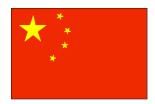


WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION Organisation Mondiale du Commerce Organización Mundial del Comercio



### **CHINA WTO ACCESSION INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME**

## **ALUMNI STORIES**

## Mariam, please tell us....

# Where are you from, and what have you studied before joining the China Programme?

I am from Mali. I have completed a Master in International Trade.

#### Why did you apply to the China Programme?

As an International Trade student, getting an experience at the World Trade Organization was my dream. I applied to the China Programme because it was more than an internship. I saw that it was specifically designed to help young professionals from developing and leastdeveloped countries to increase their understanding of the WTO. As a current intern, I can indeed confirm that my understanding of the multilateral trading system has evolved beyond what we learn in classrooms.





#### What kind of work have you been assigned to during your internship so far?

So far in my internship I have:

- o acquired substantive knowledge on WTO Agreements and an understanding on the functioning of the WTO Secretariat by completing the e-learning course on WTO accession; and, participating in meetings, conferences and courses on WTO-related issues.
- o co-authored a chapter with a colleague on the role of the private sector in trade/accession negotiations, which will be published in a forthcoming joint publication by the Cambridge University Press and the WTO.
- o supported Secretaries of Working Parties, including on the Accession of Azerbaijan.
- o assisted in the organization of the launch of the book "African Perspectives on Trade and the WTO".
- o provided assistance in the preparation of post-accession support for Liberia and Afghanistan.
- o contributed to the final proofing/testing phase of the Accessions Intelligence Portal (AIP).

#### What do you think of your work/experience at the WTO so far?

China programme interns are well integrated and involved in all areas of the Accessions Division work. As a result, my professional skills, my confidence and most importantly my knowledge of the multilateral trading system have tremendously improved. So far, my work experience at WTO has been exceptional.

#### What's next?

I want to become a trade specialist. In order to attain this goal, I must gain solid experience in the multilateral trading system. I believe that the China programme has laid the foundation.

## Thank you, Mariam!