



WTO/EBRD/UNDP REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIAN AND THE CAUCASUS COUNTRIES

CHISINAU, THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

23-25 OCTOBER 2018

PROGRAMME (DRAFT)¹

This Regional Workshop is organized by the WTO Secretariat in co-operation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the United Nations Development Programme (the UNDP), for the benefit of participants from Central and Eastern Europe, Western Balkans, Central Asia and the Caucasus (CEEAC) countries.

The theme of the Regional Workshop is "Government procurement, international trade disciplines and open data: impact on inclusive economic growth, regional developments, and policy considerations for transition and emerging economies".

The purpose of the Regional Workshop is to provide a forum for both trade and procurement policy makers and experts to exchange information on national, bilateral, regional and multilateral trade-related activities and initiatives in the area of government procurement. The broad objectives of the programme are: (i) to familiarize participants with WTO, UNDP and EBRD technical cooperation activities related to government procurement, notably as they relate to trade, governance and economic performance; (ii) to elaborate on the benefits and challenges associated with accession to and implementation of the Agreement and the procedures and modalities to be followed, in addition to related policy issues; and (iii) to discuss recent developments regarding e-procurement.

The Regional Workshop will be held in English. Interpretation into Russian and Romanian will be provided courtesy of the EBRD GPA Technical Cooperation Facility.

The programme will follow an interactive approach emphasizing embedded policy discussion sessions on topical issues, networking, and the exchange of information and sharing of experiences, in addition to lectures and presentations.

It is anticipated that participants from the following countries will be attending the Workshop: Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Moldova (Host), Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.

To encourage the sharing and exchange of information and experiences on national and regional disciplines, participants are encouraged to come prepared, where possible, with relevant material to contribute to the workshop.

¹ Version 1.13 – 06/11/2018 12:45.

Day 1 – Tuesday, 23 October 2018

Venue: Castel MIMI

09:30 Registration of delegates

Official Opening Ceremony of the Regional Workshop

Moderator: Ms Corina Cojocaru, Country Delegate, Charge d'affairs i.e. of the Republic of Moldova to the WTO

<u>Time</u>	<u>Opening Ceremony</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
10:00 - 10:30	Opening Remarks	Mr Pavel Filip, Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova (TBC) Mr Octavian Armaşu, Minister of Finance, Republic of Moldova Mr Alan Wolff, Deputy Director General WTO Mr Richard Gargrave, Associate Director, PPD, EBRD
10:30 – 10:55	Introduction to the programme	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat Ms Corina Cojocaru, Moldovan Country delegate to the WTO, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to Geneva

SESSION 1: The significance of government procurement for trade, development and economic reform

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
10:55 – 11:10	1.1. Government procurement in the Republic of Moldova: policy goals, legal and institutional framework in light of participation in the GPA	Mr Octavian Armaşu, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Moldova
11:10 – 11:25	1.2. The revised GPA: global context, trade dimension and policy considerations for developing and transition economies	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat
11:25 – 11:40	1.3. The GPA and the European Union policies on public procurement	Ms Marzena Rogalska, Director Directorate General Internal Market, Industry Entrepreneurship and SMEs Single Market for Public Administrations, European Commission
11:40 – 11:45	The Moderator will announce the Press Conference and Conference Photo	

11:45 Conference Photo

11:50 Press Conference

11:50 – 12:15 Coffee Break for participants

12:15 – 13:00	Interactive session with the country delegates, moderated by Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat. Every participant will introduce him/herself, be able to address any questions.
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13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

SESSION 2: Good governance in government procurement markets: the role of the GPA and Open Data

Moderator: Mrs Dorina Harcenco, EBRD GPA TC Facility

Time	Subject	Speakers
14:00 – 14:25	2.1 The GPA, trade liberalization and corruption control: some insights	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat
14:25 – 14:50	2.2 The Open Contracting Data Standard and its use in monitoring procurement outcomes	Mr Karolis Granickas, Open Contracting Partnership
14:50 – 15:15	2.3 How to benefit from Big Data: the role of data transparency in fighting corruption	Mr Jakub Krafka, DIGIWIST/Datlab Czech Republic
15:15 – 15:45	2.4 General discussion/key takeaways	

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee break

SESSION 3: Sustainability and inclusiveness in government procurement markets: the role of the GPA and e-procurement tools

Moderator: Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

Time	Subject	Speakers
16:00 – 16:25	3.1 SMEs, gender balance and sustainability in government procurement: the GPA Committee's work and role of the GPA	Ms Nadezhda Sporysheva, WTO Secretariat
16:25 – 16:55	3.2 Integrating SMEs in government procurement: trends and methods	Ms Eliza Niewiadomska, Senior Counsel, LTP, EBRD
16:55 – 17:15	3.3 General discussion/key takeaways	
17:30	3.4 Closing of the session	

17:30 – 20:00 Social programme and dinner hosted by the EBRD Resident Office in Chisinau

Day 2 – Wednesday, 24 October 2018

Venue: Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Room Europa

09:00 – 09:30 Welcome by Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, [TBC]

SESSION 4: The revised GPA: institutional provisions and implementation challenges

