

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE



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

Islamabad, the 8th December, 2022

CIRCULAR

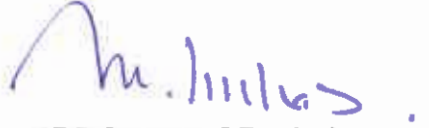
Subject: - **WTO WORKSHOP ON E-COMMERCE – SINGAPORE – 14 - 17
MARCH 2023**

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of self explanatory e-mail, 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 (BS-18 & Above) 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, latest by **28-12-2022** positively. Nominations received after the deadline will not be entertained.

Encl: **As Above**

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


**(Muhammad Imtiaz)
Section Officer (HR-I)**

WTO Workshop on e-Commerce - Singapore - 14-17 March 2023

1 message

haja.ranalvo@wto-pakistan.org <haja.ranalvo@wto-pakistan.org>

Wed, Dec 7, 2022 at 2:52 PM

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

To: Deputy Director MoC Ministry of Commerce <ddcommercedivision@gmail.com>

Cc: "fahad.raza@wto-pakistan.org" <fahad.raza@wto-pakistan.org>, "owais.hussain@wto-pakistan.org" <owais.hussain@wto-pakistan.org>, "ashfaqdcwto@gmil.com" <ashfaqdcwto@gmil.com>, Sadia Sultan <sowto2.moc@gmail.com>

Dear Sir,

Please find attached an invitation letter to nominate **three candidates** for the captioned TA.

The attached Application Form must be returned, completed and signed and sent to this Mission with a copy of a valid passports of all nominees.

Nominations may kindly be requested to be conveyed to this Mission **before 15 January 2023** to allow the Mission to send the nominations to the WTO Secretariat. No applications will be considered after the deadline of 15 January 2023.

Best regards,

Haja

Haja Ranalvo
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 - TCTP on E-Commerce.pdf**
169K

 **Application Form_Singapore -e-commerce.doc**
100K

 **E-Commerce-TCTP-Draft Programme v5 .docx**
26K

Direct line: (+41 22) 739 64 40
Email: logistics.unit@wto.org

EMAIL

To: Heads of Delegation
WTO Members and Observers Email: List attached

From: Ms Bridget Chillala
Director
Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation Date: 06/12/2022



Number of Pages (including this one):

SINGAPORE - WTO WORKSHOP ON E-COMMERCE

Singapore

14 - 17 March 2023

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization is organizing with the Government of Singapore, through the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), a **Workshop on E-Commerce**.

..... This Workshop will be held in **Singapore**, from **14 to 17 March 2023**. An Indicative Draft Programme of the Workshop is attached.

THE WORKSHOP

The main objective of this Workshop is to develop a broad understanding of e-commerce related elements in trade and how the digital economy has presented benefits for businesses and consumers. The Workshop will provide a deep dive into relevant topics, including from the perspectives of businesses, as well as the relevant ongoing discussions at the WTO, including the Work Programme on E-Commerce and the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce. The Workshop will also provide a forum for participants to exchange views and share national and regional experiences with respect to the opportunities and challenges in this field.

INVITATION TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES FOR PARTICIPATION

You are invited to submit the names of **three capital-based officials**, for consideration in the selection process. The nominees should be middle to senior level officials who have proven professional experience and responsibilities in the area of Trade and E-Commerce, ideally relating to one or more of the four subject areas covered by the programme. Preference will be given to nominees who also participate in discussions on the above issues in international and multilateral fora. However, if selected, only one participant per Member will be provided with financial support from Singapore.

Participants are required to be fluent in **English** which will be the working language of this event.

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WTO OMC

- 2 -

If you have any queries regarding the programme of the Workshop on E-Commerce, please contact Usman Ali Khilji, Head for Asia and Pacific Economies Regional Desk, Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (ITTC), WTO (e-mail: usmanali.khilji@wto.org; Tel: +41 22 739 69 36)

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS

The WTO Secretariat will conduct a selection process to fill the **30 available places** for the Workshop. Applications will only be considered from candidates whose experience and current job description is directly relevant to Trade and E-Commerce in at least one of the subject areas of the Workshop. Prior participation in WTO training activities in these areas (or equivalent training provided by another competent international organization) would be considered an advantage. Alternatively, applicants may also show commensurate knowledge or professional experience.

For entry into Singapore, participants would be required to comply with prevailing public health as well as entry requirements as indicated at [this website](#).

COST COVERED FOR PARTICIPANTS

The workshop is sponsored by the Singapore Government under the Singapore – World Trade Organization Third Country Training Programme.

Selected participants will be provided with:

- An economy-class round-trip air-ticket (excursion fare, if applicable). Airport transfers are not included.
- Workshop fees including lecture fees, administrative fees, and course materials;
- Accommodation for the entire duration of the workshop. Complimentary breakfast is provided in the hotel from the first day of the course to one day after the workshop;
- A daily training allowance of One Hundred and Twenty Singapore Dollars (S\$120) from the first day to the last day of the workshop. A proportionate reduction in the daily training allowance will be made if you are unable to attend the full duration of the workshop;
- Transportation between hotel, workshop venue and site visits (if required); and
- Basic insurance coverage (Group Hospitalisation and Surgical; Group Personal Accident) for participants during their stay in Singapore, in accordance with the policy of a local insurance company. [This does not cover any pre-existing conditions, illnesses and/or any outpatient medical/dental treatment, or COVID-19 related expenses and medical evacuation. As such, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase your own medical and travel insurance.]

