



GPA SYMPOSIUM

The Revised WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA): an Emerging Pillar of Twenty-first Century Trade and Development

**Centre William Rappard (WTO Headquarters)
Geneva, Switzerland – 17 & 18 September 2015**

Keynote address by:

- Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, Director-General, WTO

Speakers include:

- Professor Sue Arrowsmith, The University of Nottingham
- Mr Diomedes Berroa, World Bank
- Mr Janos Bertok, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- Mr Lucian Cernat, European Commission
- Dr Kamala Dawar, University of Sussex
- Professor Daniel Gordon, George Washington University School of Law
- Mr Jan Jackholt, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- Ms Caroline Nicholas, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
- Mr Nicholas Niggli, Swiss Embassy, UK and former Chairman of WTO Committee on Government Procurement
- Ms Valerie Robert, African Development Bank
- Mr Ronald Saborio Soto, Costa Rica
- Judge Marc Steiner, Swiss Federal Administrative Court
- Dr Ping Wang, The University of Nottingham
- WTO Secretariat speakers, including Mr Robert Anderson, Mr Kodjo Osei-Lah



PROGRAMME

Day 1 | Policy focus/WTO @20 event (09.00 – 18.30)

- Session 1: The revised GPA: significance for development and global trade in the 21st century
- Session 2: Policy coherence in the area of government procurement: the revised GPA and other international instruments and initiatives
- Session 3: Ensuring the continuing relevance of the GPA: the New Work Programmes of the GPA Committee and related policy considerations
- Session 4: Broadening the reach of GPA principles: regional developments and perspectives
- Session 5: Summary overview of the day's deliberations

Day 2 | Technical assistance training sessions for invited participants and other interested persons (09.00 – 18.15)

- Session 6: Significance of government procurement for trade, development and economic performance and relevance of the GPA
- Session 7A: The GPA as an instrument of governance: transparency, procedural rules and institutional provisions
- Session 7B: The GPA as a market access instrument: potential market access benefits, scope and coverage and new online market access information resource tool
- Session 7C: Accession to the GPA: procedures and modalities, and benefits and challenges, including transitional measures for developing countries
- Sessions 8-10: Government procurement in a post-2015 sustainable development era: policy and strategic considerations for developing and transition economies. This session will comprise:
 - a series of mini workshops and regional colloquia focusing on: infrastructure provision; trade in government procurement markets; accession to the GPA; and regional integration and domestic reforms; and
 - a roundtable discussion on related policy messages.