

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**

No.5 (1)2021-HR-I


Islamabad, the 8th July, 2021

CIRCULAR

**SUBJECT: - INVITATION PILOT COURSE ON NEGOTIATING REGIONAL
TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR TRADE IN TIMES OF CRISES AND
PANDEMIC. 23 JULY -6 August 2021**

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of self explanatory letter No. UNESCAP-V/2021 dated 2nd July 2021 along with its enclosure received from Parep Bangkok on the above mention subject for placing on the website of the Ministry of Commerce for information.

Encl: **As above**


(Muhammad Imtiaz)
Deputy Director (HR-I)

Database Administration
Ministry of Commerce
Islamabad

E-mail/Fax Message

From : Parep Bangkok
To : Foreign Islamabad
Rptd : Economic Affairs Division
: Ministry of Commerce
No : UNESCAP-V/2021
Dated : 2 July 2021

BKI-08

Director General (UN) from Counsellor/DHM

Copy to: Secretary Commerce

DS (UN) EAD, SO (UN-II) EAD

Dir (UN-III) MOFA. AD (UN-IV) MOFA

Subject: Invitation: Pilot Course on Negotiating Regional Trade Agreements for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic, 23 July-6 August 2021

Please find attached herewith a Note Verbale received from Trade, Investment and Innovation Division of UNESCAP on the subject referred above.

2. The purpose of the course is to build the capacity of the participants, as well as to provide feedback on the course material and the Handbook for further development. More information on the pilot course is available at <https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/pilot-course-negotiating-regional-trade-agreements-trade-times-crisis-and-pandemic>.

2. Ministry is requested to forward the above-referred invitation to the concerned Ministry/Division for timely nominations. The nominations (containing full contact information of email and mobile number) can be submitted to huvaly@un.org (copy to runqiu.du@un.org and tuntiwigit@un.org) by **16 July 2021**, under intimation to this Mission.

Warm regards


(Yasir Iqbal Butt)



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Office of the Executive Secretary

OES/B/9

The secretariat of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) presents its compliments to the members and associate members of the Commission and has the honour to inform that, in line with the recommendation of the seventh Committee on Trade and Investment calling for countries to include provisions, in future regional trade agreements (RTAs), that minimise disruption to trade, investment and global value chains in times of pandemic and other crisis, ESCAP has been engaged in an Initiative on Model Provisions for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic in Regional and other Trade Agreements (IMP), in collaboration with UNCTAD and other UN Regional Commissions, among others. A first version of a Handbook on Provisions and Options for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic has now been developed under the Initiative, and an online course based on it is being piloted for the first time in Asia and the Pacific, before public release of the Handbook and replication of the course in other regions.

In this context, the secretariat is pleased to invite members and associate members of the Commission to nominate an official with expertise and experience of supporting and/or engaging in negotiations of RTAs and other trade agreements to participate in the Pilot Course on Negotiating Regional Trade Agreements for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic, scheduled to take place virtually from 23 July to 6 August 2021. The purposes of the course are to (1) build the capacity of the participants, as well as (2) to provide feedback on the course material and the Handbook for further development. While priority will be given to participation of up to two relevant officials from each country, the course will also be opened to participation by other relevant stakeholders from academia, civil society and private sector from the region. We expect this will contribute to the establishment of an inclusive informal network of trade negotiation specialists across the region. Kindly note that the pilot course will be conducted in English only. More information on the pilot course is available at: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/pilot-course-negotiating-regional-trade-agreements-trade-times-crisis-and-pandemic>.

The nominations may please be submitted at the earliest convenience, preferably by 16 July 2021 to Mr. Yann Duval, Officer-in-Charge, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division at duvaly@un.org with a copy to Ms. Runqiu Du at runqiu.du@un.org and tuntiwigit@un.org. Nominated officials should also self-register for the course on the event webpage. Any comments and queries regarding the course may be directed to him as well.

The secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the members and associate members of the Commission the assurances of its highest consideration.



28 June 2021

Members and Associate Members of the Commission