



▶ **Advanced Trade Policy Course**

COURSE BOOKLET

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Geneva, Switzerland



One must learn by doing the thing; for though you think you know it, you have no certainty until you try.
Sophocles

Course description:

The ATPC, a Level 3 training activity implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework, represents the highest level of learning among WTO training activities.

The course is targeted at government officials who are directly involved in WTO-related work and who already possess a sound knowledge of the general features of the WTO system and the WTO Agreements. Due to the applied nature of the ATPC, participants are expected to be actively involved throughout the course to further consolidate their knowledge and develop new skills through practice and case-based learning.

The purpose of the ATPC is to develop participants' autonomy in conducting WTO-related work by: (i) encouraging critical thinking to explore the linkages between WTO rules and disciplines and countries' trade policies and interests in the multilateral trading system; and (ii) enhancing analytical and negotiating skills to engage in trade policy formulation and implementation, monitoring and surveillance, WTO negotiations or dispute settlement.

Both legal and economic aspects of WTO rules and disciplines will be examined in a series of interactive sessions focussing on case studies, simulations and exercises, including hands-on use of WTO databases and analytical tools available online. Roundtable discussions will provide a platform for practical exchanges, sharing of experiences and best practices as well as debating present-day trade topics. Participants will be given individual/group assignments and are also expected to prepare and deliver a brief presentation relating to a trade policy topic by the end of the two-month course.

The course also includes visits to other international organizations active in trade-related matters as well as attendance at selected meetings of WTO bodies and briefings on WTO work-in-progress. Contacts with WTO Secretariat officials and delegates and representatives from Missions and other international organizations are also a common feature.

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Glossary of WTO divisions

ABS – Appellate Body Secretariat
AGCD – Agriculture and Commodities Division
EIRD – Information and External Relations Division
ERSD – Economic Research and Statistics Division
IPD – Intellectual Property Division
ITSD – Information Technology Solutions Division
ITTC – Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation

LAD – Legal Affairs Division
LDIMD – Languages Documentation and Information Management Division
MAD – Market Access Division
TED – Trade and Environment Division
TSD – Trade in Services Division
TPRD – Trade Policy Review Division



Introduction to the ATPC, and WTO Resources

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed set up and familiarization with the ATPC Virtual Classroom and the WTO. Received a conceptual overview of the Course and Evaluations. 		Opening, Administrative matters; Logistics; Virtual Classroom Overview of the Course and Evaluations	Hands-on use of the Virtual Classroom; conceptual overview of the Course, ATPC evaluation tools	Opening-Course Patron; ITTC	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved knowledge of access to information/documentation and experience in using WTO resources and databases. Become familiar with the WTO site/building. 		WTO Resources (Interpretation, Website, Documents Online, Library) Guided tour of the WTO	Hands-on use of WTO Resources and Documents Online	LDIMD - Interpretation Section, Official Documents and Records Section, Library; IERD	



Analysis and Implementation of trade instruments and policies

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understood what a tariff is from a policy, legal and economic viewpoint and be able to differentiate it from other charges which may be charged at customs. Developed capacity to autonomously read a WTO Schedule of concessions and understand the requirements for modifying tariff concessions. Understood how an import licence is defined in the WTO and become familiar with WTO rules and transparency requirements regulating such instruments. Understood how WTO agreements define "quantitative restrictions" and what is the economic impact of new restrictions; and become familiar with WTO rules and notification obligations related to such instruments. Developed the ability to critically assess the various impacts that the introduction of trade barriers could have (tariff increases, quotas, licences, etc.). Gained understanding of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation and how to access resources about the TFA (TFA Facility Website) and its implementation (TFA Database). Understood the objectives and structure of the ITA (plurilateral, selective scope). Been able to critically assess the benefits of the ITA since its adoption and discuss the possible benefits for their countries of joining the agreement. Received briefing on the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration on the Expansion of Trade in IT Products. Acquired skills in using the Market Access databases as source of information for tariff and trade negotiations and trade policy analysis and in interpreting the statistics available in the online tools and their trade implications. Gained understanding of several search tools offered by the I-TIP as well as data limitations, and used simplified paths in the I-TIP application. 		<p>Case study: Mauritius National Export Strategy Market Access, Non-tariff Measures and Customs Matters (tariffs and tariff concessions, quantitative restrictions, import licensing, trade facilitation)</p> <p>Databases and analytical tools (Tariff Analysis Online, Tariff Download Facility, World Tariff Profiles, Integrated Trade intelligence Portal: I-TIP) Information Technology Agreement</p>	<p>Case study (including group work to prepare recommendations and present proposals), presentations, practical exercises (e.g. hands-on use of WTO databases and analytical tools), Q&As,</p>	<p>MAD, ERSD - Market Access Intelligence Section</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Become familiar with the most common sources for international trade statistics. Built capacity to extract, manipulate and analyse statistical trade data. Built knowledge on ex-ante analysis of trade policy changes. 		<p>Tools for trade analysis</p>	<p>Presentation and use of analytical tools for analysing trade statistics</p>	<p>ERSD - International Trade Statistics Section</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysed trade flows and international markets using ITC's Trade Map. Analysed tariffs and other market requirements in order to identify markets with favourable market access conditions using ITC's Market Access Map. Prepared for trade negotiations by simulating tariff reduction scenarios using ITC's Market Access Map. 		<p>Capacity building in trade data and analysis - International Trade Centre (ITC)</p>	<p>Interactive session using cases, exercises, databases and simulation</p>	<p>ITC</p>	



