

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**

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No. 5(1)/2023-Admn-I/HR-I

Islamabad, the 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023

**CIRCULAR**

**SUBJECT: - WTO WORKSHOP ON SUBSIDIES NOTIFICATIONS, 7-9 JUNE 2023  
(GENEVA, SWITZERLAND)**

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of self explanatory email along with its enclosure, received from Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the WTO Geneva on the above mentioned subject for placing on the website of the Ministry of Commerce.

2. Interested officers, who fulfill the eligibility criteria may send their nominations, duly approved by their respective Head(s) of the Wing(s) to HR-I Section (along with their C.V and details of availed Foreign Training/Workshops etc), latest by 06-04-2023 positively. Nominations received after the deadline will not be entertained.

Encl: As Above

  
(Muhammad Saulat Ali)  
Section Officer (HR-I)

**Database Administrator,  
Ministry of Commerce,  
Islamabad**

**WTO Workshop on Subsidies Notifications, 7-9 June 2023 (Geneva, Switzerland) //  
Deadline 14 April 2023**

1 message

haja.ranaivo@wto-pakistan.org &lt;haja.ranaivo@wto-pakistan.org&gt;

Wed, Mar 29, 2023 at 1:39 AM

Reply-To: haja.ranaivo@wto-pakistan.org

To: Deputy Director MoC Ministry of Commerce &lt;ddcommercedivision@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Sadia Sultan &lt;sowto2.moc@gmail.com&gt;, "ashfaqdcwto@gmail.com" &lt;ashfaqdcwto@gmail.com&gt;, "fahad.raza@wto-pakistan.org" &lt;fahad.raza@wto-pakistan.org&gt;, "mujtaba.piracha@wto-pakistan.org" &lt;mujtaba.piracha@wto-pakistan.org&gt;

Dear Sir,

Kindly find attached an invitation to nominate **up to four (4) candidates** to attend the WTO workshop on subsidies notifications on 7th and 9th June 2023 in Geneva.

As indicated in the invitation letter, the workshop will be conducted in three phases. **Only those Members who will agree to participate in all of the three phases of this programme will be accepted to participate in the workshop. Submission of nominees will be considered as a confirmation of this commitment.**

I. Phase one: Provision of substantial information on notification obligations under the Agreement (7th-9th June in Geneva)

II. Phase two: Preparation of draft subsidy notifications

III. Phase three: Final presentation of the draft notifications (September 2023 Date to be communicated, in Geneva)

Please find the following attached documents for further information on this technical activity:

- An Invitation Letter
- An Application Form (kindly note that the **passport is compulsory**)
- A draft Programme of the Course

In order to apply, the attached application form must be returned completed and signed by the candidate with a copy of her/his passport biodata page, via the **Permanent Mission to the WTO, before FRIDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**.

Best regards,  
Haja

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Haja Ranaivo  
**Trade Development Officer**  
Delegation Coordinator

Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the WTO  
37-39 Rue de Vermont, 1211 Genève  
Tel 022 748 70 25 - Fax 022 748 70 29  
Before printing, please think about the environment  
***Save Trees - Think Before Print. Do not print this email unless necessary!***

**3 attachments**

 **Invitation Letter\_Workshop on Subsidies Notifications.pdf**  
105K

 **Application Form\_English.docx**  
37K

 **Program\_English.pdf**  
160K



# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Direct line: (+41 22) 739 6440  
Email: logistics.unit@wto.org

**EMAIL**

To:	Heads of Delegations Members and Observers to the WTO	E-mail:	List attached
From:	Bridget Chllala Director Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	Date:	27/03/2023
	Clarisse Morgan Director Rules Division		
Number of pages (including this one):	10	Ref:	WTO23-6

## WTO WORKSHOPS ON THE NOTIFICATION OF SUBSIDIES

GENEVA, 7-9 JUNE 2023

We are pleased to inform you that the WTO Secretariat will organize a series of multi-phased workshops on the notification of subsidies for government officials from developing and least developed country Members which have had outstanding notification obligations in respect of subsidies for a significant period.

The Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures ("SCM Agreement") obliges Members to submit a variety of notifications to the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures ("SCM Committee"). The basic subsidies notification requirement is contained in Article 25.2 of the SCM Agreement and in Article XVI:1 of GATT 1994. Article 25.2 requires notification of any subsidy as defined in the Agreement, which is specific, as also defined in the Agreement. However, compliance with the obligation to notify subsidies remains low. The low compliance with this fundamental transparency obligation constitutes a serious problem in the proper functioning of the Agreement. Therefore, for many years now in the SCM Committee, Members have been discussing ways to improve the timeliness and completeness of notifications.

