



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

23, 25 AND 29 MARCH¹ 2021

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY 1: The Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) and the international trading system: legal and institutional foundations

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

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Approximate Duration</u>
1.1. The revised GPA: global context, core disciplines, trade dimension and policy considerations for developing and transition economies	Mr Robert Anderson, Consultant and Researcher University of Nottingham	30 min
1.2. Introduction to the GPA: key provisions, built-in flexibilities and procedural and transparency requirements	Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division (IPD)	20 min
1.3. Case study on built-in flexibilities: the operation of the GPA in situations of extreme urgency (COVID-19)	Ms Sue Arrowsmith, Professor University of Nottingham	30 min
1.4. Enforcement of the GPA provisions: domestic review procedures and dispute settlement	IPD	20 min
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 min
1.6. The treatment of government procurement in bilateral and regional trade agreements	IPD	20 min
Participants' input		
Participants' opinion survey/Quiz	Participants	

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.

Participants submit any questions/comments to the WTO Secretariat in writing, with replies to be provided during Geneva working hours		
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DAY 2: Observership and Accession to the GPA: potential benefits, costs and policy considerations for transition and emerging economies

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Approximate Duration</u>
2.1. GPA accession as a strategy for reform and export market success: negotiating and tactical considerations	Mr Steven Schooner, Professor George Washington University Law School	20 min
2.2. Accession to the GPA: benefits, costs, recent trends, process and procedures	IPD	20 min
2.3. Special and differential treatment for developing countries: The GPA transitional measures	IPD	20 min
2.4 Measuring the economic impacts of acceding to the WTO's Agreement on Government Procurement, Framework, pilot results & prospects	Mr Mihaly Fazekas, Assistant Professor Central European University	20 min
2.5 The regular work of the Committee on Government Procurement: a conversation with the incumbent Chair	Mr Carlos Vanderloo, Chair Committee on Government Procurement	20 min
Participants' input		
Participants' opinion survey/Quiz	Participants	
Participants submit any questions/comments to the WTO Secretariat in writing, with replies to be provided during Geneva working hours		

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Approximate Duration</u>
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

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Approximate Duration</u>
3.1 EBRD GPA TC Facility: moving ahead with e-procurement reforms in the CEECAC region	Ms Eliza Niewiadomska, Senior Counsellor European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	20 min
3.2. The Open Contracting Data Standard: relevance for monitoring and efficient e-procurement systems	Mr Viktor Nestulia, Open Contracting Partnership	20 min
3.3 Country example:	TBC	20 min
3.4 Sustainable public procurement, best value for money and international trade obligations: the GPA as a model agreement	Mr Steven Schooner, Professor	20 min

	George Washington University Law School	
3.5 Work Programmes of the Committee on Government Procurement	IPD	20 min
3.6 The GPA as a tool for fighting corruption: first empirical insights	IPD	20 min
3.7 <i>Country example:</i>	TBC	20 min
Participants' input		
Participants' opinion survey/Quiz	Participants	
Participants submit any questions/comments to the WTO Secretariat in writing, with replies to be provided during Geneva working hours		

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