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wto – comesa workshop

"regulatory frameworks for services sectors"

6 – 8 december 2022

Programme

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| *Day 1 - 6 December 2022* |
| **Introduction to the workshop**   * Programme and objectives |
| **Update on AfCFTA negotiations on sectoral regulatory frameworks (to be confirmed)** |
| **Market access and regulatory commitments – Two complementary tools to facilitate services trade**   * Rationale and objectives of regulatory provisions in services agreements * Scope of application of regulatory commitments: horizontal vs sectoral obligations * The role of good regulatory practice in services markets |
| **Horizontal regulatory commitments (part 1)**   * Regulatory obligations contained in the GATS * GATS Article VI:4 mandate and the multilateral negotiations on domestic regulation |

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| *Day 2 - 7 December* |
| **Horizontal regulatory commitments (part 2)**   * The 2021 WTO plurilateral outcome on services domestic regulation * Disciplines on transparency, legal predictability, and regulatory quality and facilitation * Flexibilities for implementation * Modalities for entry into force * The regional experience (COMESA, SADC, and AfCFTA) * Overview of horizontal regulatory commitments in "new generation" trade agreements |
| **Sectoral regulatory commitments – Telecommunication sector**     * WTO Reference Paper on Basic Telecommunications * The regional experience (COMESA, SADC, and AfCFTA) * Overview of obligations in other regional trade agreements |
| **Sectoral regulatory commitments – Financial services sector**   * WTO Annex on financial services * The regional experience (COMESA, SADC, and AfCFTA) * Overview of obligations in other regional trade agreements |
| ***Day 3 – 8 December 2022*** |
| **Regulatory commitments for Mode 4**   * WTO Annex on movement of natural persons * The regional experience (COMESA, SADC, and AfCFTA) * Overview of obligations in other regional trade agreements |
| **Sectoral regulatory commitments – Other services sectors**   * Computer Services, Postal and Courier Services, Maritime transport services, and Tourism services |
| **Applied regulatory frameworks of COMESA Member States – Introduction to the new WTO-World Bank regulatory audits** |
| **Conclusion and key takeaways for future negotiations on sectoral regulatory frameworks** |