

Seminar on Trade Policy Review Mechanism

Bangkok, 17-28 September 2012

PROGRAM

FIRST WEEK

Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

17 September 2012

9:30 – 10:00 Welcoming remarks

Mr. Somkiat Triratpan, Deputy Director-General, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Coffee Break (15 Mins)

10:15 – 12:00 Introduction to the World Trade Organization: Introduction and Overview

The multiple dimensions of WTO – historical background of WTO; objectives and some key principles; function and organizational structure of the WTO and the current status of the Doha Development Agenda

Ms. Juntra Siriuthaikorn, Chief, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:30 Introduction to the World Trade Organization: (Continued)

The Doha Development Agenda (DDA) Negotiations: Overview, current status and way forward

Ms. Juntra Siriuthaikorn, Chief, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations

18 September 2012

9:30 – 11:00 Introduction to Trade Policy Review Mechanism: Introduction and Overview

Objectives and obligations of Member states under WTO; different obligations of different status of Member States; overall picture of the TPR process; different roles of different government authorities

Mr. Rachavitch Piyapramote, Assistant Director-General, Bureau of Trade in Services and Investment, Department of Trade Negotiations

11:15 – 12:00 Overview of TPR reports

Basic concepts of a report prepared by the WTO Secretariat and a report prepared by a Member state's government; differences of two reports

Mr. Rachavitch Piyapramote, Assistant Director-General, Department of Trade Negotiations

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

- 13.30 – 15:00 TPR Reports: A report prepared by the WTO Secretariat**
 Details of a report, expected information and data in a report, WTO secretariat working procedures and timelines in preparing a secretariat report
Mr. Rachavitch Piyapramote, Assistance Director-General, Bureau of Trade in Services and Investment, Department of Trade Negotiations
- 15.15 – 16:30 TPR Reports: A report prepared by the WTO's Secretariat (continuation)**
 Suggested ways reflected on Thailand's experience in working with the WTO Secretariat to prepare the Secretariat report
Mr. Winichai Chaemchaeng, Bangkok University, Thailand

19 September 2012

- 9:30 – 12:00 A report prepared by the Member states government**
 Details of a report, expected information and data in a report; suggested ways reflected on Thailand's experience in preparing Government Report
Mr. Warasit Muangkoom, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations
- 12.00 – 14.00 Lunch**
- 14.00 – 16:30 Steps to be taken before the submission of both TPR reports**
 Checking and verifying information and data in the reports, preparing comments on WTO a report prepared by the Secretariat; submission of both Reports; translation of TPR reports into WTO official languages by the WTO
Mr. Warasit Muangkoom, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations

20 September 2012

- 9:30 – 12:00 Preparation BEFORE TPR Meeting in Geneva**
 Steps and procedures after the submission; circulation of both Reports to all WTO Member states; procedures and timelines for questions submission from WTO Member state; deadline and obligations of a reviewed Member states; suggested ways reflected on Thailand's experience in preparing answers to questions on both Reports from WTO Member states
Mr. Warasit Muangkoom, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations
- 12.00 – 14.00 Lunch**
- 14.00 – 16:30 Preparation for TPR Meeting in Geneva**
 Format and procedures of the TPR Meeting in Geneva; opening and closing statement during the TPR Meeting; Thailand's experience on reflection of questions by WTO Member states

 Steps to be taken after the TPR Meeting; to prepare answers for all outstanding questions or questions receiving in the TPR Meeting
Mr. Warasit Muangkoom, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations

Note: On 17 – 20 September, there are coffee breaks during morning and afternoon sessions, 15 Mins each

21 September 2012: Visit to Relevant Authorities

To visit and learn about TPR experience from relevant Thai authorities involving in the TPR exercise including preparation of reports, questions and answers, among others

9:30 – 12:00 Visit to Fiscal Policy Office, Ministry of Finance

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16:30 Visit to Office of Agricultural Economics, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

Resource persons:

Mr. Rachavitch Piyapramote, Assistant to Director-General, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Ms. Juntra Siriuthaikorn, Chief, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Surinthorn Sunthornsanan, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Warasit Muangkoom, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Section, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Surinthorn Sunthornsanan, Trade Officer, WTO Affairs Division, Bureau of Trade Negotiation Strategy, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Winichai Chaemchaeng, Bangkok University, Thailand

SECOND WEEK
Meeting room D, UNCC, ESCAP

Resource persons:

24 September 2012

- 09:00 – 09:30** **Welcome remarks**
Mr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP
- 09:30 – 12:00** **Introduction to evidence-based policy making**
- 14:00 – 16:00** Ms. Mia Mikic, TPS, ESCAP

25 September 2012

- 09:00 – 12:00** **Introduction to World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS)**
- 14:00 – 16:30** Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, TPS, ESCAP

26 September 2012

- 09:00 – 12:00** **Other databases relevant for analyses in trade, investment and regional integration areas**
- 14:00 – 16:30**
- **Investment**
Ms. Marit Nilses and Ms. Heini Salonen, PSDS, ESCAP
 - **Trade facilitation**
Mr. Yann Duval and Mr Salehin Khan, TFS, ESCAP
 - **RTAs**
Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka and Ms. Mia Mikic, TPS, ESCAP
 - **ITIP (Non-tariff barriers)**
Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, TPS, ESCAP

27 September 2012

- 09:00 – 12:00** **Presentations on selected relevant topics**
- **Aid for Trade**
Mr. Watcharas Leelawath, ITD
- Trends and developments in trade and investment (update)**
Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, TPS, ESCAP
- 14:30 -16:00** **TPR as a tool for needs assessment**
ITTC and TPR – WTO (video link)

28 September 2012

- 09:00 – 10:30** **Preparing information and drafting answers related to the preparation of TPR – experience from Cambodia**
Mr. Sven Callebaut, MOC, Cambodia
- 11:00 – 12:00** **Enhanced Integrated Programme**
Mr. Sven Callebaut, MOC, Cambodia
- 14:00 - 16:00** **Certificates and closing**

TID

Mr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, TID, ESCAP
Ms. Mia Mikic, TPS, ESCAP
Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, TPS, ESCAP
Ms. Marit Nilses, PSDS, ESCAP
Ms. Heini Salonen, PSDS, ESCAP
Mr. Yann Duval, TFS, ESCAP

Partners

Mr. Watcharas Leelawath, Deputy Executive Director, ITD
Mr Sven Callebaut, MOC, Cambodia
WTO