Selected aspects and context of the Multilateral Trading Framework

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refreshed knowledge of the Agreement on Agriculture. Been prepared for the "Cotton" and "Banana Shake" cases. 		Agreement on Agriculture	Presentation, Q&As, exercises and hands-on database use	AGCD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gained understanding of the role and functions of the STDF in the SPS arena, including its activities linked to SPS coordination, knowledge dissemination and implementation of capacity building projects. 		Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)	Presentation	AGCD – STDF Unit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened knowledge about the main principles of the SPS Agreement. Enhanced knowledge of the SPS Information Management System (IMS). Strengthened knowledge about the relevance and functions of the SPS Committee. 		SPS Case Studies	Case studies, group presentations and exercises; attendance to the informal meeting of the SPS Committee (tbc)	AGCD - SPS Section	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deepened knowledge of TBT disciplines by presenting relevant jurisprudence dealing with measures on different areas (environment, human health, etc.). Considered the relationship between GATT and TBT by including a presentation on an environmental dispute with TBT claims and another with GATT claims. Enhanced knowledge of the TBT Notification Submission System (NSS). 		TBT Cases	Group presentations.	TED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened understanding of linkages between the WTO rules on TRIPS (geographical indications, trademarks and patents), agriculture and public health. 		Selected TRIPS Issues	Presentations and exercises; attendance to the meeting of TRIPS Council (tbc)	IPD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted WTO rules related to agricultural policy, SPS policy and intellectual property. Been provided with a platform for discussing the interaction between economic and legal analyses of policies related to international trade. Gained economic analysis skills necessary to evaluate policy options that would affect private sector outcomes. 		"Banana Shake" Case	Case study	IPD, AGCD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Become aware of WIPO's past and present and its role in public policy. Broadened perspectives on issues related to trade and intellectual property (IP). 		Intellectual Property: Study visit at WIPO	Presentations and discussions at WIPO	WIPO	



Selected aspects and context of the Multilateral Trading Framework *(continued)*

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been updated on developments in Trade and Environment at the WTO. • Consolidated knowledge of the main environment-related provisions of the GATT/WTO, including case law (Article XX of GATT 1994), in order to highlight the balance between trade and environment concerns. 		Trade and Environment	Briefing, discussion and quiz	TED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explored different situations when trade remedy measures may be used and the policy implications of the choice made by the authorities of the importing country. • Considered the complexities and practical challenges faced in an anti-dumping investigation and how they may be addressed. 		Trade Remedies in Perspective	Presentation and Q&As	Rules Division	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become familiar with the requirements of the TRIMs Agreement, and its relationship to other WTO obligations. • Become aware as to how to approach and analyse legal issues arising from local content and similar measures. 		Trade- related Investment Measures (TRIMS)	Presentation and Q&As	Rules Division	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received briefing on the political system, institutions and economic affairs, including trade policy, of Switzerland. 		Study Tour - Bern	Meeting with the Swiss Authorities in Bern	Switzerland - State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), WTO Division	