Other administrative and logistical arrangements will be communicated directly to the selected participants in due course.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Completed application forms, formally endorsed by the authorities, must be submitted by the Permanent Mission in Geneva or the contact point for WTO affairs in capital. Nominations received from other sources will not be taken into consideration.

..... The enclosed application forms, including participants' details, passport biodata page, COVID-19 vaccination certifications and airport for departure, should be transmitted to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation, Logistics Unit (email: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN 15th JANUARY 2023.**

In light of the complex arrangements involved in the organization of this Workshop, the Secretariat would not be in a position to process the names of further nominees identified beyond this deadline.

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



WTO APPLICATION FORM

SINGAPORE - WTO WORKSHOP ON E-COMMERCE (In English)

Singapore, 14 – 17 March 2023

DEADLINE: 15 JANUARY 2023

PART I

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

MANDATORY: ALL THE INFORMATION ASKED IN THIS SECTION, COVID-19 VACCINATION CERTIFICATIONS AND A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr Prof

Family name (as it appears in the passport)	
First name (as it appears in the passport)	
Date of birth (day/month/year)	
Gender	
Country/Separate Customs Territory	
Organization	
Department	
Designation/Position	
Time in current position (From: month/year)	
Office Address	
City and Postal code	
Member/Observer	
Telephone (professional)	
Mobile telephone number	
E-mail addresses	1) which you wish us to use: 2) other
Dietary restrictions	
Travel preferences / preferred airport of departure	

Higher (university) education / Qualification

From YYYYMM to YYYYMM	Where?	Title of qualification

Work experience

Brief description of your current responsibilities:	
From (YYYYMM) to (YYYYMM)	
What was your previous post?	

WTO training undertaken

Have you successfully completed a WTO E-Learning course(s), and if so, which course(s)?	
Date(s)?	
Other WTO training course(s) undertaken:	

▼ PART TWO: To be completed by the National Nominating Authority:

The Nominating Authority:	
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- officially nominates:

Name of candidate:	
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Language: The Workshop will be delivered in English. Therefore, participants are required to have full command of English. By signing this application form the Applicant and Nominating Authority certify that the Applicant has full command of English.

Details of the Official responsible for nominating this candidate:

Family name	
First name	
Title/Position	
Organization/Entity	
E-mail address:	
Telephone:	

▼ By signing and stamping this form, the Candidate and the Nominating Authority certify that all information included is complete and correct.

Candidate

OFFICIAL
STAMP

Nominating Authority

Date:

Date:

ANNEX: CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN WTO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

I. 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. You will not be consulted for your travel itinerary. However, if there is any preferred travel itinerary, please clearly indicate in the application form.
3. The organizers (WTO Secretariat and the Government of Singapore) will provide you with a round-trip airplane ticket in economy-class, daily subsistence allowance, a terminal expenses allowance, and accommodation for the duration of the Course.
4. Administrative and logistical details will be communicated to the selected participants directly.

II. The WTO Secretariat does not assume financial or any other responsibility for:

1. Expenses incurred in connection with foreign travel formalities (visas, transit visas, taxes, travel to get visas, medical examinations, vaccinations, etc.).
2. Salaries of the participants during their participation in the Course.
3. Travel or other expenses of any additional persons accompanying the participants.
4. Travel or travel insurance, medical insurance, medical treatment or hospitalisation during travel or participation in the Course.
5. Loss or damage to the personal effects of the participants during travel or attendance at the Course.
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 ORGANIZERS.

INCOMPLETE/ILLEGIBLE APPLICATION FORMS OR FORMS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE OR NOT PRESENTED BY THE PERMANENT MISSION/EMBASSY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

I, the undersigned Applicant, declare that I have carefully read this application form and that I accept the aforementioned conditions.

Applicant's Name and Signature

OFFICIAL
STAMP

The application form should be submitted by the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO ITTC Logistics Unit ONLY, by the deadline, AT THE LATEST BY FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2022:

