



TRAINING COURSE ON TRADE IN SERVICES FOR WTO ACCEDING GOVERNMENTS

7 – 11 APRIL 2025, ROOM E

DRAFT PROGRAMME (as of 16 Dec)

DAY 1: MONDAY, 7 APRIL (Room E)		
08:30 - 09:00	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS	
09:00 - 09:30	OPENING REMARKS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Maika Oshikawa, Director, Accessions Division (AD) [Ms. Xiaolin Chai], Director, Trade in Services and Investment Division (TSD) [Statement by ITC] 	
09:30 - 10:00	Objectives and expectations of the course Icebreaker activity	WTO Secretariat (AD, TSD and ITTC)
10:00 - 11:00	SESSION 1 Trends in Services Trade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major trends and developments in world services trade Patterns of commitments, including of Article XII Members 	Joscelyn Magdeleine (TSD) and Angela Minyi Hou (AD)
11:00 - 11:15	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 - 12:30	SESSION 2 The GATS – Review of architecture and key obligations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives, structure, scope of application Mode 4: coverage, commitments under the GATS and in FTAs Key obligations and disciplines under the GATS MFN Exemptions Exception clauses (General Exceptions and the Financial Carve-out) Q&A 	Markus Jelitto and Zsofia Tvarusko (TSD)
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30 - 14:30	The GATS – Review of architecture and key obligations (cont.'d)	Markus Jelitto and Zsofia Tvarusko (TSD)
14:30 - 15:45	SESSION 3 Scheduling of Specific Commitments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedules of commitments Classification 	Markus Jelitto and Zsofia Tvarusko (TSD)
15:45 - 16:00	COFFEE BREAK	
16:00 - 17:00	Scheduling of Specific Commitments (cont.'d) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Access, National Treatment, and Additional Commitments Terminology for drafting a Schedule of Specific Commitments Q&A 	Markus Jelitto and Zsofia Tvarusko (TSD)

DAY 1: MONDAY, 7 APRIL (Room E)	
17:00 – 18:30	Slot for technical meetings with the Secretariat (TSD or AD)

DAY 2: TUESDAY, 8 APRIL (Room E)		
09:00 - 09:30	REVIEW OF DAY 1	Angela Minyi Hou and Amanda Miashiro (AD)
09:30 - 11:00	SESSION 4 Scheduling exercise: Participants will work in breakout groups to develop a Schedule of Specific Commitments	Ester Rubio (TSD)
11:00 – 11:15	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 – 12:30	SESSION 5 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Business and Professional Services	Markus Jelitto (TSD)
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30-14:15	Exercise: Scheduling of Professional Services	Markus Jelitto (TSD)
14:15: – 15:45	SESSION 6 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Telecommunication Services	Martin Roy (TSD)
15:45 – 16:00	COFFEE BREAK	
16:00 – 17: 00	SESSION 7 Experience sharing round table with former accession negotiators Speakers: [Mr. Adel Alghaberi, Former Negotiator for WTO accession of Yemen (TBC)] [Mr. Axel Addy, Former Chief Negotiator for WTO accession of Liberia (TBC)] [Ms. Zhanar Aitzhan, Former Chief Negotiator for WTO accession of Kazakhstan (TBC)]	Moderator: Rohini Acharya (AD)

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 9 APRIL (Room E)		
09:00 - 09:30	REVIEW OF DAY 2	Angela Minyi Hou and Amanda Miashiro (AD)
09:30 - 10:45	SESSION 8 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Audiovisual Services	Martin Roy (TSD)
10:45 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00 - 13:00	SESSION 9 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Financial Services (followed by scheduling exercise)	Juan Marchetti (TSD)
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH BREAK	
14:00 - 14:45	Exercise: Scheduling of Telecommunication Services	Markus Jelitto (TSD)
14:45 - 15:45	SESSION 10 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Postal and Courier Services	Ruosi Zhang (TSD)
15:45 - 16:00	COFFEE BREAK	
16:00 - 17:00	SESSION 11 Experience sharing round table with friends of accession <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU (TBC) • US (TBC) • [Any other Member?] 	Moderator: [Dimitar Bratanov] (AD)
17:00 - 18:30	Slot for technical meetings with the Secretariat (TSD or AD)	

DAY 4: THURSDAY, 10 APRIL (Room E)

09:00 - 09:30	REVIEW OF DAY 3	Angela Minyi Hou and Amanda Miashiro (AD)
09:30 - 10:45	SESSION 12 Scheduling Sectoral Issues: Transport and Logistics Services	Ruosi Zhang (TSD)
10:45 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00 - 12:30	SESSION 13 Sectoral Issues: Trade and Energy in WTO Accessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of energy issues arising in the WTO Accession Process • Energy Services 	[TBD] (AD) and Ruosi Zhang (TSD)
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30 - 14:15	Exercise: Scheduling of [Energy/Transport] Services	[Ruosi Zhang] (TSD)
14:15 - 15:30	SESSION 14 Services Domestic Regulation	Elena Bertola (TSD)
15:30 - 15:45	COFFEE BREAK	
15:45 - 17: 00	SESSION 15 Introduction to ITIP (followed by exercise)	Ester Rubio (TSD)
17:00 - 18:30	Slot for technical meetings with the Secretariat (TSD or AD)	

DAY 5: FRIDAY, 11 APRIL (Room E)¹		
09:00 - 09:30	REVIEW OF DAY 4 (Winners and Prizes)	Angela Minyi Hou and Amanda Miashiro (AD)
09:30 - 11:00	<i>[SESSION 16</i> Electronic Commerce]	Antonia Carzaniga (TSD)
11:00 - 11:15	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 - 12:30	<i>[SESSION 17</i> Investment Facilitation for Development]	[Claudia Locatelli/Pamela Apaza Lanyi] (TSD)
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13.30 - 14:30	<i>[Exercise: Scheduling of [Audiovisual/Transport] Services]</i>	TBC (TSD)
14:30 - 16:00	Slot for technical meetings with the Secretariat (AD or TSD)	
16:00 - 17: 00	Group Evaluation	AD and TSD
17:00 - 17:30	Certificates and Closing	WTO Secretariat (AD, TSD and ITTC)

¹ The programme for Friday is TBC depending on if an Accession Working Party is scheduled for part of that day or not. If it is scheduled, participants may attend the WP meeting.