




WTO OMC

GPA SYMPOSIUM | PROGRAMME

The Revised WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA): an Emerging Pillar of Twenty-first Century Trade and Development

Centre William Rappard (WTO Headquarters)
Geneva, Switzerland – 17 & 18 September 2015





This Symposium has been organised by the WTO Secretariat for the benefit of WTO Members and Observers and other interested persons/organisations, and is for educational and capacity building purposes only. All views expressed are the personal responsibility of the individual speakers, and are strictly without prejudice to the views, interests or positions of WTO Members and Observers.

PROGRAMME | Day 1

Thursday, 17 September 2015, Morning

08.30 Registration and security procedures

09.00 Official Opening of the Symposium

SESSION 1: The revised GPA: significance for development and global trade in the 21st century

Chair Mr John Newham, Chairman, WTO Committee on Government Procurement

09.10 Chairman's introductory remarks

Time	Subject	Speakers
09.20 – 09.40	1.1 Good governance and economic development: the GPA as an enabling instrument	Mr Nicholas Niggli Head of the Economic, Finance, Science and Innovation Section of the Swiss Embassy, UK
09.40 – 10.00	1.2 Buttressing the case for international public procurement: the role of data-driven policy making	Mr Lucian Cernat Chief Economist, DG Trade European Commission
10.00 – 10.20	1.3 The GPA and Africa: possibilities and opportunities ahead	Mr Kodjo Osei-Lah WTO Secretariat
10.20 – 10.30	1.4 General discussion	
10.45 – 11.00		
10.30 – 10.45	Keynote Address: Mr Roberto Azevêdo, Director General, WTO	
11.00 – 11.20	Break	

SESSION 2: Policy coherence in the area of government procurement: the revised GPA and other international instruments and initiatives

Chair Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

11.20 Chairman's introductory remarks

Time	Subject	Speakers
11.30 – 11.50	2.1 A new Procurement Framework: complementarities and synergies with the GPA, pushing the boundaries of WB procurement	Mr Diomedes Berroa Lead Procurement Specialist World Bank
11.50 – 12.10	2.2 Legal transition and good governance in the public procurement sector: relevance of the GPA to EBRD's work	Mr Jan Jackholt Director of Procurement EBRD
12.10 – 12.30	2.3 The upcoming policy of the African Development Bank: measures for development of local industry and relevance of good governance and GPA principles	Ms Valérie Robert Principal Procurement Specialist African Development Bank
12.30 – 12.50	2.4 The revised UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement: synergies and complementarities with the revised GPA	Ms Caroline Nicholas Senior Legal Officer UNCITRAL
12.50 – 13.15	2.5 General discussion	

13.15 – 14.30 Lunch break

SESSION 3: Ensuring the continuing relevance of the GPA: the New Work Programmes of the GPA Committee and related policy considerations

Chair Mr Antony Taubman, Director, Intellectual Property Division, WTO Secretariat

14.30 Chairman's introductory remarks

Time	Subject	Speakers
14.40 – 15.10	3.1 Future relevance and evolution of the GPA in light of global trends and developments	Professor Sue Arrowsmith Achilles Professor of Public Procurement Law and Policy The University of Nottingham
15.10 – 15.30	3.2 Sustainability in government procurement: possible approaches	Judge Marc Steiner Swiss Federal Administrative Court
15.30 – 15.50	3.3 The OECD Recommendation on Public Procurement: complementarities and synergies with GPA participation.	Mr János Bertok Head of Division, Public Sector Integrity, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD Secretariat
15.50 – 16.10	3.4 Encouraging the participation of SMEs in the government procurement sector: insights from international experience	Professor Daniel Gordon Senior Advisor, Government Procurement Law Program George Washington University
16.10 – 16.30	3.5 General discussion	

16.30 – 16.50 Break

SESSION 4: Broadening the reach of GPA principles: regional developments and perspectives

Chair Ms Jean Heilman Grier, Djaghe LLC

16.50 Chairman's introductory remarks

Time	Subject	Speakers
17.00 – 17.20	4.1 Latin America and the GPA: why the hesitation?	Mr Ronald Saborio Soto Consultant and Former Ambassador, Costa Rica
17.20 – 17.40	4.2 China's accession to the GPA: benefits for China and the global economy	Dr Ping Wang The University Nottingham
17.40 – 18.00	4.3 Expanding international procurement markets via the GPA renegotiation and regional trade agreements: realising the synergies between the GPA and RTAs	Dr Kamala Dawar Sussex University
18.00 – 18.15	4.4 General discussion	

SESSION 5: Concluding session

Chair Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

Time	Subject	Speakers
18.15 – 18.30	5.1 Rapporteur's reflections	Professor Daniel Gordon George Washington University
	5.2 Closing remarks	Mr Antony Taubman Director, Intellectual Property Division, WTO Secretariat