Moderator: Mrs Viorica Pricop, State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance

Time	Subject	Speakers
09:30 – 9:55	4.1 GPA domestic review procedures: purpose, institutional design and relevant provisions	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat
9:55 – 10:20	4.2 <i>Country example:</i> Domestic review procedures: insights and lessons from the Republic of Moldova	Mr Viorel Mosneaga, Director General of National Agency for Solving Complaints of Moldova
10:20 – 10:45	4.3 <i>Country example:</i> Domestic review procedures: insights and lessons from Georgia	Mr Erekle Kadagidze, State Procurement Agency of Georgia
10:45 – 11:15	4.4 General discussion/key takeaways	

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break

SESSION 5: Government procurement and the international trading system: market access commitments under the GPA and regional approaches

Moderator: Mrs Viorica Pricop, State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance

Time	Subject	Speakers
11:30 – 11:50	5.1 Market access opportunities under the revised GPA and scope and coverage of the Agreement. Use of the e-GPA tool as a market access information resource (https://e-gpa.wto.org)	Ms Nadezhda Sporysheva, WTO Secretariat
11:50 – 12:10	5.2 The Government procurement and competition policy interface: experience of the Republic of Moldova	Ms Viorica Carare, President of the Competition Council of the Republic of Moldova (TBC)
12:10 – 12:30	5.3 <i>Country example:</i> Experience of Armenia: coverage of SOEs under the GPA and the Eurasian Economic Union Treaty	Mr Heghine Jaghinyan, the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia
12:30 – 13:00	5.4 General discussion/key takeaways	

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

SESSION 6: e-Procurement reforms and market liberalisation: recent country and international experiences and relevance of the open contracting standard

Moderator: Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

Time	Subject	Speakers
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14:00 – 14:20	6.1	Role of the revised GPA in promoting e-procurement and statistical reporting requirements under the GPA	Ms Nadezhda Sporysheva, WTO Secretariat
14:20 – 14:40	6.2	<i>Country example:</i> The MTender project in the Republic of Moldova	Mr Iuri Cicibaba, Adviser to the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Moldova
14:40 – 15:00	6.3	<i>Country example:</i> Benefits of the OCDS in Prozorro - the electronic public procurement system in Ukraine	Mrs Natalia Shymko, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Ukraine
15:00 – 15:15	6.4	General discussion/key takeaways	

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee Break

SESSION 7: Government procurement and regional integration: the role in promoting procurement standards

Moderator: Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

Time	Subject	Speakers
15:30 – 15:50	7.1 The GPA and RTAs: trends and basic principles	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat
15:50 – 16:20	7.2 The experience of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: GPA accession and prospective membership in the European Union – synergies and challenges	Mr Suad Zejnulovikj, Advisor, Public Procurement Bureau of the FYR of Macedonia
16:20 – 16:50	7.3 Ensuring compliance with the GPA and relevant regional agreements: the case of the Eurasian Economic Union Treaty	Ms Astghik Solomonyan, EBRD GPA TC Facility
16:50 – 17:10	7.5 General discussion/key takeaways	

18:00 Social programme and dinner hosted by the Government of the Republic of Moldova

Day 3 - Thursday, 25 October 2018

Venue: Congress Business Hall, Bristol Hotel

Moderator: Anna Caroline Müller, WTO Secretariat

9:00 – 9:30	Opening remarks	Mr Octavian Armaşu, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Moldova (TBC) Mr Alain Piloux, Vice President, Banking, EBRD Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
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SESSION 8: Accession to the GPA: pros and cons, procedures, transitional measures, and strategic considerations for acceding members

Moderator: Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
09:30 – 9:55	8.1 Accession to the GPA: recent trends, potential benefits and costs, and procedures	Mr Robert Anderson WTO Secretariat
9:55 – 10:20	8.2 The GPA transitional measures: strategic and practical considerations	Ms Anna Caroline Müller WTO Secretariat
10:20 – 10:35	8.3 General discussion/key takeaways	

10:35 – 10:55 Coffee Break

SESSION 9: The revised GPA: core disciplines, procedural rules and synergies with international instruments

Moderator: Ms Eliza Niewiadomska, EBRD

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
10:55 – 11:25	9.1 The WTO GPA, the EU Directives and the UNCITRAL Model Law: scope and synergies	Mrs Dorina Harcenco, Mr Andrei Rogac, EBRD GPA TC Facility
11:25 – 11:55	9.2 Driving domestic reforms based on best international practice: WTO Accession, procurement reform and potential GPA membership	Mr Pavel Zhukovsky, Head of Public Procurement Department at the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade of the Republic of Belarus
11:55 – 12:20	General discussion/key takeaways	

SESSION 10: Concluding session

Moderator: Ms Anna Caroline Müller, WTO Secretariat

<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
12:20 – 12:40	10.1 Individual review, evaluation and personal reflection	Participants
12:40 – 12:50	10.2 Concluding plenary: participants' feedback and comments	Participants
12:50 – 13:30	10.3 Closing remarks	Mr Robert Anderson, WTO Secretariat

13:30 – 16:00 Social programme and lunch hosted by the EBRD Resident Office in Chisinau