**Annexure-II-B**

**INDIVIDUAL COURSE DETAILS**

**Specialised Training Programme for Asian Countries on Select issues for forthcoming WTO Ministerial Conference**

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| A. **Name of the Institute** | Centre for WTO Studies |
| B. **Name/Title of the Course** | **Specialised Training Programme for Asian Countries on Select issues for forthcoming WTO Ministerial Conference** |
| C. **Course Dates with Duration in Weeks**  ***[note****: dates may be fixed keeping in mind festivals, holidays, weather conditions, availability of accommodations, etc. No request for change in dates, once approved/ circulated will be entertained]* | **From 13 to 17 September 2021**  Duration: One week |
| D. **Eligibility Criteria for Participants**  1. Educational Qualifications  2. Work Experience required, if any  3. Age Limit  *[****note****: ITEC norms is 25-45 years]*  4. Target Group *[Level of participants and target ministries/departments etc. may be indicated]* | Minimum Educational Qualification should be Graduation. The course is aimed for middle/senior government officials working in the Trade or Commerce Ministries in developing and least developed Asian countries with a specific interest and knowledge in the identified areas of WTO negotiations. |
| E. **Aims & Objectives of the Course** | The main objective of the course is to enhance the understanding of the participants on the issues that will be coming up for the 12th Ministerial meeting of the WTO to be held in November-December 2021. It is imperative for policy makers and negotiators to have a comprehensive understanding of these issues so as to protect their national interests in the decisions to be taken in the Ministerial meeting. |
| F. **Course Contents / Syllabus** *[please attach course details / profile in Word Format for uploading on ITEC website]* | As per Annexure II-B.1 |
| G. **Mode of evaluation of performance of the participants** | Based on online participation. This is a certificate course |

**Annex II-B.1**

**Specialised Training Programme for Asian Countries on Select issues for forthcoming WTO Ministerial Conference**

**From 13 September to 17 September 2021**

**Background and Rationale for Training**

The establishment of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has created a complex, rules-based system wherein developing and least developed countries are faced with a number of opportunities and challenges. It becomes imperative for policy makers and negotiators to have a comprehensive understanding of these issues. The 12th Ministerial Conference of the WTO will be held from 30 November to 3 December 2021. Issues of significant importance for developing countries and LDCs from Asian region will be discussed in the Ministerial conference with possibility of final outcome of negotiations. These include WTO negotiations on Fisheries Subsidies, Public stockholding for food security purposes in the Agreement on Agriculture, Waiver of IPR (TRIPS Waiver) for ensuring availability of Covid medicines to public at large in poor countries. Other significant issues likely to come up for decision making include E-commerce, Trade and Gender issues, Investment Facilitation, Trade in Services, WTO Reforms, Dispute Settlement in the WTO. The training will focus to deepen the understanding of participants to build their capacity for prepared and coherent approaches to commitments in the above areas, towards effective participation in the multilateral trading system and reaping its benefits.

Among the disciplines being created and administered by the WTO, it is important to have in-depth and specialized knowledge of the nature of commitments being undertaken and implications of these commitments. It is important to take up these issues for an intensive study, so the trade negotiators from developing countries can take negotiating positions that are consistent with their development needs and domestic imperatives, without getting swayed by unverified claims of huge gains for them that may be projected by various international organisations. Further, developing countries need to intensely study the pros and cons of initiating negotiations on the new issues, and whether the outcome of negotiations can provide mutual gains to WTO members. All these issues will be studied in depth from the perspective of developing countries.

**Course Structure and Duration**

Given the rationale for the training and the current situation of Covid pandemic, the Centre is constrained to conduct this training programme virtually. The Centre has developed a capacity building programme towards enhancing the understanding of specific issues that are relevant for policy makers and negotiators to deepen their understanding with specific emphasis on special provisions for developing and least developed countries.

The training will be imparted through online sessions by the faculty from the Centre for WTO Studies and lectures by experts from other organisations and experienced trade negotiators. The tentative programme agenda and schedule for the training is provided at Section II-B.2 of the Annex.

The duration of the training programme will be five working days.

**Eligibility for Participation**

The course is aimed for middle/senior government officials working in the Trade or Commerce Ministries in developing and least developed Asian countries with a specific interest and knowledge in the identified areas of WTO negotiations.

**Faculty and Pedagogy**

Experts and Resource Persons specialising in the identified components of the trade discourse would conduct the classroom sessions. These include faculty of the Centre for WTO Studies and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, senior officials of the Department of Commerce, Government of India, as well as experts from other organisations having experience of multilateral negotiations.

The pedagogy for the programme will include lectures, discussions and panel presentations as well as case studies and group work to provide participants with opportunities to develop their skills.

**Medium of Instruction**

The medium of instruction will be English and no translation will be available.

**Organisation of Training Programme**

It is proposed that the Centre organise the training programme in collaboration with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

**Annex II-B.2**

**Tentative Programme**

**Specialised Training Programme for Asian Countries on Select issues for the Forthcoming WTO Ministerial Conference**

**Proposed dates from 13 to 17 September 2021**

(through virtual mode)

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| **Day 1,** **Classroom** | | |
| 1130 - 1200 hrs | *Inaugural Session*  Welcome Address  Inaugural Address  Vote of Thanks | Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) |
| 1200-1300 hrs | *Session 1*  WTO: Introduction to WTO, Ministerial Meeting | Prof. Abhijit Das, Head CWS |
| 1300-1400 hrs | *Session 2*  Fisheries Subsidies Negotiations | Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor CWS |
| 1400-1415 hrs | *Break* |  |
| 1415-1515 hrs | *Session 3*  Agriculture Issues: PSH, SSM | Dr. Sachin Kumar Sharma, Associate Professor CWS |
| **Day 2, Classroom** | | |
| 1200-1300 hrs | *Session 4*  TRIPS Waiver | Ms. Chandni Raina |
| 1300-1400 hrs | *Session 5*  Trade and Health Initiative | Dr. Murali Kallummal,  Professor CWS |
| 1400-1415 hrs | *Break* |  |
| 1415-1515 hrs | *Session 6*  Industrial Subsidies; NME | Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor CWS |
| **Day 3, Classroom** | | |
| 1200-1300 hrs | *Session 7*  Environment and Labour (1) | Shailja Singh, Associate Professor, CWS |
| 1300-1400 hrs | *Session 8*  Environment and Labour (2) | Shailja Singh, Associate Professor, CWS |
| 1400-1415 hrs | *Break* |  |
| 1415-1515 hrs | *Session 9*  Investment Facilitation | Shailja Singh, Associate Professor, CWS |
| **Day 4, Classroom** | | |
| 1200-1300 hrs | *Session 10*  Trade and Gender; Trade and MSME | Dr. Murali Kallummal,  Professor CWS |
| 1300-1400 hrs | *Session 11*  Services-related Initiatives | Dr. Pralok Gupta,  Associate Professor, CWS |
| 1400-1415 hrs | *Break* |  |
| 1415-1515 hrs | *Session 12*  Issues related to Dispute Settlement Understanding | Shailja Singh, Associate Professor, CWS |
| **Day 5,** **Classroom** | | |
| 1200-1300 hrs | *Session 13*  WTO Reform | Abhijit Das, Head CWS |
| 1300-1400 hrs | E-Commerce | Abhijit Das, Head CWS |
| 1400-1415 hrs | *Break* |  |
| 1415-1515 hrs | Valediction and Closing Session |  |