



## CHINA WTO ACCESSION INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

# ALUMNI STORIES

### Jeff, please tell us....

#### Where are you from, and what have you studied before joining the China Programme?

I am a Liberian by nationality. I hold a Master's Degree in "International Trade and WTO" from the Mohammed V University Souissi-Kingdom of Morocco.

#### Why did you apply to the China Programme?

I applied to the China Programme in order to broaden and enhance my knowledge and understanding of the WTO and trade-related issues, and gain expertise particularly on the importance of accession to the WTO and the benefits of membership. Furthermore, as a national of an LDC and an acceding government (Liberia), the practical knowledge and experience acquired through the programme would enable me to provide relevant contributions to the accession process of Liberia and the post-accession implementation of its specific commitments.

#### What kind of work have you been assigned to during your internship so far?

During the internship, I was specifically tasked to: (i) assist professional staff with technical work on accession dossiers, (ii) contribute to accession-related research work, (iii) cover meetings and submit summary reports, (iv) undergo WTO E-learning courses, (v) contribute to other work of the Division as necessary, and (vi) submit a weekly internship progress report.

#### What do you think of your work/experience at the WTO so far?

Over the period of 10 months, I acknowledged with confidence to have worked and gained substantive and invaluable experience of the importance of accession to the WTO and the benefits of membership; and understood the WTO and trade-related issues to a larger extent. Work in the Accessions Division is based on team work and quality outputs. I had a tough, but wonderful and hard-working supervisor who made me grow professionally well within the limit of time. Interns' progress matters, and remains a great deal to the Division. The Director of the Division was personally interested in the professional growth of interns. He closely monitored interns' progress and provided guidance where necessary. I also enjoyed the company, expertise, and professionalism of the entire staff of the Accessions Division.

#### What's next?

The next step at this stage is to match the knowledge and experience acquired from the WTO Secretariat with future professional endeavours, particularly my prospective contribution to Liberia's WTO accession and post-accession implementation process.

**Thank you, Jeff!**

Jesse Jefferson Fahn  
@ the WTO Parliamentary  
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Switzerland,  
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