



MOST IMMEDIATE

HIGH COMMISSION FOR PAKISTAN
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No.Pol.3/2011

19 December, 2011

Sub: - **“Regional Workshop on the GATS and Services Negotiations for WTO Member and Observers in Asia and the Pacific” to be held from 27 February to 01 March 2012 under the Singapore Cooperation Programme Training Award (SCPTA).**

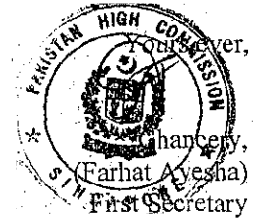
Dear Ministry,

The Government of Singapore has invited one suitable nomination from Pakistan for the above workshop scheduled to be held in Singapore from 27 February to 01 March 2012 under the Singapore Cooperation Programme Training Award (SCPTA). A copy of note verbal No. MFA/TCD/ 00201/2011, dated 19 December 2011 is enclosed along with its enclosures

2. The closing date of the nomination is 20 January 2012. Intimating only names of nominees in advance by fax (without complete documents) is not acceptable to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore. Applications should be endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad and routed through the High Commission of Pakistan in Singapore.

3. The Ministry is requested to convey the nomination for the course to this Mission at the earliest but not later than 16 January, 2012.

Encl: As above



MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 2(3)/2009-Admn-I
Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Commerce

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Islamabad, the 13th January, 2012

CIRCULAR

Forwarded with the request that nominations of suitable officers, duly approved/recommended by their respective officers may kindly be furnished to Admn-I Section by close of this office today.

(MARIA KAZI)
Section Officer (Admn-I)



MFA/TCD/00201/2011

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore presents its compliments to the High Commission for The Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Singapore and has the honour to invite applications for the "Regional Workshop on the GATS and Services Negotiations for WTO Member and Observers in Asia and the Pacific" training course, to be conducted from 27 February to 1 March 2012, in Singapore under the Singapore - World Trade Organization Third Country Training Programme. Details are in the attached General Information Brochure.

The Ministry further has the honour to inform that Singapore and World Trade Organization would like to invite Islamic Republic of Pakistan's National Focal Point for Technical Assistance to nominate up to one (1) suitable applicant for consideration. The application must be endorsed by the High Commission for The Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Singapore or National Focal Point for Technical Assistance, and submitted to this Ministry by 20 January 2012.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the High Commission for The Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Singapore the assurances of its highest consideration.



SINGAPORE

19 December 2011

High Commission for The Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Singapore

**SINGAPORE – WTO ADVANCED REGIONAL WORKSHOP
 ON THE GATS AND SERVICES NEGOTIATIONS
 FOR WTO MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

27 FEBRUARY TO 1 MARCH 2012

Jointly sponsored by the

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SINGAPORE

and the

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

under the

**SINGAPORE – WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
 THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME**

to be conducted by the

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Singapore Cooperation Programme

Singapore has provided technical assistance to other developing countries since the 1960s. As a country whose only resource is its people, Singapore believes that human resource development is vital for economic and social progress. Singapore itself has benefited from training provided by other countries and international organisations. Through the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP), Singapore can contribute to the development of other developing countries.

In 1992, the SCP was established, bringing together under one framework the various technical assistance programmes offered by Singapore. Through the SCP, the range and number of training programmes have been increased to meet the needs of developing countries. Since 1992, Singapore has sponsored training courses and study visits for over 75,000 officials from 170 countries. The SCP is managed by the Technical Cooperation Directorate of the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organization (WTO)'s overriding objective is to help trade flow smoothly, freely, fairly and predictably. It does this by:

- Administering trade agreements
- Acting as a forum for trade negotiations
- Settling trade disputes
- Reviewing national trade policies
- Assisting developing countries in trade policy issues, through technical assistance and training programmes
- Cooperating with other international organisations

The WTO has over 150 members, accounting for over 97% of world trade. Around 30 others are negotiating membership. Decisions are made by the entire membership.

**SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME
SINGAPORE – WTO THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME
GENERAL INFORMATION BROCHURE**

The WTO's top level decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference. Below this is the General Council (normally ambassadors and heads of delegation in Geneva, but sometimes involving officials sent from members' capitals) which meets several times a year in the Geneva headquarters. The General Council also meets as the Trade Policy Review Body and the Dispute Settlement Body.

At the next level, the Goods Council, Services Council and Intellectual Property (TRIPS) Council report to the General Council. Numerous specialised committees, working groups and working parties deal with the individual agreements and other areas such as the environment, development, membership applications and regional trade agreements.

Workshop Objectives and Outline

The advanced workshop will have as main themes the in-depth treatment of: policy and regulatory issues in services trade and, in this context, of the relevance of the GATS and its provisions in governing the scheduling of commitments; the state of play in the negotiations, including in rule-making areas such as domestic regulation; features and content of regional and other preferential agreements on services trade, and their treatment under the GATS; and the treatment of financial services under the GATS.

