

DISCLAIMER

The Handbook on Notification Requirements does not constitute a legal interpretation of the notification obligations under the respective Agreement(s) or relevant legal provision(s). It has been prepared by the Secretariat to assist Members in complying with their notification obligations.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION HANDBOOK ON NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

REVISED AGREEMENT ON
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

This section of the Handbook on Notification Requirements covers the notification obligations under the **REVISED AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT**. It consists of the following five parts:

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For Members which acceded pursuant to Article XII of the Marrakesh Agreement, their respective Protocols of Accession may contain notification obligations in addition to those set out in the WTO Agreements, and may govern the deadlines for the submission of their initial notifications.

PART 1

OVERVIEW OF NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

INTRODUCTION

This section provides an overview of notification requirements arising from the revised Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). The GPA was revised on 30 April 2012 and entered into force on 6 April 2014. The revised GPA is composed of the text of the Agreement; Parties' market access schedules of commitments (Appendix I); and Parties' electronic and media sources of procurement information (Appendices II-IV). In addition to the Agreement and its Appendixes, the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement regarding the results of the GPA revision ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012) includes a set of relevant Decisions. It should be noted as well that a separate electronic notification platform is being implemented. Additional information on related developments will be provided in due course.

WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?

The [revised Agreement on Government Procurement](#) (GPA) and various decisions by the Committee on Government Procurement (GP)¹ set out Parties' notification obligations in detail. These include:

- Notification of any changes to procurement laws and regulations;²
- Notification of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the Agreement;³
- Notification of thresholds in national currencies;⁴

¹ See, in particular, the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), dated 27 February 1996, Annex 3); and the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012, Annex A).

² See [Article XXII:5](#) of the revised GPA; Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A).

³ See [Article XVI:4-6](#) of the revised GPA.

⁴ See Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), Annex 3).

- Notification of modifications to schedules;⁵ and
- Notification of media for the publication of procurement-related information.⁶

WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?

All Parties to the GPA. The GPA is a plurilateral agreement, which means it is binding only on those WTO Members who are Party to it and have therefore accepted to be bound by it. At present, it has 19 Parties, which together cover 47 WTO Members.⁷

WHEN TO NOTIFY?

Notifications of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the Agreement are provided on an annual basis within two years from the end of the reporting period; and notifications of thresholds in national currencies are provided every two years. Other notifications are made on an ad hoc basis.

HOW TO NOTIFY?⁸

For additional information see [GPA Notifications webpage](#). Please also contact the WTO Secretariat for further guidance/examples of relevant notifications (email: GPA@wto.org).

⁵ See [Article XIX](#) of the revised GPA; Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A).

⁶ See [Article VI:3](#) of the revised GPA.

⁷ See [WTO, Parties, observers and accessions](#).

⁸ All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.1](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, by fax or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantially handling the notification.

PART 2

LISTING OF THE NOTIFICATION OBLIGATIONS

	WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?		WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?	WHEN TO NOTIFY?		HOW TO NOTIFY?		
	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom ⁹	Notification Symbol
1.	Revised Government Procurement Agreement Article XXII:5 Decision on Notification. Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement (GPA/113 , Annex A).	Notification of any changes to procurement laws and regulations.	GPA Parties	Ad hoc	Under certain conditions and in cases of non-substantive changes, the relevant Decision provides flexibility to submit notifications on an annual basis.	No (For further guidance/examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: GPA@wto.org)).	Committee on GP	GPA/LEGIS/* GPA/* ¹⁰
2.	Revised Government Procurement Agreement Article XVI:4-6 .	Notification of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the Agreement.	GPA Parties	Regular – Annual	The annual report shall cover one year and be submitted within two years of the end of the reporting period.	No (For further guidance/examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: GPA@wto.org)).	Committee on GP	GPA/STAT* ¹¹ GPA/* ¹²

⁹ All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.1](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, by fax or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantially handling the notification.

¹⁰ Prior to the creation of GPA/LEGIS/* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/* series.

¹¹ The symbol includes the last two digits of the year/reporting period (e.g. GPA/STAT(18)/*).

¹² Prior to the creation of GPA/STAT* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/* series.

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	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom ⁹	Notification Symbol
3.	Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies (GPA/1 , Annex 3).	Notification of thresholds in national currencies.	GPA Parties	Regular – Biennial		No (For further guidance/examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: GPA@wto.org)).	Committee on GP	GPA/THR/* GPA/W/* ¹³
4.	Revised Government Procurement Agreement Article XIX , Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification. Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement (GPA/113 , Annex A).	Notification of modifications to market access commitments (Appendix I to the revised GPA). ¹⁴	GPA Parties	Ad hoc	Under certain conditions, the relevant Decision provides flexibility to submit notifications every two years.	No (For further guidance/examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: GPA@wto.org)).	Committee on GP	GPA/MOD/* GPA/W/* ¹⁵

⁹ All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.1](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, by fax or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantially handling the notification.

¹⁴ Prior to the creation of GPA/THR/* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/W/* series.

¹⁵ A Party may notify the Committee on GP of an objection to a proposed rectification within 45 days from the date of the circulation to the Parties of the notification. In accordance with Article XIX:2, where a Party submits an objection, it shall set out the reasons for the objection, including the reasons why it believes the proposed rectification would affect the mutually agreed coverage under the Agreement and therefore the proposed rectification is not subject to paragraph 3. If there is no written objection, the proposed rectifications become effective 45 days after the circulation of the notification, as provided for in Article XIX:5(a). See effective modifications and rectifications [here](#). See paragraph 5 of Annex A of Appendix 2 of the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#)).

¹⁶ Prior to the creation of GPA/MOD/* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/W/* series.

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	WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?		WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?	WHEN TO NOTIFY?		HOW TO NOTIFY?		
	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom ⁹	Notification Symbol
5.	Revised Government Procurement Agreement Article VI:3 .	Notification of modifications of information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information. ¹⁶	GPA Parties	Ad hoc		No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: GPA@wto.org)).	Committee on GP	

⁹ All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.1](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, by fax or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantially handling the notification.

¹⁶ Pursuant to [Article VI:2](#) of the revised GPA, existing Parties provided information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information. Accession candidates provide relevant information at the time of their accession process.

PART 3

RELEVANT DOCUMENT(S) CONCERNING GUIDELINES AND FORMATS

For additional information see [GPA Notifications webpage](#). Please also contact the WTO Secretariat for further guidance/examples of relevant notifications (email: GPA@wto.org).

PART 4

LIST OF NOTIFICATIONS SINCE 2014

List of [notifications](#) of changes to procurement laws and regulations under [Article XXII:5](#) of the revised GPA and the Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX And XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A). See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of statistics under [Article XVI:4](#) of the revised GPA. See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of thresholds in national currency under the Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), Annex 3). See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of modifications to market access commitments under [Article XIX](#) of the revised GPA and the Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX And XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A). Notifications related to the modification of schedules are restricted documents and accessible to the governments of GPA Parties and observers only.

List of notifications of modifications of information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information under [Article VI:3](#) with regard to modifications to [Appendix II](#); [Appendix III](#); [Appendix IV](#).

PART 5

TEXT OF THE LEGAL PROVISIONS

The revised Agreement on Government Procurement, including the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012). See also [WTO webpage](#).

The Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), dated 27 February 1996, Annex 3).