In this regard, the purpose of the workshops will be to bring together the officials of developing and least-developed-country Members responsible for the preparation of subsidy notifications for a detailed, practical discussion on how to comply with the notification obligation. This will include an exchange of experiences and ideas, with a view to improve the understanding of the notification obligation and to identify ways in which Members could streamline and facilitate - as much as possible - their internal processes for preparing notifications.

The workshops will consist of three phases which are expected to be finalized in approximately 12-16 weeks. **Only those Members who will agree to actively participate and fulfil the requirements of each of these phases** will be accepted to participate in the workshops. The officials selected to represent your government shall be working with the WTO Secretariat throughout the different phases until the last phase is finalized.

*1. Phase one: Provision of substantial information on notification obligations under the Agreement*

In the first phase of the programme, which will take place in Geneva, the WTO Secretariat will provide detailed presentations regarding the subsidy notification obligation as well as the basic

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## WTO OMC

- 2 -

concepts in the SCM Agreement. In addition, the notification formats and requests pertaining to the notification provisions will be discussed. As it is important to identify the notifiable subsidy programmes, the participants will also work on practical examples and case studies.

Besides the WTO staff, the Secretariat will also invite participants from other Members, which have regularly submitted their subsidy notifications to share their experiences in dealing with the difficulties of preparing subsidy notifications.

### *ii. Phase two: Preparation of draft subsidy notifications*

In the second phase of the programme, participants will be required to prepare a draft subsidy notification. During this phase, there will be periodical one-on-one virtual follow-up sessions/calls between Secretariat staff and each participant. In addition, participants shall be required to share progress reports periodically, so that the Secretariat will be able to provide immediate and direct assistance whenever needed. This phase of the programme will be completed in approximately eight weeks.

### *iii. Phase three: Final presentation of the draft notifications*

In this phase, only the participants that have prepared and have agreed to provide their final draft subsidy notifications will be invited to attend an event in Geneva in September<sup>1</sup> 2023 to present their final work to other participants. The participants will also have an opportunity to share their experiences and any difficulties they faced when preparing their draft notifications.

## TIME AND VENUE

..... The date and venue of the first phase of the program: 7-8-9 June 2023, Geneva. An Indicative Draft Programme of the Workshop is attached.

## INVITATION TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR PARTICIPATION

You are invited to submit the names of four capital-based officials, for consideration in the selection process. Only two capital-based officials will be accepted to participate in this programme. The nominees should have proven substantive professional experience and responsibilities which are relevant with respect to the preparation of subsidy notifications. Nominees who are not directly involved in such activities will not be accepted for participation. It is also worth reiterating that only those Members who will agree to participate in all of the three phases of this programme will be accepted to participate in the workshop. Submission of nominees by invited Members will be considered as a confirmation of this commitment.

Participants are also required to be fluent in either English or French which will be the working languages of these events. Each accepted nominee will be provided with an **economy-class air travel, hotel accommodation and a stipend to cover meals and other related expenses.**

If you have any queries regarding this technical assistance programme, please contact Mr Seref Gokay Coskun, Counsellor, Rules Division, WTO (e-mail: [seref.coskun@wto.org](mailto:seref.coskun@wto.org); Tel: +41 22 739 6920).

## APPLICATION FORMS AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Completed application forms, formally endorsed by your authorities must be **submitted by the relevant nominating authority's Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO.** Nominations received from other sources will not be taken into consideration.

..... Application forms – see attached – and a copy of the candidates' passports should be transmitted to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation; Logistics Unit (email: [logistics.unit@wto.org](mailto:logistics.unit@wto.org)) **NO LATER THAN 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023.**

Other administrative and logistical arrangements will be communicated directly to the selected participants in due course. If there is no desire to be represented, please inform us by the deadline above.

<sup>1</sup> The exact dates for this phase will be communicated with the invitations to attend the third phase.

Kindly note that the WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel the activity in the event of overriding circumstances beyond its control.

Please accept the assurances of the highest consideration of the WTO Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,

**Bridget Chilala**  
Director  
Institute for Training and Technical  
Cooperation



**Clarisse Morgan**  
Director  
Rules Division



**\*Español**

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un Taller sobre notificaciones de subvenciones en Ginebra, del 7 al 9 de junio de 2023. Este curso se impartirá en inglés y en francés, por lo que la invitación y el formulario de candidatura se distribuirán en inglés y francés solamente.