Trade negotiations and negotiating skills

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in a briefing on the WTO Buenos Aires Ministerial Conference (MC11) and work ahead. Discussed and debated Global Trade Governance issues, including a way forward for the WTO . 		Briefing on the Developments at the WTO and Roundtable Discussion on Post-MC11 Global Trade Governance	Briefing and roundtable discussion	Council and TNC; External Speakers: WTO Ambassadors (tbc)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in a briefing on the main issues in e-commerce, the Buenos Aires Ministerial Decision and next steps. 		E-Commerce	Briefing	Council and TNC	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in a briefing on discussions on the relationship between trade and investment. 		Investment Facilitation	Briefing	TSD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced negotiating skills and refined understanding of strategies and tactics for the conduct of negotiations. Enhanced understanding of the WTO trade negotiations process. 		Trade Negotiations Skills	Simulation	ITTC-GBCU	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidated knowledge on the key concepts and obligations of the GATS. Enhanced understanding of the GATS provisions and their implications. Reviewed examples from Schedules of Specific Commitments and developed analytical skills needed to interpret an entry in a Schedule. Become familiar with request-offer negotiations, analysed existing commitments and the level of market opening, prepared initial and revised offers, explored flexibilities and participated in bilateral negotiations. Become familiar with I-TIP Services database and trade in services statistics. 		GATS Implementation - Selected Issues GATS Negotiations Simulation	Discussion and Q&As, Simulation Exercise	TSD, ERSD - International Trade Statistics Section	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gained knowledge to allow an active participation in Accession Working Parties by participants, both from Members and Acceding Governments. 		Accessions to the WTO	Presentation and Q&As	Accessions Division	



Trade Disputes and Enforcement

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced understanding of various aspects of the dispute settlement (DS) process. Strengthened capacity to engage in, and manage, trade disputes. 		Dispute Settlement Procedures	Practical considerations arising in the course of WTO dispute settlement proceedings. Attendance to the DSB meeting	LAD, ABS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explored different options Members have to defend their interests in the multilateral trading system. Discussed the interaction between the negotiation and dispute settlement options. Considered concrete examples on the functioning of the WTO disciplines on subsidies contained in the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and their enforcement through the WTO Dispute Settlement mechanism. 		"Cotton" Case	Case study and exercises	Development Division, Rules Division	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gained practical experience in applying WTO dispute settlement rules and procedures via a Moot Court exercise. 		Moot Court Exercise	Exercise, small group work, drafting of written submissions, presentation at oral hearing, and Moot Court	LAD, ABS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explored some of the key challenges faced by developing countries in the DS process. Gained a better understanding of the future challenges of the DS system, including issues considered as part of the DSU negotiations. 		DSU Negotiations: State-of-playt	Briefing	LAD	



Trade Monitoring

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Become familiar with economics of trade policy instruments, based upon case studies of Trade Policy Reviews. 	Trade Policy Review Mechanism	Case study - selected TPRs, and discussion; attendance to the Trade Policy Review of Egypt	TPRD - Trade Policy Section	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gained knowledge in the application of WTO rules and procedures relating to RTAs. Developed capacity to make substantive and practical input in Transparency Mechanism for RTAs. Raised interest for and ability to use the RTA database. 	Regional Trade Agreements and the WTO	Case study – a selected RTA, and discussion; hands-on use of RTA database	TPRD - Regional Trade Agreements Section	

Trade Policy Analysis and Formulation

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built knowledge about global value chains (GVCs), their development implications, and trade policies to facilitate integration in GVCs. 	Overview of Global Value Chains	Presentation	ERSD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considered the effects of tariffs and other trade policy instruments Discussed rationale for governments to intervene, including the infant industry argument for protection Discussed the history of industrial policy 	Trade and Industrial Policy Framework	Presentation and Q&As	ERSD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed the findings of the 2017 World Trade Report which examined how technology and trade affect employment and wages. 	WTO World Trade Report 2017	Presentation and Q&As	ERSD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced capacity to analyse trade-related information from a variety of sources and identify key policy elements. Strengthened ability to formulate trade policies taking into account a range of different and possibly conflicting considerations. Gained greater appreciation of the role of formulating trade policies through a process of interactive review. 	Trade Policy Presentations Project	Presentations by ATPC participants, Q&As and discussion	ITTC - GBCU, Panel of discussants – ERSD, TPRD; ITTC	



Wrap-up of the ATPC

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>		Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed the ATPC learning experience, case-based approach, applied focus of the Course.• Evaluated the ATPC and provided comments to the organizers.		ATPC wrap up, Final Evaluation and Oral Feedback, Administrative matters, and Closing	Discussion and written and oral evaluation of the ATPC	ITTC; Closing-Course Patron	



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