

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
(WTO WING)

No. 1(32)/2023-WTO-II

Islamabad, the 15th May, 2024

CIRCULAR

SUBJECT: - **WTO WORKSHOP ON COMPETITION POLICY, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FROM 17-19 JULY 2024 GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of the Invitation, along with its enclosures, received from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the WTO, Geneva, Switzerland, on the above-mentioned subject for placing on the website of the Ministry of Commerce.

2. Interested/relevant officers, who fulfill the eligibility criteria may send their nominations, duly approved by their respective Head(s) of the Department/ Head(s) of the Wing(s) to WTO-II Section (along with application forms, C.Vs, valid passport copies, undertaking and details of availed Foreign Training/Workshops) latest by **20-05-2024** positively. Nominations received after the deadline will not be entertained. The policy for short- and long-term foreign training and a sample of the undertaking are enclosed.

Encl: **As Above**



(Sadia Sultan)

Section Officer (WTO-II)
sowto2.moc@gmail.com
staffwto2@gmail.com

Database Administrator
Ministry of Commerce
Islamabad



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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

EMAIL

To: Heads of Delegations
WTO Members and observers

E-mail: WTO Members and observers

From: Bridget Chilala

Director
Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation

Date: 08/05/2024

Antony Taubman
Director
Intellectual Property, Government Procurement
and Competition Division

Ref: TC24-16

Number of pages (including this one): 8

WTO WORKSHOP ON COMPETITION POLICY, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

17-19 JULY 2024

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing a **Workshop on Competition Policy, Trade and Development** for the benefit of participants from WTO Members and Observers eligible to benefit from WTO training and technical cooperation activities. The Workshop will take place from **17 to 19 July 2024 in Geneva**.

The Workshop

The purpose of this Workshop is to provide an opportunity for participants to enhance their awareness of the complementarities of competition and trade policies in support of economic development, with particular reference to the relevant WTO agreements, including the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement, the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) and the Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA 2012). The programme includes case studies examining the advantages of integrated policymaking, including in the public health and government procurement areas. Attention will also be given to WTO rules relating to competitive neutrality as well as competition policy chapters in free trade agreements. A group exercise will be organised to stimulate discussion among the participants. Please note also that this Workshop is not intended as a general and comprehensive introduction to competition policy. Rather, as indicated, it focuses on selected aspects, specifically the relationship between trade and competition as well as the WTO and competition policy.

The programme will comprise presentations by WTO Secretariat officials and other international experts. A draft programme is attached. The Workshop will be held in **English**.

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Participation in the activity

The Members of the WTO and Observers to the WTO, who are eligible to benefit from training and technical cooperation activities, are invited to nominate **up to three senior capital-based officials** to be considered to participate in the above activity. Ideally, at least one nominee should be from your trade ministry and one from your competition enforcement agency or other ministry or agency with policy responsibility in the area of competition policy and/or related aspects of trade policy. **The maximum number of participants for this activity is 30 and all selected participants will be funded.**

Preference will be given to nominees having policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in competition policy and/or related aspects of trade policy. The Organizers reserve the right to select candidates and to decline the candidature of nominees who do not meet these requirements and/or on the basis of the maximum number of participants.

A round trip airplane ticket in economy class, accommodation for the duration of the course, a daily subsistence allowance and a terminal expenses allowance will be provided to selected candidates. Further administrative details will be communicated directly to the selected candidates.

Participants will be required to contribute to the Workshop by providing comments on their national experiences and actively participating in the group exercise. They should come duly prepared.

The application process

The application process consists of the following steps:

1. Interested candidates need to complete and submit the online application form, which is available at:
https://wto.formstack.com/forms/competition_policy_trade_and_development_workshop_2024
2. The online application form requires uploading a scanned copy of the passport and of the official nomination letter, signed and stamped by the competent government authority that is nominating the candidate. A template for such a letter to be signed and stamped by the national authority can be found in Annex 1 to this invitation letter.
3. The application form, including the passport and nomination letter, should be submitted via the online application system **NO LATER THAN 24 MAY 2024.**
4. Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Mission to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (e-mail: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN 24 MAY 2024.**

The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel this activity in the event of force majeure, or for any reason that renders the execution of the activity impracticable for the organizers.

***Français/Español**

L'Organisation mondiale du commerce organise un atelier sur la politique de la concurrence, le commerce et le développement, à Genève, du 17 au 19 juillet 2024. Ce séminaire étant délivré en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

La Organización Mundial del Comercio organiza un taller sobre la política de competencia, el comercio y el desarrollo en Ginebra, del 17 al 19 de julio de 2024. Este seminario está impartido en inglés. Por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura se distribuyen únicamente en inglés.

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ANNEX 1

TEMPLATE FOR NOMINATION LETTER TO BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND STAMPED BY THE RELEVANT AUTHORITY NOMINATING THE CANDIDATE

The **[Ministry/Directorate/National Office]** of **[Member/Observer]** officially nominates **[name of candidate]** to participate in the 2024 WTO Workshop on Competition Policy, Trade and Development, scheduled to take place from 17-19 July 2024 and hereby confirms that: (i) the candidate has policy responsibility and/or a demonstrated background in trade and/or competition policy matters; (ii) has full command of English and will be able to successfully and actively participate in the programme; and (iii) is fully aware that this nomination is subject to the decisions of the WTO Selection Committee and to the conditions described in the conditions to participate in WTO technical assistance activities.

