



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

WTO NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE (TBT) AGREEMENT

Programme

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
3-5 December 2024

Structure and objective

The workshop will deliver training on the WTO TBT Agreement and its implementation. The workshop will combine lectures, exercises and interactive sessions aimed at enhancing Saudi Arabia's overall understanding of the Agreement, with emphasis on the work of the TBT Committee and transparency provisions.

Venue

The workshop will be held at the TBC.

WTO resource persons

Mr Lauro Locks

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Mr Devin McDaniels

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Trade and Environment Division, TBT Section
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3 December 2024

Time	Agenda item
8:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
9:00 – 9:15	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opening remarks by representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ▪ WTO representative (<i>Locks</i>)
9:15 – 9:45	Overview and objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Structure and objective of the workshop ▪ Introduction of participants <p><i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
9:45 – 10:15	Group Photo and Coffee break
10:15 – 11:00	Introduction to the WTO, standards and regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General introduction to the WTO ▪ Tariff and non-tariff measures (TBT and SPS Agreements) <p><i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
11:00 - 12:00	Overview of key principles of the TBT Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation of scope, coverage and objectives; TBT measures - standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures; basic principles <p><i>Resource person: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
12:00 - 12:15	Noon Prayer Break
12:15 - 13:15	Overview of key principles of the TBT Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation of scope, coverage and objectives; TBT measures - standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures; basic principles <p><i>Resource person: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
13:15 – 13:30	Coffee break
13:30 – 14:30	SPS or TBT? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scope and coverage of the TBT and SPS Agreements ▪ Relation to the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) <p><i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>

4 December 2024

Time	Agenda Item
9:00 – 9:15	Recap of day 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interactive exercise
9:15 – 10:15	Transparency and notification procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Main provisions of the TBT and SPS Agreements ▪ Notification procedures and follow up ▪ Enquiry Points and Notification Authorities <i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i>
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:00	Saudi Arabia's national experience on TBT transparency <p><i>Resource persons: Saudi Arabia official (Enquiry Point?)</i></p>
11:00 – 12:00	Stakeholder engagement: using ePing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interactive training on the ePing SPS&TBT Platform ▪ Discussion on national coordination and stakeholder engagement on TBT matters <p><i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
12:00 – 12:15	Noon Prayer Break
12:15 – 13:15	Preparing and reacting to a notification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participants will work in groups on a draft notification of a measure that could be notified in the next 12 months. ▪ Groups will present their draft notification and receive feedback. <p><i>Resource persons: Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
13:15 – 13:30	Coffee break
13:30 – 14:30	Good regulatory practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group exercise <p><i>Resource person(s): Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>

5 December 2024

Time	Agenda Item
9:00 – 9:15	Recap of day 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interactive exercise
9:15 – 10:15	The TBT Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Functions and role ▪ Committee agenda items (e.g. Tenth Triennial Review, conformity assessment guidelines) ▪ Specific trade concerns ▪ Topical issues: Halal, COVID-19, Climate Change, Digital trade ▪ Use of eAgenda to prepare for TBT Committee meetings <p><i>Resource person(s): Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i></p>
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 12:00	The TBT Committee – practical exercise on specific trade concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on a case study of a specific trade concern, participants will work in groups to prepare statements • Simulated TBT Committee meeting
12:00 – 12:15	Noon Prayer Break
12:15 – 13:15	National and regional experience of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on challenges and opportunities in the TBT area
13:15 – 13:30	Coffee break
13:30 – 14:30	Closing session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary and final Q&A/Debates (30 min) ▪ Evaluation (15 min) ▪ Closing Remarks (15 min): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ○ WTO Representatives: <i>Locks, McDaniels, WTO</i>