**TBT Transparency Champions**

**A PILOT capacity building programme of**

**the World Trade OrganiZation**

draft PROGRAMME

**Introduction**

The TBT Transparency Champions Programme, organized jointly by the Trade and Environment Division and the Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (ITTC), aims to further the implementation and benefits of the TBT transparency framework. It will take place in two stages:

1. Geneva workshop (10 to 14 October 2022) - followed by ad-hoc virtual support sessions organized by the TBT Section.
2. Regional workshop (March 2023) - to take stock of results, mainly of action plans, and discuss the next steps

This Pilot programme will be organized for African countries and conducted in English, targeting government officials involved in the implementation of transparency provisions under the TBT Agreement. It will provide them with a comprehensive knowledge and skills base on:

1. **Transparency provisions**. The programme will support beneficiaries in connecting the dots between transparency provisions, TBT Enquiry Point functions and the work of the TBT Committee;
2. **Digital tools**. The programme will put emphasis on the use of digital tools, in particular ePing, for the management of TBT information and communication with domestic stakeholders and international counterparts;
3. **Effective Coordination**. The programme will help participants map the institutional landscape and improve their communication with stakeholders involved in transparency, aiming to enhance coordination domestically and with trading partners. It will also explore synergies with the AfCFTA, which builds on the transparency procedures and practices of the WTO TBT Agreement; and
4. **Network of Transparency Champions:** The programme will aim to identify transparency champions, who will promote good practices at national, regional and international levels, including through contributions to future training events and Committee work.

Participants will be required to complete a baseline survey to identify needs and work towards the development and implementation of an action plan, with the support of mentors. By the end of the programme, they will have strengthened their ability to:

1. apply and benefit from the transparency framework, including managing notification flows and comments and contributing to TBT Committee work;
2. coordinate better with domestic stakeholders and trading partners and explore opportunities for synergies in the region; and
3. promote good practices and share experiences as transparency champions at national, regional and international levels.

For further information, please contact Angelica Grisuk (angelica.grisuk@wto.org) from the Trade and Environment Division.

| **PART 1. GENEVA WORKSHOP – 10-14 OCTOBER 2022** |
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|  | *Monday – 10 October* | *Tuesday – 11 October* | *Wednesday – 12 October* | *Thursday – 13 October* | *Friday – 14 October* |
| **Morning***9.00-12.30* | **Opening session***(Introduction to course/group/speakers/mentors)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Regulations and trade: what role for the WTO and you?** | **How to apply and benefit from the TBT transparency framework***(Transparency provisions, Role of enquiry points, presentations on ePing and case studies)* | **Deep dive on preparing a notification***(How to improve and add value to content and timing)* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****The role of the TBT Committee***(Trade concerns, transparency working group, Triennial reviews, etc.)* | **Action plan prep. session***(In groups)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Mapping institutional landscape and stakeholders** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****How to coordinate effectively domestically and with trading partners, and identify synergies in the region** | **Symposium on alleviating regulatory bottlenecks in global supply chains**  |
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| *Lunch* | *Lunch* | *Lunch* | *Lunch* | *Lunch* |
| **Afternoon***14.00-17.00* | **Survey results: setting the scene** *(Presentation of baseline survey results, discussions of gaps, challenges, and needs)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Action plan initiation***(Plenary followed by group work)* | **Communicate effectively with all stakeholders***(Training on comms skills)* | **Take leadership for change***(Training on leadership and change management skills)* | **Linkages with other WTO Agreements and topics***(SPS, TFA, environment etc.)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Meet the TBT delegates**  | **Presentation of and feedback on action plans** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Wrap up and evaluation** |

| **PART 2. REGIONAL WORKSHOP – MARCH 2023 (MODALITY TO BE CONFIRMED)** |
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|  | *Day 1* | *Day 2* | *Day 3* |
| **Morning** | **Opening session***(Welcome back and introduction to workshop, ice breaker)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Update on latest developments in the TBT Committee and Transparency Working Group: how to engage***(In particular, focusing on how to bring your issues to the Committee's attention, prepare statements on developments in your country/region, etc.)* | **Deep dive on benefitting from transparency: how to react to and prepare comments on a notification***(Group exercise and contributions towards Committee's mandate on development of guidelines)* | **Presentation of individual action plans: challenges and achievements (continued)***(Each participant to share their experience and observations)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Key learnings from action plans and steps going forward at national and regional levels** |
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| *Lunch* | *Lunch* | *Lunch* |
| **Afternoon** | **Update on latest developments on TBT in the Africa region: how to benefit from synergies** *(Session with inputs from regional organizations and experts, including from ARSO and the AfCFTA)* | **Taking stock of progress** *(Presentation of progress survey results; comparison with baseline, remaining gaps)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Presentation of individual action plans: challenges and achievements***(Each participant to share their experience and observations)* | **Scaling up: What's next for your champions network?** **How would you design the next round of the champions programme?****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Wrap up, evaluation and closure ceremony** |
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