



WORLD TRADE  
ORGANIZATION

## DISCLAIMER

The Handbook on Notification Requirements does not constitute a legal interpretation of the notification obligations under the respective Agreement(s) or relevant legal provision(s). It has been prepared by the Secretariat to assist Members in complying with their notification obligations.

# TECHNICAL COOPERATION HANDBOOK ON NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT  
PROCUREMENT 2012

REVISED 30 JUNE 2022

This section of the Handbook on Notification Requirements covers the notification obligations under the **AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT 2012 (GPA 2012)**. It consists of the following five parts:

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**For Members which acceded pursuant to Article XII of the Marrakesh Agreement, their respective Protocols of Accession may contain notification obligations in addition to those set out in the WTO Agreements, and may govern the deadlines for the submission of their initial notifications.**

## PART 1

## OVERVIEW OF NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

## INTRODUCTION

This section provides an overview of notification requirements arising from the Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA 2012). The GPA was revised on 30 April 2012 and entered into force on 6 April 2014. The GPA 2012 is composed of the text of the Agreement; Parties' market access schedules of commitments (Appendix I); and Parties' electronic and media sources of procurement information (Appendices II-IV). In addition to the Agreement and its Appendixes, the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement regarding the results of the GPA revision ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012) includes a set of relevant Decisions. It should be noted as well that a separate electronic notification platform is being implemented. Additional information on related developments will be provided in due course.

## WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?

The [Agreement on Government Procurement 2012](#) (GPA 2012) and various decisions by the Committee on Government Procurement (CGP)<sup>1</sup> set out Parties' notification obligations in detail. These include:

- Notification of any changes to procurement laws and regulations;<sup>2</sup>
- Notification of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the Agreement;<sup>3</sup>
- Notification of thresholds in national currencies;<sup>4</sup>

- Notification of modifications to schedules;<sup>5</sup> and
- Notification of media for the publication of procurement-related information.<sup>6</sup>

## WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?

All Parties to the GPA. The GPA is a plurilateral agreement, which means it is binding only on those WTO Members who are Party to it and have therefore accepted to be bound by it. For more information on the current list of Parties and observers to the Agreement, click [here](#).

## WHEN TO NOTIFY?

Notifications of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the Agreement are provided on an annual basis within two years from the end of the reporting period; and notifications of thresholds in national currencies are provided every two years. Other notifications are made on an *ad hoc* basis.

## HOW TO NOTIFY?

For additional information see [GPA Notifications webpage](#). Please also contact the WTO Secretariat for further guidance/examples of relevant notifications (email: [GPA@wto.org](mailto:GPA@wto.org)).

<sup>1</sup> See, in particular, the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), dated 27 February 1996, Annex 3); and the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012, Annex A).

<sup>2</sup> See [Article XXII:5](#) of the GPA 2012; Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A).

<sup>3</sup> See [Article XVI:4-6](#) of the GPA 2012.

<sup>4</sup> See Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), Annex 3).

<sup>5</sup> See [Article XIX](#) of the GPA 2012; Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A).

<sup>6</sup> See [Article VI:3](#) of the GPA 2012.

<sup>7</sup> All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.2](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantively handling the notification.

## PART 2

## LISTING OF THE NOTIFICATION OBLIGATIONS

	WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?		WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?	WHEN TO NOTIFY?		HOW TO NOTIFY?			
	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom <sup>8</sup>	Notification Symbol	
1.	GPA 2012 <a href="#">Article XXII:5</a> Decision on Notification. Requirements under Articles <a href="#">XIX</a> and <a href="#">XXII</a> of the Agreement ( <a href="#">GPA/113</a> , Annex A).	Notification of any changes to procurement laws and regulations.	GPA Parties	<i>Ad hoc</i>	Under certain conditions and in cases of non-substantive changes, the relevant CGP Decision provides flexibility to submit notifications on an annual basis.	No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: <a href="mailto:GPA@wto.org">GPA@wto.org</a> )).	CGP	GPA/LEGIS/* GPA/* <sup>9</sup>	
2.	GPA 2012 <a href="#">Article XVI:4-6</a> .	Notification of statistics in relation to procurements covered by the GPA 2012.	GPA Parties	Regular – Annual	The annual report shall cover one year and be submitted within two years of the end of the reporting period.	No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: <a href="mailto:GPA@wto.org">GPA@wto.org</a> )).	CGP	GPA/STAT* <sup>10</sup> GPA/* <sup>11</sup>	

<sup>8</sup> All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.2](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantively handling the notification.

<sup>9</sup> Prior to the creation of GPA/LEGIS/\* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/\* series.

<sup>10</sup> The symbol includes the last two digits of the year/reporting period (e.g. GPA/STAT(18)/\*).

<sup>11</sup> Prior to the creation of GPA/STAT\* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/\* series.

