ONLINE National SEMINAR for saudi arabia

 on Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD)

14 September 2022

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM Saudi Arabia time (9:30 – 12:00 AM, CET, Geneva time)

Platform: Zoom (*link will be included in the final programme)*

# Proposed PROGRAMME (DRAFT)

[The online national seminar will be conducted in English]

## Wednesday, 14 September 2022

| Time | Title of Session | Speakers |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10:30 – 10:40 (Saudi Arabia time)09:30 – 09:40(Geneva time) | **Opening session*** Opening remarks by Saudi Arabia
* Opening remarks and introduction of objectives of the seminar by WTO Secretariat
 | * Representative from Saudi Arabia
* WTO Secretariat
 |
| 10:40 – 10:50 (Saudi Arabia time)09:40 – 09:50(Geneva time) | **State-of-play of the plurilateral negotiations on IFD** | * H.E. Mrs. Sofía Boza, Ambassador of Chile to the WTO, Co-coordinator of the Structured Discussions on IFD
 |
| 10:50 – 11:10(Saudi Arabia time)09:50 – 10:10(Geneva time) | **Structured Discussions on IFD: Background and negotiating process*** Importance of investment facilitation
* Objectives and key milestones of the negotiations
* WTO Members participating in the negotiations and negotiating process
 | * WTO Secretariat
* Participants
 |
| 11:10 – 11:50 (Saudi Arabia time)10:00 – 10:50(Geneva time) | **Overview of the 'Easter Text' - Revision 7: Key disciplines (I)*** Introduction and structure
* Scope and key disciplines:
	+ Transparency; and
	+ streamlining administrative procedures
* Q&A
 | * WTO Secretariat
* Participants
 |
| 11:50 – 12:15 (Saudi Arabia time)10:50 – 11:15(Geneva time) | **Overview of the 'Easter Text' - Revision 7: Key disciplines (II)*** Key disciplines:
	+ Focal points, domestic regulatory coherence and cross-border cooperation;
	+ Sustainable investment
* Q&A
 | * WTO Secretariat
* Participants
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| 12:15 – 12:45(Saudi Arabia time)11:15 –11:45(Geneva time) | **Overview of the 'Easter Text' - Revision 7: Special and differential treatment** * Special and differential Treatment (S&DT):
	+ S&DT Section;
	+ Investment facilitation needs assessment and IFD Self-assessment Guide
* Work priorities and key remaining issues

• Q&A | * WTO Secretariat
* Participants
 |
| 12:45 - 13:00(Saudi Arabia time)11:45 –12:00(Geneva time) | **Concluding remarks*** Closing remarks by WTO Secretariat
* Closing remarks by Saudi Arabia
 | * WTO Secretariat
* Representative from Saudi Arabia
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