

## **2023 SPS ADVANCED COURSE**

### **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

The SPS Advanced Course will be held in English over two weeks (10-20 October 2023). The course is aimed at enhancing participants' understanding of the SPS Agreement, including its transparency provisions and other relevant obligations. It is also aimed at facilitating participation in the work of the SPS Committee and building a strong network of SPS experts. In addition, the course will require each participant to elaborate, and subsequently implement, an action plan to address one or two specific SPS implementation and/or market access challenges encountered in their respective countries/regions and thereby strengthen the implementation of the SPS Agreement.

The SPS Advanced Course will include a pre-course questionnaire, presentations, hands-on exercises, group work, roundtables, discussions, as well as specialized training and coaching to assist participants in developing and implementing a workable action plan.

Participants will also be encouraged to follow remotely (virtual participation upon agreement by the participants' respective missions) the SPS Committee week scheduled to take place on 13-17 November 2023.

Mr Rolando Alcalá and Ms Camille Fléchet (WTO, SPS team) will lead this activity, in close collaboration with the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation. Participants will also benefit from interventions by and the expertise of other WTO staff, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), the Advisory Centre on WTO Law (ACWL), the international standard setting bodies (Codex, IPPC, WOH), the chairperson of the SPS Committee, SPS delegates actively involved in the work of the SPS Committee, and external experts to assist them in developing and successfully implementing their action plans.

**Week 1 (10-13 October)**

	<b>Tuesday 10 October</b>	<b>Wednesday 11 October</b>	<b>Thursday 12 October</b>	<b>Friday 13 October</b>
9:15-10:45	<p align="center"><b>Welcome session</b></p> <p>Introduction of participants and trainers, action plan ideas</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Transparency</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Recap on the SPS Agreement</b></p> <p>Hands-on exercise</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Group work: Addressing SPS-related trade issues</b></p> <p>Participant presentations; discussion</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	<p align="center"><b>Introduction: the SPS Agreement within the WTO framework</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>The role of National Notification Authorities and Enquiry Points</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>SPS Committee, overview and current work</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Group work: Addressing SPS-related trade issues</b></p> <p>Participant presentations; discussion</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:00-15:15	<p align="center"><b>SPS Agreement, key principles</b></p> <p>Presentation; Q&amp;A</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">ePing SPS&amp;TBT Platform</a>, searching for SPS information</b></p> <p>Overview and hands-on exercise</p> <p><i>Isabel Calderón, WTO, SPS Section</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>How to react to an SPS notification?</b></p> <p>Hands-on exercise</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Group work: Addressing SPS-related trade issues</b></p> <p>Participant presentations; discussion</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
15:30-16:45	<p align="center"><b>SPS Agreement, key principles (continued)</b></p> <p><b>SPS v TBT, how to differentiate?</b></p> <p>Presentation; Q&amp;A; exercise</p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Notifying SPS measures</b></p> <p>Overview; exercise</p> <p><i>Marion Doléans, WTO, SPS Section</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Meeting the chair of the SPS Committee and SPS delegates</b></p> <p>Roundtable</p> <p><i>Moderator: Christiane Wolff, WTO, SPS Section; Discussants TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Linkages with TBT and Trade Facilitation Agreements</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WTO resource persons TBC, External coach TBC</i></p>
16:45-17:15	<p align="center"><b>Small group discussions</b></p> <p>Action plan ideas</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Small group discussions</b></p> <p>Action plan ideas</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Small group discussions</b></p> <p>Action plan ideas</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Small group discussions</b></p> <p>Action plan ideas</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>

**Week 2 (16-20 October)**

	Monday 16 October	Tuesday 17 October	Wednesday 18 October	Thursday 19 October	Friday, 20 October
9:15-10:45	<p><b>Towards developing an action plan</b></p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p> <p><b>Preparing an action plan</b></p> <p>Workshop to assist participants in the preparation of their action plans</p> <p><i>Sharon Varney, External expert</i></p>	<p><b>Preparing an action plan, communication skills</b></p> <p>Workshop to assist participants in the preparation of their action plans</p> <p><i>Sharon Varney, External expert</i></p>	<p><b>International harmonization short introduction</b></p> <p><i>WTO resource person TBC, External coach TBC</i></p> <p><b>WOAH, topic TBC</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>WOAH resource person TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Visit to ACWL</b></p>	<p><b>Action plan presentations</b></p> <p>Participant-led presentations</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break		Coffee break
11:00-12:30	<p><b>Preparing an action plan</b></p> <p>Workshop to assist participants in the preparation of their action plans</p> <p><i>Sharon Varney, External expert</i></p>	<p><b>Preparing an action plan, communication skills</b></p> <p>Workshop to assist participants in the preparation of their action plans</p> <p><i>Sharon Varney, External expert</i></p>	<p><b>Codex, topic TBC</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>Codex resource person TBC</i></p>		<p><b>Action plan presentations</b></p> <p>Participant-led presentations</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch
14:00-15:30	<p><b>STDF, overview, PPGs and projects</b></p> <p><i>STDF resource person TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Action plan preparation</b></p> <p>Participant work</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p><b>IPPC, topic TBC</b></p> <p>Presentation; discussion</p> <p><i>IPPC resource person TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Action plan presentations</b></p> <p>Participant-led presentations</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Closing</b></p> <p>Evaluation; defining next steps</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>
15:30-15:45	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break		
15:45-17:00	<p><b>Action plan preparation</b></p> <p>Participant work</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Action plan preparation</b></p> <p>Participant work</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Action plan preparation</b></p> <p>Participant work</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	<p><b>Action plan presentations</b></p> <p>Participant-led presentations</p> <p><i>Rolando Alcalá, Camille Fléchet, External coach TBC</i></p>	