## PART 2

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	WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?		WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?	WHEN TO NOTIFY?		HOW TO NOTIFY?		
	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom <sup>8</sup>	Notification Symbol
3.	Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ( <a href="#">GPA/1</a> , Annex 3).	Notification of thresholds in national currencies.	GPA Parties	Regular – Biennial		No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: <a href="mailto:GPA@wto.org">GPA@wto.org</a> )).	CGP	GPA/THR/* GPA/W/* <sup>12</sup>
4.	GPA 2012 <a href="#">Article XIX</a> , Decision of the CGP on Notification. Requirements under Articles <a href="#">XIX</a> and <a href="#">XXII</a> of the GPA 2012 ( <a href="#">GPA/113</a> , Annex A).	Notification of modifications to market access commitments (Appendix I to the GPA 2012). <sup>13</sup>	GPA Parties	<i>Ad hoc</i>	Under certain conditions, the relevant Decision provides flexibility to submit notifications every two years.	No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: <a href="mailto:GPA@wto.org">GPA@wto.org</a> )).	CGP	GPA/MOD/* GPA/W/* <sup>14</sup>

<sup>8</sup> All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.2](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantively handling the notification.

<sup>12</sup> Prior to the creation of GPA/THR/\* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/W/\* series.

<sup>13</sup> A Party may notify the Committee on GP of an objection to a proposed rectification within 45 days from the date of the circulation to the Parties of the notification. In accordance with Article XIX:2, where a Party submits an objection, it shall set out the reasons for the objection, including the reasons why it believes the proposed rectification would affect the mutually agreed coverage under the Agreement and therefore the proposed rectification is not subject to paragraph 3. If there is no written objection, the proposed rectifications become effective 45 days after the circulation of the notification, as provided for in Article XIX:5(a). See effective modifications and rectifications that have been certified [here](#). See paragraph 5 of Annex A of Appendix 2 of the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#)).

<sup>14</sup> Prior to the creation of GPA/MOD/\* series in 2017, notifications were circulated under the GPA/W/\* series.

## PART 2

## LISTING OF THE NOTIFICATION OBLIGATIONS

	WHAT MUST BE NOTIFIED?		WHICH MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY?	WHEN TO NOTIFY?		HOW TO NOTIFY?			
	Notification requirements	Type of measure	Members notifying	Periodicity	Comments on Periodicity	Format	To whom <sup>8</sup>	Notification Symbol	
5.	GPA 2012 <a href="#">Article VI:3</a> .	Notification of modifications of information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information. <sup>15</sup>	GPA Parties	<i>Ad hoc</i>		No (For further guidance/ examples of notifications, please contact the WTO Secretariat (email: <a href="mailto:GPA@wto.org">GPA@wto.org</a> )).	CGP		

<sup>9</sup> All notifications, regardless of their subject content or the requirement under which they are being submitted, must be directed to the administrator of the Central Registry of Notifications (CRN), as indicated in document [WT/INF/25/Rev.2](#). Notifications may be submitted through online submission systems, as electronic attachments to emails, or on paper. As it may be practice, a copy of the notification may be sent to the Secretariat unit substantively handling the notification.

<sup>15</sup> Pursuant to [Article VI:2](#) of the GPA 2012, existing Parties provided information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information. Accession candidates provide relevant information at the time of their accession process.

## PART 3

## RELEVANT DOCUMENT(S) CONCERNING GUIDELINES AND FORMATS

For additional information see [GPA Notifications webpage](#). Please also contact the WTO Secretariat for further guidance/examples of relevant notifications (email: [GPA@wto.org](mailto:GPA@wto.org)).

## PART 4

## LIST OF NOTIFICATIONS SINCE 2014

The Secretariat's Systemic Compilation of Notifications under the GPA 2012 ([GPA/S/3](#)).

List of [notifications](#) of changes to procurement laws and regulations under [Article XXII:5](#) of the GPA 2012 and the Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX And XXII of the GPA 2012 ([GPA/113](#), Annex A). See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of statistics under [Article XVI:4](#) of the revised GPA. See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of thresholds in national currency under the Decision on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), Annex 3) is available in the [e-GPA](#) and in [Documents Online](#). See also [GPA Notifications webpage](#).

List of [notifications](#) of modifications to market access commitments under [Article XIX](#) of the GPA 2012 and the Decision on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX And XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), Annex A). Notifications related to the modification of schedules are restricted documents and accessible to the governments of GPA Parties and observers only before relevant modifications are certified. Relevant notifications are accessible from the [e-GPA portal](#).

List of notifications of modifications of information on the media for the publication of procurement-related information under [Article VI:3](#) with regard to modifications to [Appendix II](#); [Appendix III](#); [Appendix IV](#). The information provided by Parties is available in the [e-GPA portal](#).



## PART 5

## TEXT OF THE LEGAL PROVISIONS

The Agreement on Government Procurement 2012, including the Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Notification Requirements under Articles XIX and XXII of the Agreement ([GPA/113](#), dated 2 April 2012). See also [WTO webpage](#).

The Decision of the Committee on Government Procurement on Modalities for Notifying Threshold Figures in National Currencies ([GPA/1](#), dated 27 February 1996, Annex 3).