

## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

### Main theme

"Inclusive Trade"

### Programme highlights

#### *Plenary debates*

The Forum will begin on 27 September at 10:00 by a keynote speech, to be followed by the opening plenary debate, in which high-level speakers will discuss the main theme: "Inclusive Trade".

#### *Working sessions or workshops*

These sessions provide a more specific insight into a particular issue. The discussion can be more technical and may involve experts, professionals and opinion leaders.

Organizers can choose to organize either working sessions or workshops:

- Working sessions They will follow a traditional format, in which speakers and participants discuss issues related to the Forum's overarching theme. Interpretation in the three WTO official languages (English, French and Spanish) will be available for these sessions.
- Workshops will take the form of informal brainstorming discussions focusing on particular issues related to the Forum's overall theme. There will be no interpretation to allow for better interaction.

All sessions will be recorded and podcasted.

#### *Side events*

This year's Forum will examine how the WTO can foster SMEs' participation in the global market. This is also the topic of the WTO's flagship publication, the World Trade Report, which will be launched at the Forum.

Other books will also be launched during this year's Forum.

Stands with thematic information, organized by both internal and external partners, will be available in the Atrium during the event, concretely showcasing how to make trade more inclusive.

#### *Public Forum: 15 years of promoting openness*

This year's event is particularly special as we are marking the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Public Forum. Several side events and exhibitions will highlight how civil society organizations have

influenced the WTO's agenda over the last 15 years.

### *Programme in brief*

<b>27 September</b>	<b>28 September</b>	<b>29 September</b>
10:00-10:30 Keynote speech	9:00-10:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	9:00-10:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops
10:30-12:00 Opening Plenary Session	10:30-12:00 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	10:30-12:00 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b> <b><i>Midday spotlight</i></b>	<b>12:00 – 13:00</b> <b><i>Midday spotlight</i></b>	<b>12:00 – 13:00</b> <b><i>Midday spotlight</i></b>
13:00 – 14:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	13:00 – 14:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	13:00 – 14:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops
<b>14:30-16:00</b> <b><i>World Trade Report launch</i></b>	<b>14:30-15:30</b> <b><i>Book launch</i></b>	<b>14:30-15:30</b> <b><i>Book launch</i></b>
16:00-17:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> Workshops	15:30-17:00 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	15:30-17:00 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops
17:30-19:00 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	17:00-18:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops	17:00-18:30 Working sessions <i>or</i> workshops
19:15 Reception	End	End

Registration/badge collection/ID restitution will be possible between 07:30 and 21:00 on the first day and 7:30 to 19:00 on the last two days.

## Keeping up to date with the Public Forum

Regular updates will be posted on the WTO website and on social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) as the event unfolds. A wide selection of photos from the Forum will be made available on the WTO website and on Flickr.

## Frequently-asked questions

### **Who can participate in the Forum?**

NGOs, representatives of governments, civil society organizations, businesses, trade unions, legislators, academics, students and the public at large are welcome to participate in the Forum.

### **Who organizes the working sessions and workshops?**

Working sessions and workshops are organized by the WTO Secretariat as well as by participants representing NGOs, business groups, law firms, universities and research institutes, trade unions, members of parliaments and inter-governmental organizations.

### **Where does the Public Forum take place?**

The WTO Public Forum takes place at the WTO headquarters at the Centre William Rappard, Rue de Lausanne 154, Geneva, Switzerland.

**What are the working languages of the meetings?**

Except for workshops, the sessions are held in the three WTO working languages: English, French and Spanish. Interpretation is available in all three languages.

**How can I register to attend?**

Those wishing to attend the WTO Public Forum must register online at: [www.wto.org/pf16](http://www.wto.org/pf16)  
The deadline for registration is midnight, Sunday 18 September 2016.

**Where can I find additional information about the programme?**

This is available on the WTO Public Forum website and updated regularly:  
[www.wto.org/pf16](http://www.wto.org/pf16)

**What if I have questions?**

Please send your questions to [pf16@wto.org](mailto:pf16@wto.org)

**Do I need a visa?**

Please check well in advance of your journey for visa requirements with the Swiss embassy or consulate nearest to you. Please note that the WTO does not organize visa arrangements.

**Who pays for my journey?**

Participation at the Forum is free of charge. Travel and accommodation costs are to be borne by participants.

**Who organizes the Plenary Sessions?**

Plenaries are organized by the WTO Secretariat and are designed to address the overall theme. They feature prominent experts and personalities, who share their views on the issues debated.