions and objectives | Workshop participants |

PART ONE –

FOCUS ON THE GPA 2012 AS THE ONLY binding TRADE AGREEMENT WITH A global aspiration and an EXCLUSIVE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FOCUS AND the STATUS of AN NTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES INSTRUMENT

**SESSION 2: Introduction to the GPA 2012: Main substantive and procedural commitments and built-in flexibilities**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | 2.1 Introduction to the GPA 2012 | WTO Secretariat |
| 10:00 – 10:40 | 2.2 The GPA 2012: Main substantive and procedural commitments and built-in flexibilities *(Walk-through of the text of the GPA 2012)* | WTO Secretariat  |
| 10:40-11:00 | 2.3 General discussion |  |

**11:00 – 11:15 Break**

**SESSION 3: Scope and coverage of the GPA 2012: Potential market access benefits**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 11:15 – 12:15 | 3.1 The GPA 2012: architecture of market access schedules, and the e-GPA online market access information resource portal (e-GPA) (<https://e-gpa.wto.org/>) | WTO Secretariat |
| 12:15 – 12:45 | 3.2 Potential market access: Offensive and defensive interests from the perspective of the Philippines | Representative of the Philippines |

**12:40– 14:00 Lunch Break**

PART TWO –

practical trade negotiation simulation exercise

**SESSION 4A: Practical simulation exercise on negotiating market access in the context of GPA 2012 accessions/FTA market access negotiations**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | 4.1 Introduction, instructions and formation of Groups  | WTO Secretariat |

**Beginning of parallel sessions**

**SESSION 4B: Simulation of a GPA 2012 /FTA market access negotiation: *Breakout session***

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 14:30 – 16:00 | 4.2 Negotiation simulation: Acceding country group preparing its output | ONLY Workshop participants in the acceding country group |

**SESSION 4C: The GPA 2012 and good governance in government procurement**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | 4.3 Promoting competition and fighting collusion in the domestic government procurement market: More/better value for money  | WTO Secretariat |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | 4.4 Enhancing integrity in the domestic government procurement market: The GPA 2012 as a tool for fighting corruption  | WTO Secretariat  |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | 4.5 General discussion |

**End of parallel sessions**

**16:00 – 16:15 Break**

**SESSION 6: Enforcement of the GPA 2012: domestic review procedures under the GPA 2012**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 16:15 – 16:45 | 6.1 Securing adherence to the GPA 2012 at the domestic level: Domestic review procedures  | WTO Secretariat |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | 6.2 General discussion |  |

**Wednesday, 31 July 2024**

**Beginning of parallel sessions**

**SESSION 7A: Simulation of a GPA 2012 /FTA market access negotiation: *Breakout session***

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | 7.1 Negotiation simulation: GPA Party group/groups preparing its/their output | ONLY Workshop participants in the GPA Party group/groups  |

**SESSION 7B: The GPA 2012 and good governance in government procurement**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | 7.2 Promoting competition and fighting collusion in the domestic government procurement market: More/better value for money  | WTO Secretariat |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | 7.3 Enhancing integrity in the domestic government procurement market: The GPA 2012 as a tool for fighting corruption  | WTO Secretariat  |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | 7.4 General discussion |

**End of parallel sessions**

**10:30 – 10:45 Break**

**SESSION 8: Accession to the GPA 2012**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 10:45 – 11:15 | 8.1 Accession to the GPA 2012: Benefits and challenges | WTO Secretariat |
| 11:15 – 11:45 | 8.2 Accession to the GPA 2012: procedure, current accession negotiations and technical assistance available from the WTO Secretariat | WTO Secretariat |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | 8.3 General discussion |  |

**12:15 – 13:30 Lunch Break**

**Beginning of parallel sessions**

**SESSION 9A: Simulation of a GPA 2012 /FTA market access negotiation: *Breakout session***

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 13:30 – 15:00 | 9.1 Negotiation simulation: Acceding country group preparing its output | ONLY Workshop participants in the acceding country group |

**SESSION 9B: The GPA 2012 and strategic procurement considerations**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | 9.2 Sustainable public procurement (SPP) under the GPA 2012 and the Work Programme of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement | WTO Secretariat |
| 14:00 – 14:30  | 9.3 SME participation under the GPA 2012 and the Work Programme of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement  | WTO Secretariat |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | 9.4 General discussion |  |

**End of parallel sessions**

**15:00 – 15:15 Break**

**SESSION 10: The GPA 2012 rules and their implementation**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 15:15 – 17:00 | 10.1 **Group exercise** on the GPA 2012 rules and their implementation – ***breakout session*** | Workshop participants |

**Thursday, 1 August 2024**

**Beginning of parallel sessions**

**SESSION 11A: Simulation of a GPA 2012 /FTA market access negotiation: *Breakout session***

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | 11.1 Negotiation simulation: GPA Party group/groups preparing its/their output | ONLY Workshop participants in the GPA Party group/groups  |

**SESSION 11B: The GPA 2012 and strategic procurement considerations**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | 11.2 Sustainable public procurement (SPP) under the GPA 2012 and the Work Programme of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement | WTO Secretariat |
| 09:30 – 10:00  | 11.3 SME participation under the GPA 2012 and the Work Programme of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement  | WTO Secretariat |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | 11.4 General discussion |  |

**End of parallel sessions**

**SESSION 12: Simulation of a GPA 2012 /FTA market access negotiation: *Breakout session***

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 10:30 – 11:15 | 12.1 Negotiation simulation: Debriefing and main take-aways | WTO Secretariat with workshop participants  |

**11:15 – 11:30 Break**

PART three –

FOCUS ON FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (fta) CHAPTERS ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

**SESSION 13A:** **Free trade agreement (FTA) chapters on government procurement**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | 13.1 Relationship with the GPA 2012, significance of the GPA 2012 in the context of FTA negotiations (template function) and key differences between FTA negotiations and GPA 2012 accession negotiations | WTO Secretariat |
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**12:00 – 13:30 Lunch Break**

**SESSION 13B:** **Free trade agreement (FTA) chapters on government procurement**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | 13.2 The spectrum of government procurement rules in FTA chapters: **Group exercise** to conduct a comparative analysis of existing FTA chapters  | Workshop participants |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | 13.3 Market access/coverage in FTAs, including in the Asian region: Statistical overview and **Group exercise** to conduct a comparative analysis of existing FTA chapters | WTO Secretariat and workshop participants |

**15:30 – 15:45 Break**

**SESSION 14: Concluding session**

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| **Time** | **Subject** | **Speaker** |
| 15:45 – 16:15 | 14.1 Main take-aways from the Workshop and participants' evaluation of the Workshop, feedback and comments | WTO Secretariat and workshop participants |
| 16:15 – 16:30 | 14.2 Closing remarks  | Representative of the PhilippinesWTO Secretariat |

**16:30 CLOSE**

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