logistics.unit@wto.org

**WTO WORKSHOP ON E-COMMERCE
SINGAPORE, 14 – 17 MARCH 2023
DRAFT PROGRAMME**

Date/time	Session
Tuesday, 14 March 2023	
8:30-9:00	REGISTRATION
9:00-9:30	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks and overview by WTO • Welcome remarks by Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), Singapore • Video presentation of Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) • Group photo-taking session
<p>Module 1: Introduction to E-Commerce, and Digital Trade Principles and Rules <i>This module will explore how digital technologies and e-commerce have and continue to transform international trade, and provide an in-depth view of key negotiations and provisions relating to e-commerce and the digital economy. Participants should endeavour to use the learnings in Module 1 to frame and contextualise forthcoming modules which cover key issues and stakeholders in e-commerce and the digital economy.</i></p>	
9:30-10:00	<p>Session 1: Overview of E-Commerce, Digital Economy and Digital Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and context-setting • Global and regional trends and developments in e-commerce • Contributing factors that influence the development and growth of e-commerce in goods and services.
10:00-10:30	BREAK
10:30-12:30	<p>Session 2: E-Commerce at the WTO and Role of the Multilateral Trading System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background of E-Commerce negotiations at the WTO, including the E-Commerce Work Programme and the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce • Other relevant agreements and discussions including the Information Technology Agreement (ITA), ITA Expansion Agreement, and the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions • Relevant developments at the G20, G7, and OECD
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-15:30	<p>Session 3: Negotiating Rules around Digital Trade and E-Commerce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiating E-Commerce rules in bilateral and regional configurations (including CPTPP, RCEP and other ASEAN agreements)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Economy Agreements • Introduction to the types of provisions that are typically negotiated in FTAs and DEAs
15:30-16:30	Session 4: Deep Dive Into Data Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules on Personal Data Protection, cross-border data flows, and location of computing facilities • Range of privacy regimes across the world including the EU GDPR, APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules, and other approaches
16:30-17:00	Reflections and Q&A
17:00 onwards	Social programme
Wednesday, 15 March 2023	
Module 2: Opportunities and Challenges for Public Policy and the Digital Economy <i>This module will provide an overview of how governments can support and strengthen the development of e-commerce and the digital economy by developing relevant Infrastructure, tools and policies, based on Singapore's experience. The sessions will also provide an insight into how such approaches may be negotiated as part of trade agreements.</i>	
09:00-10:00	Session 5: Creating a digitally-enabled society and government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harnessing technologies, networks and big data to create tech-enabled solutions • Designing inclusive digital government services • Digital literacy and upskilling for citizens, workers and businesses
10:00-10:30	BREAK
10:30-12:00	Session 6: Empowering businesses and workers to power the digital economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational digital infrastructure – digital identity, authorisation and consent, payments interoperability and data exchange • Developing and fostering adoption of digital utilities to provide common standards and enable seamless business transactions • Developing digital trust through online consumer protection, online personal information protection and addressing unsolicited commercial electronic messages
12:00-12:30	Reflections and Q&A
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-16:00	Session 7: Experiences from WTO Members – National Strategies for Electronic Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected Members will share experiences and perspectives on

national policies, laws and legislations relating to or affecting e-commerce.

Module 3: Engaging and Collaborating with Stakeholders In E-Commerce and the Digital Economy

This module will provide perspectives and engagement opportunities from key public and private sector players in Singapore and the region. Through dialogues and site visits, participants will learn about the importance of stakeholder engagement, and how such perspectives can shape digital trade and policy approaches. In addition, participants will get a glimpse into advances and innovations in digital trade as well as the potential of public-private collaborations.

16:00-17:30 **Session 8: SMEs and the Digital Economy**

- Internationalisation and scaling up through digital transformation and cloud technologies

17:30-18:00 **Reflections and Q&A**

Thursday, 16 March 2023

09:30-10:00 **TRAVEL**

10:00-12:00 **Site Visit 1: SATS Technology Innovation Centre**

- Showcase of logistical and technological innovations
- Presentation on customs procedures and related technologies
- Discussion on digitalisation of trade and use of technology

12:00-12:30 **TRAVEL**

12:30-14:30 **NETWORKING LUNCH**

14:30-16:00 **Site Visit 2: Google Singapore**

- Sharing on Google Singapore’s partnership with the Singapore government to drive research and capabilities in Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Google Singapore’s efforts to support Singapore organisations and businesses to tap data and AI responsibly

16:00-16:30 **TRAVEL**

16:30-18:00 **Site Visit 3: Grab**

- Experiences and perspectives from Singapore and Southeast Asia with supporting small businesses in the digital economy
- Importance of digital trade rules and infrastructure to cross-border operations

Friday, 17 March 2023

Module 4: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities in E-Commerce and the Digital Economy
Given the ever-evolving nature of the digital economy, digital trade negotiators and practitioners must necessarily keep a constant eye on what's next. This module closes the course by delving into emerging areas and issues, opportunities, and where new types of digital trade governance may be required and expected.

09:30-10:00	TRAVEL
10:00-12:00	<p>Site Visit 4: Punggol Digital District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore's first smart business district, where innovations in cybersecurity, smart living and estate management are pioneered • Visit will cover: Integration into Punggol Smart Town, industry-academia collaboration with the Singapore Institute of Technology, smart infrastructure to improve sustainability and operational productivity
12:00-12:30	TRAVEL
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-15:30	<p>Session 9: Emerging Opportunities and Challenges for E-Commerce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and emerging issues in digital trade agreements such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing and blockchain technologies.
15:30-16:30	<p>Session 10: Future of E-Commerce Negotiations at the WTO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospects for the Work Programme on E-Commerce, the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce, the customs duties moratorium on electronic transmissions, and the road to MC13
16:30-17:00	Reflections and Q&A
17:00-17:30	<p>Wrap-Up Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants to complete the feedback/evaluation forms • Closing remarks • Group Photo-taking