PROGRAMME | Day 2
Friday, 18 September 2015, Morning

08.30 Registration

09:00 Welcoming remarks: Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

SESSION 6: Significance of government procurement for trade, development and economic performance and relevance of the GPA

Time	Subject	Speakers
09.10 – 09.30	6.1 Developmental and trade significance of government procurement: competition, governance, value for money and the international dimension	Professor Daniel Gordon George Washington University
09.30 – 09.50	6.2 The GPA in a changing global context: core disciplines, entry into force of the revised Agreement and policy considerations for developing countries	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
09.50 – 10.10	6.3 General discussion	

SESSION 7A: The GPA as an instrument of governance: transparency, procedural rules and institutional provisions

Time	Subject	Speakers
10.10 – 10.30	7.1 The revised text of the GPA: key revisions, new elements and flexibilities for Parties and acceding members	Ms Anna Caroline Müller WTO Secretariat
10.30 – 10.50	7.2 GPA institutional provisions: domestic review procedures and WTO dispute settlement	Professor Daniel Gordon George Washington University
10.50 – 11.05	7.3 General discussion	
11.05 – 11.20	Break	

SESSION 7B: The GPA as a market access instrument: potential market access benefits, scope and coverage and new online market access information resource tool

Time	Subject	Speaker
11.20 – 11.40	7.4 The revised GPA: potential market access benefits for acceding members	Ms Jean Heilman Grier Principal Trade Consultant Djaghe LLC
11.40 – 12.00	7.5 The e-GPA online market access information resource tool ¹ : a practical demonstration	Mr Philippe Pelletier WTO Secretariat
12.00 – 12.15	7.6 General discussion	

¹ The e-GPA portal is accessible from here:
https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/gproc_e/gpa_database_e.htm.

SESSION 7C: Accession to the GPA: procedures and modalities, and benefits and challenges, including transitional measures for developing countries

Time	Subject	Speaker
12.15 – 12.35	7.7 Accession to the GPA: current state of play, process and procedures, and benefits and challenges including transitional measures for developing countries	Mr Jianning Chen WTO Secretariat
12.35 – 13.00	7.8 Accession to the GPA: the case of Armenia	Mr Karen Brutyan EBRD GPA TC Facility
13.00 – 13.15	7.9 General discussion	

13.15 – 14.30 Lunch break

SESSION 8: Government procurement in a post-2015 sustainable development era: policy and strategic considerations for developing and transition economies

SESSION 8A: Regional colloquia and mini-workshops (4 separate regional groups)

- Africa, Arab and Middle East Region
- Asia-Pacific Region
- Central & Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus (CEECAC) Region
- Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Africa, Arab and Middle East Region

Time	Subject	Speaker
14.30 – 16.00	8.1a Infrastructure and public services provision as a key requirement for trade and development: importance of sound procurement policy and related international disciplines – breakout session	Participants
	8.2a General discussion	

PROGRAMME | Day 2
Friday, 18 September 2015, Afternoon

Asia-Pacific Region

Time	Subject	Speaker
14.30 – 16.00	8.1b Expanding trade in government procurement markets: developments on regional trade agreements in the Asia-Pacific region and insights and possible lessons from the GPA model – breakout session	Participants
	8.2b General discussion	

CEECAC Region

Time	Subject	Speaker
14.30 – 16.00	8.1c Accession to the GPA: potential market access benefits, and relevance and significance for good governance and economic reforms for transition economies – breakout session	Participants
	8.2c General discussion	

Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Time	Subject	Speaker
14.30 – 16.00	8.1d Regional integration and domestic reforms: activities and initiatives from the region, and potential role and relevance of international disciplines – breakout session	Participants
	8.2d General discussion	

16.00 – 16.15 Coffee Break

SESSION 8B: Report from mini-workshop sessions

Time	Subject	Speaker
16.15 – 16.45	8.3 Reports from mini-workshops and regional colloquia <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Africa, Arab and Middle East Region- Asia-Pacific Region- CEECAC Region- Latin America and the Caribbean Region	Participants
	8.4 General discussion	

SESSION 9: Government procurement disciplines in a post-2015 sustainable development era: policy messages and role and relevance of the GPA

Chair Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

Time	Subject	Speaker
16.45 – 17.45	9.1 The GPA as an emerging pillar of 21 st century trade and development: policy messages and considerations for transition and developing economies – Roundtable discussion	Panel TBA
17.45 – 18.00	9.2 General discussion	

SESSION 10: Concluding session

Time	Subject	Speakers
18.00 – 18.15	10.1 Rapporteur's reflections	Professor Daniel Gordon George Washington University
	10.2 Closing remarks	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat



For more information and registration,
please visit the WTO website:
<https://www.wto.org/gpa>