Direct line: Direct fax:

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(+41 22) 739 50 18 (+41 22) 739 57 24 logistics.unit@wto.org

FAX

To:

Heads of Delegation

Members and Observers

Fax No:

List attached

E-mail:

From:

Bridget Chilala

Date:

04/01/12

Director

Institute for Training and Technical Co-operation

Vesile Kulacoğlu

Director

Trade and Environment Division

Number of pages (including this one): 7

Ref:

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ADVANCED COURSE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT (IN ENGLISH)*

Geneva, 16-27 April 2012

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing an Advanced Course on Trade and Environment. This course will take place at the WTO in Geneva from 16 to 27 April 2012.

Due to its advanced nature, the course is targeted at participants who already possess a sound knowledge of the WTO system in general and in-depth knowledge of issues at the interface of trade and environment at national and international levels. The two-week course will comprise lectures, interactive discussions and simulation exercises. A team of WTO staff and external experts will tutor participants during the course, and delegates to the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) will be invited to contribute to the discussions on specific topics. Participants are expected to be involved actively in the proceeding by exchanging experiences, including making presentations during the event. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend the CTE Committee meetings.

Your government is invited to nominate one or two candidates to be considered for participation in this activity. Candidates will be considered for selection based on the following criteria:

- Participants have to provide a proven record of their involvement with trade and environment issues in their country and their commensurate knowledge or professional experience in this field;
- Preference will be given to candidates who have completed the WTO trade and environment on-line E-Learning course (further information on https://etraining.wto.org/);

- Applicants will also have to reply to the attached pre-course questionnaire. Only candidates who have responded sufficiently to this questionnaire will be considered;
- The course will be conducted in English. All-round proficiency in English is therefore an essential prerequisite for participation.

An Application Form and the pre-course questionnaire are attached to this invitation. A detailed description of the course can be found on the following link: http://www.wto.org/english/tratop-e/devel-e/train-e/activity-sheets-2012-e/tc12-7-e.doc

The Application Form completed and signed by the candidate as well as by the national authority which nominated the candidate, along with the response to the pre-course questionnaire, must be returned <u>via the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO by 26 January 2012</u>. No candidates will be considered after this date.

Selected participants will receive confirmation together with the course programme directly. Additional administrative information, travel details and ticket, will be sent shortly after the selection has taken place.

V Kuban o W Vesile Kulaçoğlu Director

Trade and Environment Division

Bridget Chilala Director

Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 2(6)/2011-Admn-I Government of Pakistan Ministry of Commerce

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Islamabad, the 23rd January, 2012

CIRCULAR

Copy of WTO's fax message dated 04-01-2012 is forwarded with the request that the nominations of the suitable officers duy approved/recommended by their respective officers may kindly furnished to Admn-I Section latest by 24-01-2012.

Section Officer (Admn-I)

Received today is 2 1/12



WTO ADVANCED COURSE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT (ENGLISH)

WTO, Geneva 16-27 April 2012

Pre-workshop Questionnaire

The WTO Secretariat will organize the first WTO Advanced Course on Trade and Environment from 16 to 27 April 2012. The key objectives of this Advanced Course are to:

- consolidate participants' knowledge on WTO discussions and work on trade and environment, including how relevant WTO rules apply to environmental policy measures;
- improve participants' understanding on a number of key trade and environment issues, including those related to the green economy and protectionism;
- strengthen participants' ability to engage more actively in the work of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), including the on-going trade and environment negotiations;
 and
- provide a forum for information exchange and experience sharing on issues related to environment and trade.

This two week advanced course is implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework, representing the highest level of learning among WTO training activities. It will comprise a series of sessions, including lectures, interactive discussions and simulation exercises. Due to its advanced nature, the course is targeted at participants who already possess a sound knowledge of the WTO system in general and in-depth knowledge of issues at the interface of trade and environment at the national and international levels. Preference will be given to candidates who have completed the WTO trade and environment nn-line E-Learning course (further information on https://etraining.wto.org/).

Participants are expected to be involved actively in the proceeding by exchanging experiences, including making presentations during the event. To this end, this questionnaire is designed to encourage potential participants to begin considering key trade and environment issues in advance. Participants will be selected on the basis of their responses to the questions below, and only candidates who have responded sufficiently to this questionnaire will be considered.

The response to this questionnaire should be submitted to the WTO Secretariat, together with the return of the Application Form, in English.

The 2012 Advanced Trade and Environment Course will address a number of key trade and environment issues, including the following:

1. Environmental Requirements and Market Access

Environmental requirements can impede trade and could even be a disguised protectionism. The Doha Ministerial Declaration instructed the CTE to pay particular attention to "the effect of environmental measures on market access, especially in relation to developing countries, in particular the least-developed among them, and those situations in which the elimination or reduction of trade restrictions and distortions would benefit trade, the environment and development."

2. Trade Opening in Environmental Goods and Services

One of the key elements of the WTO trade and environment negotiations concerns trade opening in environmental goods and services. The mandate of negotiations, contained in Paragraph 31(iii) of the Doha Declaration, reads as follows: "With a view to enhancing the mutual supportiveness of trade and environment, we agree to negotiations, without prejudging their outcome, on: the reduction or, as appropriate, elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and services." Opening trade in environmental goods and services is seen as a possible way to achieve transfer of environmental technologies and harness trade for the development of Green Economy.

3. Relationship between WTO and MEA Rules

There are over 250 multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) dealing with various environmental issues which are currently in force. About 20 of these include provisions that can affect trade. For instance, they may contain measures that prohibit trade in certain species or products, or that allow countries to restrict trade in certain circumstances. The negotiations under Paragraph 31(i) of the Doha Declaration on the relationship between WTO and MEA rules aim to reaffirm how important it is for trade and environmental policies to work together for the benefit of both.

4. Trade and Climate Change

Climate change is thought to be the biggest sustainable development challenge the international community has had to tackle to date. Measures to address climate change need to be fully compatible with the international community's wider ambitions for economic growth and human advancement. It is a challenge that transcends borders, and requires solutions not only at national, but at the international level as well. The WTO is relevant because climate change measures and policies intersect with international trade in a number of different ways, and there is current debate on trade impact of climate mitigation measures.

Onestions

- (a) Should you be selected to participate in the 2012 Advanced Course on Trade and Environment, which of the above trade and environmental topics would you choose to make a presentation and exchange experiences on?
- (b) Please explain, in no more than 400 words, why you consider your chosen trade and environment issue relevant and/or important to your country.

ADVANCED COURSE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT (IN ENGLISH)

16-27 April 2012, Geneva

DEADLINE FOR PRESENTING CANDIDATES: 26 JANUARY 2012

APPLICATION FORM

▶ This form needs to be filled in and signed by the Applicant and by the National Authority proposing the candidate. The form must be returned by the deadline <u>via the Permanent Mission/Embassy to the WTO</u> by fax or by e-mail to the following address:

WTO / OMC – Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation
Fax: + 41 22 739 5724
Email: logistics.unit@wto.org

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Description of course:

http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/train_c/activity_shccts_2012_c/tc12-7_c.doc