Details of the official responsible for nominating this candidate:

Name	
Family Name	
Current Post	
Government Authority	
Telephone	
Email address	

By signing this form, the Nominating Authority certifies that all the information included is complete and correct.

Date	Signature	Stamp
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Policy for Short and Long Term Foreign Trainings

Types of Trainings:-

- **Short Term Trainings:**
The trainings upto 02 months
- **Long Term Trainings:**
The trainings more than 02 months and upto 02 years.

Eligibility:-

- In case of short term courses, regular officers (BS-17 to 19) working in the Ministry and attached department for last 01 years.
- In case of long term courses, regular officers (BS-18 & 19) working in the Ministry attached department for last 02 years.

Ineligibility:-

- In case of short term courses, the officers who have availed the training during last 01 year.
- In case of long term courses, the officers who have undergone/availed the training during last 03 years.

Timeline for finalization of nominations:- *

Display on website of MoC on receipt of training program by fixing deadline for receiving nominations from applicants.	10-12 days before the last date given by the training organization
Compilation of nomination received after recommendations of concerned head of the wing and submission of the file for approval to SJS (HRM)	10 days before deadline
Submission of cases to office of the Additional Secretary	08 days before deadline
Submission of cases to office of the Secretary	05 days before deadline

* The time lines may vary, depending upon the time of receipt/schedule of trainings by the training organization

General Instructions:-

- i. Heads of Wing will ensure equal opportunities & eligibility criteria before forwarding / recommending the nominations.
- ii. Only trainings which are pertinent to working of Ministry of Commerce will be offered.
- iii. Relevant officers may preferably be nominated for the specific courses.

Government of Pakistan
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

CIRCULAR


No. F. 1(2)/2019-CTG

Islamabad, the 7th December, 2022

Subject: FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS / FOREIGN TRAININGS / SELF FUNDED FOREIGN EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR BS-17 OFFICERS OF COMMERCE AND TRADE GROUP

With reference to above, it has been decided that henceforth:-

- i. No BS-17 officer shall apply for foreign scholarships / foreign trainings / self-funded foreign education,
 - ii. No consecutive tenures of posting abroad, deputation and a foreign scholarship shall be allowed,
 - iii. In case of more than one applications against any foreign training/course, preference shall be accorded as per alignment of the course with job description of CTG officers and ranking of the universities,
 - iv. There shall be a gap of minimum five (05) years between availing two consecutive foreign scholarships / foreign trainings (1 year or more) / self-funded foreign education,
 - v. NOCs already issued by this Ministry with approval of Competent Authority, in respect of BS-17 officers, shall remain valid.
2. All heads of Attached Departments and Autonomous Bodies are requested to ensure compliance to above instructions while sending cases of foreign scholarships / foreign trainings / self-funded education.
3. This issues with the approval of Secretary Commerce.


(Sabiha Parveen)
Section Officer (CTG)

Distribution:-

1. Secretary, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, Karachi.
2. Director General, Pakistan Institute of Trade & Development, Islamabad.
3. Director General, Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan, Islamabad.
4. Director General, Directorate General of Trade Organization, Islamabad.
5. Executive Director General, Trade Dispute Resolution Organization, Islamabad.
6. Section Officer (HR-I), Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
7. Section Officer (AOs-HR), Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.

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**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**



No. 5(1)/2022-Admn-I/HR-I


Islamabad, the 18th April, 2022

CIRCULAR

**SUBJECT: - REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR PROCESSING OF 'NOC' FOR
APPLYING/AVAILING FOREIGN TRAININGS / SCHOLARSHIPS.**

All cases of NOC for applying/ availing foreign trainings /scholarships should be accompanied by the duly filled attached proformas. All Attached Organizations and Autonomous Bodies should also ensure process of subject cases through said documents:

NOC to apply	
Sr. No.	Required Documents
1.	Forwarding letter of Ministry / Division / Department / Provincial Governments
2.	Request of the officer
3.	CV including details of pervious foreign training, if any.
4.	Copy of advertisement (mentioned deadline for submission of online application)
NOC to avail	
1.	Forwarding letter of Ministry / Division / Department / Provincial Governments
2.	Request of the officer
3.	Copy of application form duly filled in for scholarship
4.	Final award letter / terms and conditions of scholarship
5.	Surety bond (Specimen is attached)
6.	Undertaking (Specimen is attached)
7.	Revised 'T' form (Specimen is attached)


(Dr. Beenish Noor)
Deputy Director (HR-I)

Distribution:

All Officers of the Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
All Attached Organizations of Ministry of Commerce.

Copy for information:

Database Administrator, Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad with the request to upload the same on the Ministry's official website for information of all the concerned

UNDERTAKING

I, [Your Name], hereby sign this understanding that if the WTO Secretariat does not select me for the training on [Name of the Training] and I wish to file a complaint for not being selected, I will do so by filing the complaint with the Ministry of Commerce or the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the WTO in the first instance.

[Signature]

[Your Name]
[Designation]
[Organisation]