## 2023 WTO WORKSHOP ON SUBSIDIES NOTIFICATIONS

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7-8-9 June 2023

Wednesday, 7 June 2023	
TIME	ACTIVITY/TOPICS TO DISCUSS
9.30 – 10.00	<b>Opening remarks and explanation of the programme and its objectives</b>
10.00 – 11.15	<b>Overview of the SCM Agreement and its disciplines – Part I</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subsidies and trade: the role of subsidies disciplines in the WTO system</li><li>• Multilateral subsidies disciplines v. countervailing measures: Two tracks for relief</li><li>• Coverage of the SCM Agreement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Goods v. services</li><li>- Relationship to Agreement on Agriculture</li></ul></li><li>• Definition of a subsidy<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Financial contribution</li><li>- Government or public body w/in territory of a Member</li><li>- Benefit – comparison with the market</li></ul></li></ul>
11.15 – 11.30	<b>COFFEE-BREAK</b>
11.30 – 12.30	<b>Overview of SCM Agreement and its disciplines – Part II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specificity<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enterprise</li><li>• Industry</li><li>• Regional</li><li>• Prohibited subsidies</li><li>• <i>de facto</i> and <i>de jure</i> specificity</li></ul></li></ul>
12.30 – 14.00	<b>LUNCH</b>
14.00 – 15.15	<b>Exercise 1 – Group study: Elements of a subsidy</b>
15.15 – 15.30	<b>Short break</b>

15.30 – 16.15	<b>Exercise 2 - Specificity</b>
16.15 – 17.30	<p><b>Overview of SCM Agreement and its disciplines – Part III</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibited subsidies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Export subsidies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Export conditionality</li> <li>o <i>De facto v. de jure</i> export subsidies</li> <li>o Role of Illustrative List of Export Subsidies</li> <li>o Special cases: duty and tax rebates, export credits</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Local content subsidies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <i>De jure v. de facto</i> conditionality</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Special and Differential Treatment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Thursday, 8 June 2023	
TIME	ACTIVITY/TOPICS TO DISCUSS
9.30 – 10.45	<b>Exercise 3 – Financial Contribution, Benefit &amp; Specificity</b>
10.45 – 11.00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11.00 – 12.00	<p><b>Overview of SCM Agreement and its disciplines – Part IV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actionable Subsidies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actionability and adverse effects</li> <li>• Types of adverse effects</li> <li>• Serious prejudice</li> <li>• Nullification and Impairment</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Non-actionable subsidies</b></li> </ul>
12.00 – 12.45	<b>Exercise 4 – General test on the ASCM</b>
12.45 – 14.00	<b>LUNCH</b>
14.00 – 15.15	<p><b>Overview of SCM Agreement notification obligations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notifications relating to subsidies, including recommitment on fisheries subsidies (WT/MIN(17)/64)</li> <li>2. Notifications relating to countervailing measures</li> </ol> <p><b>Agreed format for subsidy notifications (G/SCM/6/Rev.1)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WTO Representative (Rules)</li> <li>• Discussion/Q&amp;A</li> </ul>
15.15 – 15.30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>



15.30 – 16.15	<b>Exercise 5 – Principles regarding the notification of subsidies</b>
16.15 – 17.30	<b>Exercise 6 – Notification scenarios 1</b> <b>Exercise 7 – Notification scenarios 2</b>
Friday, 9 June 2023	
<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/TOPICS TO DISCUSS</b>
9.30 – 10.30	<b>Recent Discussions in the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures regarding timeliness and completeness of notifications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current situation of Members' compliance with notification obligations</li> <li>• Discussions in the SCM Committee on timeliness and completeness of notifications</li> <li>• Review procedures: question and answer process</li> <li>• Counter-notifications</li> <li>• Proposals on Increased transparency</li> </ul>
10.30 – 10.45	<b>COFFEE-BREAK</b>
10.45 – 11.45	<b>Exercise 8 – WTO consistency</b> <b>Exercise 9 – Programme Analysis</b>
11.45 – 13.00	<b>Presentations by resource persons</b>
13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14.00 – 15.45	<b>Presentations by resource persons</b>
15.45 – 16.00	<b>Short break</b>
16.00 – 16.45	<b>Wrap-up and Evaluation</b>



# **WTO APPLICATION FORM**

## **WORKSHOP ON SUBSIDIES NOTIFICATIONS**

**Geneva, Switzerland, 7-9 June 2023**

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 14 APRIL 2023**

**PART I**

**To be completed by the Applicant in ENGLISH (In CAPITAL LETTERS if handwritten)**

**MANDATORY: ALL THE INFORMATION ASKED IN THIS SECTION AND A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT**

**Mr.**

**Mrs.**

<b>Last name (as in passport)</b>	
<b>First name (as in passport)</b>	
<b>Birth date day/month/year</b>	
<b>Nationality</b>	
<b>Title/Position</b>	
<b>Department</b>	
<b>Ministry/ Government entity</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>Country/Separate Customs Territory</b>	
<b>Phone n°</b>	
<b>Email addresses*</b>	<b>* Important: all communications, documents and air-ticket will be sent by e-mail</b>
<b>Travel preference, if any (taken into consideration but not guaranteed)</b>	

**PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION****Language**

**Important Note:** Candidates are required to be fluent in either **English** or **French** which will be the working languages of this workshop. Please indicate your preference and level of proficiency carefully.

