

WTO REGIONAL E-WORKSHOP ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN Europe, CENTRAL ASIA AND THE CAUCASUS COUNTRIES

**23, 25 and 29 March[[1]](#footnote-2)**

**DRAFT Programme**

**DAY 1: The GPA and the international trading system: legal and institutional foundations**

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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| **Opening (live)** | | |
| Opening remarks | Mr Xiaozhun Yi, Deputy Director-General, WTO | 5-10 |
| Introduction to the WTO Secretariat Team and to the programme of the e-workshop; pre-breakout session assignment | GP and Competition Group, Participants | 40 |

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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| 1.1. The revised GPA: global context, core disciplines, trade dimension and policy considerations for developing and transition economies | Mr Robert Anderson, University of Nottingham | 30 |
| 1.2. Introduction to the GPA: key provisions, built-in flexibilities and procedural and transparency requirements | IPD | 20 |
| 1.3. Case study on built-in flexibilities: the operation of the GPA in situations of extreme urgency (COVID-19) | Professor Sue Arrowsmith,  University of Nottingham | 30 |
| 1.4. Enforcement of the GPA provisions: domestic review procedures and dispute settlement | IPD | 20 |
| 1.5. Market access opportunities under, and scope and coverage of, the revised GPA: use of the e-GPA tool as a market access information resource *(https://e-gpa.wto.org)* | IPD | 20 |
| 1.6. The treatment of government procurement in bilateral and regional trade agreements | IPD | 20 |
| **Participants' input** |  |  |
| Participants' opinion survey/Quiz  Participants submit any questions/comments to the WTO Secretariat in writing, with replies to be provided during Geneva working hours | Participants |  |

**DAY 2: Observership and Accession to the GPA: potential benefits, costs and policy considerations for transition and emerging economies**

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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| 2.1. GPA accession as a strategy for reform and export market success: negotiating and tactical considerations | Professor Steven Schooner,  George Washington University Law School | 20 |
| 2.2. Accession to the GPA: benefits, costs, recent trends, process and procedures | IPD | 20 |
| 2.3. Special and differential treatment for developing countries: The GPA transitional measures | IPD | 20 |
| 2.4 Measuring the economic impacts of acceding to the WTO’s Agreement on Government Procurement, Framework, pilot results & prospects | Mr Mihaly Fazekas,  Central European University | 20 |
| 2.5 The regular work of the Committee on Government Procurement: a conversation with the incumbent Chair | Mr Carlos Vanderloo, Chair of the Committee on Government Procurement | 20 |
| **Participants' input** | | |
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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| **Breakout session (live)** | | |
| Work in pre-defined regional groups and results and main takeaways from the breakout session. | GP and Competition Group,  Participants | 1h30 |

**DAY 3: Cross-cutting issues: e-procurement, sustainability and fighting corruption**

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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| 3.1 EBRD GPA TC Facility: moving ahead with e-procurement reforms in the CEECAC region | Ms Eliza Niewiadomska, EBRD | 20 |
| 3.2. The Open Contracting Data Standard: relevance for monitoring and efficient e-procurement systems | Mr Viktor Nestulia,  Open Contracting Partnership | 20 |
| 3.3 ***Country example:*** | TBC | 20 |
| 3.4 Sustainable public procurement, best value for money and international trade obligations: the GPA as a model agreement | Professor Steven Schooner,  George Washington University Law School | 20 |
| 3.5 Work Programmes of the Committee on Government Procurement | IPD | 20 |
| 3.6 The GPA as a tool for fighting corruption: first empirical insights | IPD | 20 |
| 3.7 ***Country example:*** | TBC | 20 |
| **Participants' input** | | |
| Participants' opinion survey/Quiz  Participants submit any questions/comments to the WTO Secretariat in writing, with replies to be provided during Geneva working hours | Participants |  |

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| **Subject** | **Speakers** | **Approximate Duration** |
| **Conclusion (live)** | | |
| Closing remarks | Mr Antony Taubman, WTO Secretariat | 5-10 |
| Concluding plenary: participants' feedback and any comments | GP and Competition Group,  Participants | 15 |
| Seminar evaluation form | Participants | 15 |

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1. These are the dates on which pre-recorded presentations will be uploaded to the platform. Participants will be notified in case a recording cannot be uploaded as planned due to unforeseen circumstances. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)