National WORKSHOP

for zambia

Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) agreement

Lusaka, 3 - 4, June 2025

# draft PROGRAMME

## Objectives:

## Enhance understanding of the Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement, including its objectives and main disciplines;

### Enhance understanding of the special and differential treatment (S&D) provisions of the IFD Agreement and the needs assessment process.

## Tuesday, 3 June 2025

| Time | Title of Session | Speakers |
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| 9:00–9:15 | **Opening session*** Opening remarks by representative of Zambia
* Opening remarks by WTO Secretariat
 | * Representative of Zambia
* WTO Secretariat
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| 9:15–10:15 | **Introduction to the IFD Agreement** * Importance of investment facilitation
* Origin and Members parties to the IFD Agreement
* Objectives, structure and scope of application of the Agreement
* Q&A
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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| 10:15–10:30 | **Coffee break** |  |
| 10:30–11:30 | **Transparency of investment measures** * Introduction – importance of transparency
* Key disciplines:
	+ publication of measures and information;
	+ information to be made publicly available if an investment authorization is required;
	+ single information portal;
	+ publication in advance and opportunity to comment on proposed measures;
	+ no fees for access to information;
	+ notification to the WTO; and
	+ information to be made publicly available on the entry and temporary stay of natural persons for conducting investment activities
* Q&A
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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| 11:30–12:30 | **Practical exercise on Transparency provisions** |  |
| 12:30–13:30 | **Lunch break** |  |
| 13:30–15:00 | **Streamlining and speeding up investment-related administrative procedures(Section III)*** Introduction – importance of good governance of investment-related procedures
* Key disciplines:
	+ administration of measures of general application; general principles for authorization procedures;
	+ disciplines on authorization procedures;
	+ multiple applications;
	+ authorization fees;
	+ use of Information and Communications Technologies/e-government;
	+ independence of regulatory authorities;
	+ appeal or review; and
	+ periodic review
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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| 15:00–15:15 | **Coffee break** |  |
| 15:15–16:00 | **Mapping Zambia's investment-related policies: Insights from the WTO-World Bank Services Trade Policy Database (STPD)*** Q&A
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| 16:00–17:00 | **Practical exercise on Streamlining and speeding up investment-related administrative procedures** | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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## Wednesday, 4 June 2025

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| Time | Sessions | Speakers |
| 9:00–9:30 | **Recap: Transparency and Streamlining and speeding up investment-related administrative procedures** |  |
| 9:30–10:15 | **Focal points; domestic regulatory coherence and cross-border cooperation (Section IV)*** Key disciplines:
	+ Focal points
	+ Domestic regulatory coherence
	+ Domestic supplier databases; supplier-development programmes;
	+ Cross-border cooperation on investment facilitation
* Q&A
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
 |
| 10:15–10:30 | **Coffee break** |  |
| 10:30–11:30 | **Special and differential treatment (SD&T) for developing countries and least-developed Members (Section V)*** Introduction
* Key disciplines:
	+ general principles;
	+ categories of provisions (A, B, C);
	+ notification and implementation of the different categories of provisions; and
	+ other SD&T provisions
* Q&A
 | Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat |
| 11:30–12:30 | * Investment facilitation needs assessment and Self-assessment Guide

Q&A | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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| 12:30–14:00 | **Lunch break** |  |
| 14:00–15:00 | **Sustainable investment (Section VI)** * Responsible business conduct
* Measures against corruption
* Q&A
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
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| 15:00–15:15  | **Coffee break** |  |
| 15:15–16:15 | **Practical exercise**  |  |
| 16:15–16:30 | **Concluding remarks*** Work priorities and closing remarks
 | * Pamela Apaza Lanyi, WTO Secretariat
* Representative of Zambia
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