



**WTO WORKSHOP ON FISHERIES SUBSIDIES FOR LDC MEMBERS – CAPACITY BUILDING
FOR NOTIFICATION OBLIGATIONS**

FUNDED BY JAPAN

GENEVA

15-18 June 2026

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing **a Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies for LDC Members** with a view to capacity building for notification obligations, funded by Japan.

The objective of this four-day workshop is to enhance participants' understanding of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS) with a view to its ratification (where not already done) and implementation, including capacity building for notification obligations. The workshop will be delivered through a combination of lectures by WTO trainers, presentations by participants, individual and group exercises, simulations, and experience-sharing sessions, with particular emphasis on notification and transparency provisions of the AFS.

The workshop will be held in-person in Geneva, Switzerland, from **15 to 18 June 2026**, and will be delivered in **English (including the materials) with simultaneous interpretation into French (both ways)**. A **preliminary** draft programme is provided below.

The target audience of the workshop is middle to senior level government officials from LDC Members who are involved in (i) the domestic process of ratification of the AFS; (ii) fisheries subsidies issues and/or fisheries management; and (iii) the preparation and submission of notifications referred to in the AFS.

Draft programme

Day 1 – 15 June 2026	
Time	Session
09:00	Registration
09:30	Opening Session (10 mins max per speaker) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks by DDG DJ Nordquist/Rules Director • Opening remarks by the representative of Japan • General objectives of the workshop and logistics – WTO Secretariat
10:00	Pre-test (Menti)
10:15	Break
11:00	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global and regional state of fisheries resources and international fisheries governance • Global state of fisheries subsidies and impact • History of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies – From Doha to MC12
13:00	Lunch
14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies – scope and definitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Subsidies rules at the WTO – The Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures • Open discussion
15:30	Break
15:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key disciplines: subsidies to IUU fishing • Open discussion
17:00	Recap of day 1
Day 2 – 16 June 2026	
09:00	Review of day 1
09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key disciplines: subsidies to fishing in overfished stocks • Open discussion
11:00	Break
11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key disciplines: other subsidies • Open discussion
12:45	Lunch
13:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification and transparency – substantive matters • Open discussion
15:15	Break
15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-cutting issues: institutional arrangements, dispute settlement, final provisions • Open discussion
17:00	Recap of day 2
Day 3 – 17 June 2026	
09:00	Review of day 2
09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance and the WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism • Open discussion
11:00	Break
11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group exercise on technical assistance

12:45	Lunch
13:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies - mapping exercise • Open discussion
15:15	Break
15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by participants – experience sharing on ratifications • Open discussion
17:00	Recap of day 3
Day 4 – 18 June 2026	
09:00	Review of day 3
09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification and transparency – procedural matters • Open discussion Open discussion
10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break
10:45	Simulation exercise on notification
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Simulation exercise on notification cont'
15:00	Break
15:15	Simulation exercise on notification cont'
16:00	Debrief on the simulation exercise
16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post test (Menti), wrap up and evaluation of the workshop • Certificates