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# **GPA report on SMEs best practices in government procurement**

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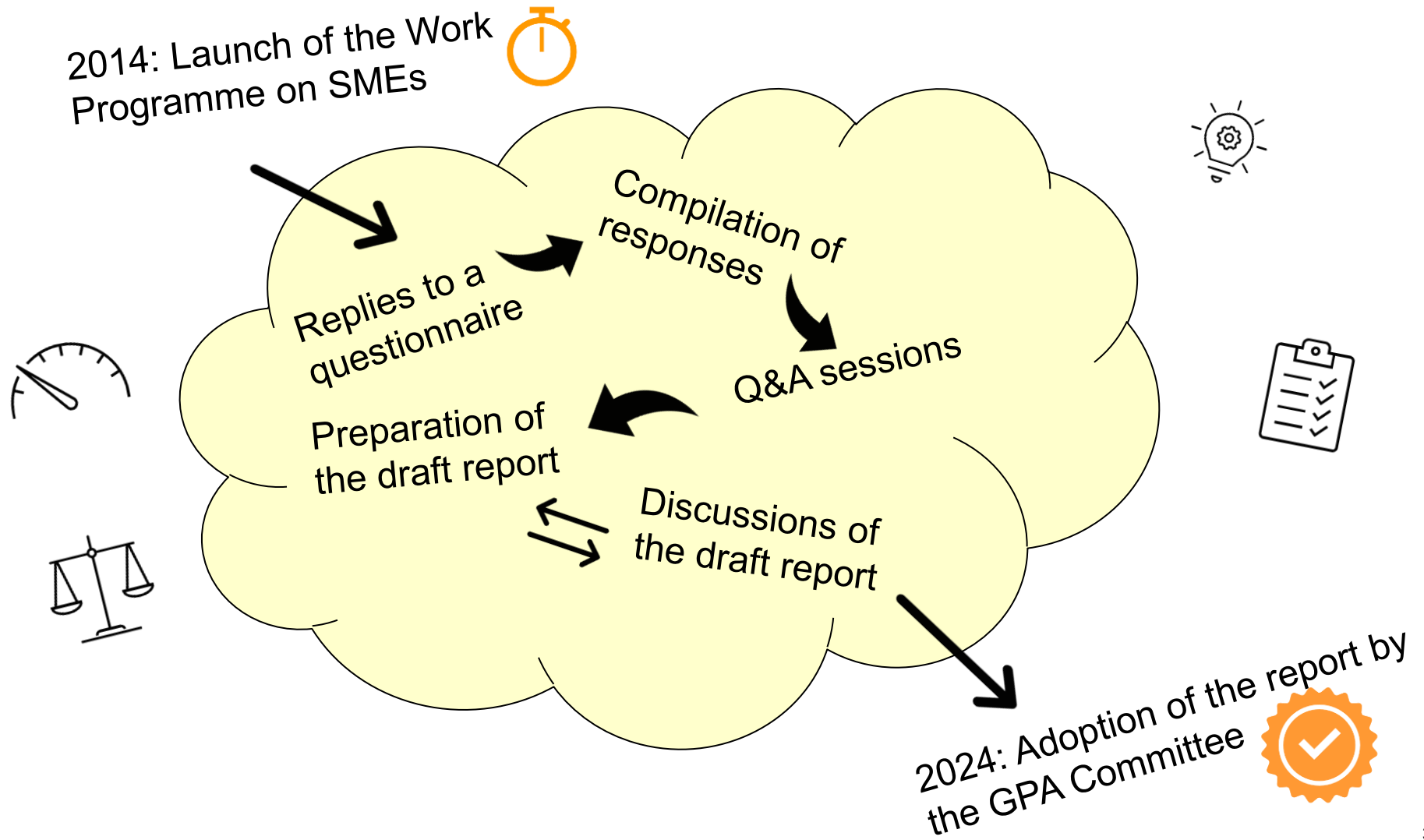
Switzerland's Delegate to the WTO GPA Committee  
SECO, Berne

# How it all began

## Revision of the 1994 WTO Government procurement agreement...finalized on 15 December 2011



# How was the report drafted and adopted



# What is the report about

## 1. Enhanced transparency

- online publication of measures, use of electronic tools, etc.

## 2. Reduction of Administrative burdens

- e-procurement to simplify and shorten processes, online supplier registration, self-declaration compliance, eliminate in-person requirements, multi-use lists

## 3. Procurement opportunities for SMEs

- structure contracts into lots, use joint-biddings and subcontracting, room for SME innovation, require prompt payment, avoid prohibitive costs

## 4. Enhancing the professionalization of procurement entities

- Guidance for contracting authorities to facilitate SME participation, point of contact for SME, debriefing, partnerships and dialogue with stakeholders, consultation on potential SMEs barriers

# Significance of the Report

- Tangible achievement to mark 10-year anniversary revised GPA
- Consolidated and comprehensive (but not exhaustive) list of best practices from all GPA Parties
- Important and useful tool to further promote and facilitate participation of SMEs in government procurement markets
- Dissemination to encourage the use of the best practices
- Some lessons learnt: cooperative spirit and resilience, although different perspectives and policies