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**The Multilateral Trading System and Bilateral Trade Relationships: A Review of the Current Situation and Forward-Looking Perspectives**

Park Inn Hotel Baku (1 Azadliq Ave, Baku 1001), 30 June 2022

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| **Registration**  08:45 – 09:30 | Participant’s registration process / Welcome coffee |
| **Event Opening**  09:30 – 10:00 | Ms. Gulchin Alasgarova, Deputy Director, Trade Policy and WTO Department, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan  EU Delegation, [TBC]  Mr. Marius Bordalba, Team leader, EU-funded “Strengthening capacity of the Government of Azerbaijan in the WTO Accession negotiations and other trade related activities” project |
| **Presentations** |  |
| 10:00 – 11:15 | **Session 1: The multilateral trading system: Current situation and forward-looking perspectives**  The speaker will present recent events and discuss how they affect the multilateral trading system and key regional and bilateral trade arrangements. Particular attention will be paid to the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in June 12-15, 2022 and possible future developments. The session will conclude with questions and answers.  Dr. Arthur Appleton, short-term expert on international trade |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Coffee-break |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | **Session 2: WTO accession process: The situation of the accession negotiations of Azerbaijan**  This session will first explain the WTO accession process in general. Subsequently, the speaker will explain the situation of the negotiations for the accession of Azerbaijan to the WTO. The session will conclude with questions and answers.  Mr. Khusrav Rasulov, Legal/Economic Affairs Officer, Accessions Division, WTO Secretariat |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch-break |

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| 11:00 – 13:00 | Meeting and consultations with the Ministry of Economy (155 Haydar Aliyev ave., Baku)  *Ms. Gulchin Alasgarova, Deputy head of Trade policy and WTO department*  *Mr. Bahruz Bakhshaliyev, Head of division on WTO issues* |
| 15:00 – 16:00 | Meeting and consultations with Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Shikhali Gurbanov str. 50, Baku)  *Mr. Shovgi Mehdizadeh, Deputy head of Economic relations office* |