



► Advanced Trade Policy Course

COURSE BOOKLET

27 January – 20 March 2020

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

ERSD – Economic Research and Statistics Division

IERD – Information and External Relations Division

IPD – Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition 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 and Investment 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>	
<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 as well as copies and explanations of the Revision Book• Pre-course test	
<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.	



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Opening, Administrative matters; Logistics; Virtual Classroom Overview of the Course and Evaluations Revision Book	Hands-on use of the Virtual Classroom; conceptual overview of the Course, ATPC evaluation tools, Revision Book, Pre-course test	Opening-Course Patron; ITTC	
	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

At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:

- 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.
 - Become familiar with a new WTO Data portal
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- 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.
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- 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.



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	<p>Case study: Mauritius Sectoral Strategies 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, and new WTO Data portal)</p> <p>Information Technology Agreement</p> <p>Agreement on Trade Facilitation</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	MAD, ERSD - Market Access Intelligence Section	
	Tools for trade analysis	Presentation and use of analytical tools for analysing trade statistics	Presentation and use of analytical tools for analysing trade statistics	
	Capacity building in trade data and analysis - International Trade Centre (ITC)	Interactive session using cases, exercises, databases and simulation	ITC	

Selected Aspects and Context of the Multilateral Trading Framework

<p>Objectives</p> <p><i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshed knowledge of the Agreement on Agriculture. • Been prepared for the “Cotton” and “Banana Shake” cases. 	
<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. 	
<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. 	
<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). 	
<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. 	
<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. 	
<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). 	



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Agreement on Agriculture	Presentation, Q&As, exercises and hands-on database use	AGCD	
	Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)	Presentation	AGCD – STDF Unit	
	SPS Case Studies	Case studies, group presentations and exercises	AGCD - SPS Section	
	TBT Cases	Group presentations	TED	
	Selected TRIPS Issues	Presentations and exercises	IPD	
	"Banana Shake" Case	Case study	IPD, AGCD	
	Intellectual Property: Study visit at the World Intellectual Property Organization (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>	
<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.	
<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.	
<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.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Received briefing on the political system, institutions and economic affairs, including trade policy, of Switzerland.	

	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Trade and Environment	Briefing, discussion and quiz	TED	
	Trade Remedies in Perspective	Presentation and Q&As	Rules Division	
	Trade-related Investment Measures (TRIMS)	Presentation and Q&As	Rules Division	
	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>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in a briefing on the WTO Buenos Aires Ministerial Conference (MC11) and work ahead in preparing for MC12 in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.• Discussed and debated Global Trade Governance issues, including a way forward for the WTO.	
<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.• Share experiences on trade negotiations with current and former WTO negotiators	
<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.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gained knowledge to allow an active participation in Accession Working Parties by participants, both from WTO Members and Acceding Governments.	



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Briefing on the Developments at the WTO and Roundtable Discussion on Global Trade Governance	Briefing and roundtable discussion; Attendance to the meeting of the General Council	Council and TNC Division; External Speakers: WTO Ambassadors (tbc)	
	Trade Negotiations Simulation	Simulation and Roundtable discussion	ITTC-GBCU; Geneva-based delegates and former negotiators	
	GATS Implementation - Selected Issues GATS Negotiations Simulation	Discussion and Q&As, Simulation	TSD, ERSD - International Trade Statistics Section	
	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>	
<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.	
<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.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gained practical experience in applying WTO dispute settlement rules and procedures via a Moot Court exercise.	
<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.	



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Dispute Settlement Procedures	Practical considerations arising in the course of WTO dispute settlement proceedings	LAD, ABS	
	"Cotton" Case	Case study and exercises	Development Division, Rules Division	
	Moot Court Exercise	Exercise, small group work, drafting of written submissions, presentation at oral hearing, and Moot Court	LAD, ABS	
	DSU Negotiations: State-of-play	Briefing and roundtable discussion	LAD, External Speakers (tbc)	

Trade Monitoring

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become familiar with economics of trade policy instruments, based upon case studies of Trade Policy Reviews.	
<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.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become familiar with the Trade and Finance agenda of the WTO, embedded into the Coherence Mandate, which covers several topics, including trade finance, exchange rates and trade, trade and macroeconomics.• Gained understanding of the WTO's place in a wider environment of global economic institutions and its relations, in particular with the IMF and World Bank.• Engaged in a discussion as to how trade, finance and development ministries, and policies interact at country level.	

	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Trade Policy Review Mechanism	Case study - selected TPRs, and discussion; Attendance to the Trade Policy Review of the EU	TPRD - Trade Policies Review Section	
	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 and Finance	Briefing	ERSD	

Trade Policy Analysis and Formulation

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built knowledge about global value chains (GVCs), their development implications, and trade policies to facilitate integration in GVCs.	
<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	
<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.	

Wrap-up of the ATPC

Objectives <i>At the end of the module, participants are expected to have:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased understanding of the objectives and tools of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)• Established links to the relevant counterparts in the EIF Executive Secretariat and Partner Organisations, as relevant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become aware of how trade rules impact women's empowerment (examples of gender related trade policies and trends in WTO Members).• Become familiar with the work of the CTD, and Aid for Trade	
<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.	



	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Overview of Global Value Chains	Presentation	ERSD	
	Trade and Industrial Policy Framework	Presentation and Q&As	ERSD	
	Trade Policy Presentations Project	Presentations by ATPC participants, Q&As and discussion	ITTC - GBCU, Panel of discussants – ERSD, TPRD; ITTC	

	Module	Method of delivery	WTO Secretariat/ External Speakers	My notes
	Technical assistance and capacity building	Briefing, film and discussion	EIF	
	Trade and Gender, and briefing on the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) – Session on Aid for Trade	Briefing; attendance at the meeting of the CTD – Session on Aid for Trade	Development Division	
	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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