Preferred Language	English <input type="checkbox"/>	French <input type="checkbox"/>
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	Advanced	Intermediate	Basic
Level of Language Proficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Higher Education**

When	Where	Title of qualification and degrees received

**Work experience**

Description of your work, including your personal responsibilities	
What date did you take up your current functions?	
Area of WTO-related work in which you are currently working	
Previous post(s)	

**Please list all WTO training undertaken**

E-Learning	
Other WTO training courses	

**IMPORTANT NOTES****(Please read carefully)****A. General Conditions**

1. The project will consist of three phases which are expected to be finalized in approximately 12-16 weeks. **Only those Members and nominees who will agree to actively participate and fulfill the requirements of each of these phases** will be accepted to participate in the programme. We wish to note that by appointing officials to represent your government in this program, those officials shall be working with the WTO Secretariat throughout the different phases until the third and last phase is finalized. Please refer to the invitation letter for further details.
2. By submitting this application form you will be deemed to have accepted all the conditions in the invitation letter.
3. This nomination is subject to the selection of the candidate by the WTO Secretariat.

**B. Logistical Conditions for Participation in WTO Technical Assistance Activities****- Travel, air-tickets, visas, transit visas, accommodation and subsistence allowances**

1. Countries are implementing very strict visa policies. Please enquire several weeks in advance on the visas and transit visas you need. Make the necessary arrangements in your country to obtain all necessary visas for your full roundtrip. The WTO is not authorized to intervene in this matter and is not responsible for visa fees and other financial issues.
2. Your travel preference will be taken into consideration but is not guaranteed. **We will issue and send you an air-ticket according to WTO travel rules.**
3. According to WTO Rules, the organizers will provide you with a round-trip airplane ticket in economy-class, a terminal expenses allowance, accommodation, and a daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the activity in Geneva (or full board accommodation for regional activities).
4. Administrative and logistical details will be communicated by e-mail.

**Please note that the WTO Secretariat DOES NOT assume financial or any other responsibility for items not explicitly mentioned in this Note as being covered. This means that the WTO Secretariat assumes NO responsibility for, among others, the following items:**

1. Expenses incurred in connection with foreign travel formalities (visas, transit visas, taxes, travel to get visas, medical examinations, vaccinations, etc.), expenses during the journey resulting from lack of transit visa or from insufficient passport validity.
2. Salaries of the participants during their participation in the Activity.
3. Travel or other expenses of any additional persons accompanying the participants.
4. Travel or medical or accident insurance, medical treatment or hospitalisation during travel or participation in the Activity.
5. Loss or damage to the personal effects of the participants during travel or attendance at the Activity.
6. Any modification made by you regarding the hotel booking and the related logistical arrangements.

7. Any personal service or facility you may request during your stay in the hotel where you are accommodated by the WTO, such as: business centre, Internet connections, phone calls, room service, laundry, mini-bar or any kind of ground transport.
8. Any modification made BY THE AIRLINE OR BY YOU in connection with the Itinerary or the air-tickets issued by the WTO Travel Agency in Geneva. Any additional fees, charges and/or penalties for the air-ticket modifications WILL BE COVERED BY YOU AND NOT BY THE WTO.
9. Any damages made by you to the facilities to which you have access during your stay (i.e. hotel room) which will be your responsibility.

**▼ TO BE FILLED BY THE NOMINATING AUTHORITY**

**Name of candidate: .....**

The Government of	.....
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► **Accepts the aforementioned conditions and nominates the candidate who filled the Application Form to attend the 2023 WTO Workshop on Subsidies Notifications**

**▼ Signature and official stamp**

Candidate
<i>I have carefully read this registration form and accept the aforementioned conditions.</i>
<b>Date:</b>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Signature and stamp:</b>

Nominating Authority
<b>Date:</b>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Signature and stamp:</b>

**THIS COMPLETED FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY YOUR PERMANENT MISSION/EMBASSY, WITH A PDF COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS ONLY, AT THE LATEST BY THE DEADLINE MENTIONED ON PAGE 1**

**[logistics.unit@wto.org](mailto:logistics.unit@wto.org)**

**INCOMPLETE/ILLEGIBLE FORMS, OR FORMS NOT PRESENTED BY THE PERMANENT MISSION, OR PRESENTED BY THE PERMANENT MISSION AFTER THE DEADLINE, WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**