The themes will be treated through presentations, but also practical exercises and discussions with participants. The programme also foresees a negotiation simulation designed to enhance the capacity of participants to work with schedules of commitments. A detailed programme will be distributed prior to the event.

The workshop is targeted at professionals with experience, at advanced level, on services trade. Participants are expected to come prepared to engage in active learning, which may include making presentations and taking part in discussions on the relevant challenges faced by their respective government.

Duration

The workshop will be held from 27 February to 1 March 2012.

Invited Member Economies

Sponsored Member and Observer Economies by the Singapore Government

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Vietnam

WTO- Financed Member Economies

Hong Kong China, Macao China, Republic of Korea and Chinese Taipei

Self-Financed Member Economy

Singapore

Application Information

Each invited member and observer economy will be represented by one (1) capital-based official from the trade or other relevant Ministry/Department with responsibility for matters relating to policy-making and negotiations on trade in services. As this is an advanced course, participants with sufficient knowledge of services trade will be able to benefit from their participation in this event.

Participants should possess a firm understanding of the GATS, as evidenced by their successful completion of the WTO e-training module on the GATS or equivalent (e.g., relevant experience on services negotiations, WTO regional trade policy course). Participants will also be required to read certain material sent by WTO Secretariat officials before the start of the workshop.

Applicants applying for sponsorship under the Singapore Cooperation Programme should also be:

- Middle to senior level government officials
- Nominated by their respective Governments
- Proficient in spoken and written English
- Below 50 years of age
- In good health

Terms of Award

(Applies ONLY to Member and Observer Economies sponsored by the Singapore Government)

The workshop is sponsored by the Singapore Government under the Singapore - World Trade Organization Third Country Training Programme.

Under this programme arrangement, the Government of Singapore will bear the following

**SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME
SINGAPORE – WTO THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME
GENERAL INFORMATION BROCHURE**

expenses for the successful applicants, thereafter, known as participants during their training in Singapore. These expenses include:

- Economy class round-trip air tickets between Singapore Changi International Airport and the respective airports designated by the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- A daily training allowance of Thirty Singapore Dollars (SGD30) from first day to last day of the workshop to cover meals and daily expenses. (Complimentary breakfast is provided in the hotel from the first day to one day after the workshop.) Lunch will be provided during the days when lessons are conducted. A proportionate reduction in the daily training allowance will be made if you are unable to attend the full duration of the workshop. You may wish to bring with you additional funds to cover your expenses in Singapore
- Medical insurance for participants to cover accident and hospitalisation during their stay in Singapore in accordance with the policy of a local insurance company and
- Accommodation for the entire duration of the workshop

Note:

- (i) Participants are to bear their personal miscellaneous expenses that might be incurred prior to receiving the allowance
- (ii) Any expenses for out-patient medical/ dental treatment should be borne by the participants themselves

Regulations

Participants are required to comply with the following:

- (a) To strictly observe workshop schedules and not to change training subjects
- (b) Not to bring any member of their family or personal aide for the duration of the workshop
- (c) To carry out such instructions and abide by conditions as may be stipulated by the nominating Government or the Government of Singapore, in respect of the workshop
- (d) To refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain while in Singapore
- (e) To return to their respective home countries/economies upon completion of the workshop, and

- (f) To discontinue the workshop, in the event they fall seriously ill and are considered unable to continue the training or have committed an improper act

Application Procedure

(Closing date for nomination: **20 January 2012**)

The Government of Singapore and the WTO are pleased to invite the respective National Focal Points for Technical Assistance to nominate **one (1)** suitable candidate.

All nominations are to be carried out by the respective Government Institutions, using the official Application Form.

The application forms are to be submitted and should reach the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore** through the National Focal Point and the Singapore Embassy in the nominating country/economy not later than **20 January 2012**.

Please address the forms to:

**The Director
Technical Cooperation Directorate
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore
Tanglin
Singapore 248163**

**Attn: Ms Gweneal Lee
Tel: (65) 6379 8475
Fax: (65) 6479 3357
E-mail: gweneal_lee@mfa.gov.sg**

(In light of complex arrangements involved in the organisation of these activities, we need to stress that beyond this deadline, both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the WTO would not be in a position to process the names of new applicants.)

- To expedite the process, a copy of the completed application form can be faxed to the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore** at Fax (65) 6479 3357. The original application forms can be mailed through diplomatic or normal channels.
- All application forms should be completed in full and must bear the endorsement of the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Focal Point responsible for technical assistance.
- Incomplete application forms or forms which are not endorsed will not be accepted.

SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME
SINGAPORE – WTO THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME
GENERAL INFORMATION BROCHURE

- Applicants should refrain from making telephone, fax and email inquiries on the status of their applications.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore in consultation with WTO will inform all applicants of the outcome of their applications. Their National Focal Point will also be informed directly or through our diplomatic representations in the nominating country/economy.

Information on Singapore

For more information about Singapore, you may wish to visit the Singapore Tourism Board website at <http://www.visitsingapore.com>