



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Direct line: (+41 22) 739 6440
Email: logistics.unit@wto.org

EMAIL

To: Heads of Delegation
WTO Members and Observers E-mail: List attached

From: Bridget Chilala Date: 22 October 2025


Director
Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation

Number of Pages (including this one): 3 Ref: VIR25-13

In-depth Course on WTO Dispute Settlement (in English)

Weeks of 1 and 8 December 2025, and 12 and 19 January 2026

Invitation to present candidates

The Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is organizing an In-depth Dispute Settlement Course in English. This course will take place **online**, during the weeks of 1 and 8 December 2025, and 12 and 19 January 2026. This course aims to provide participants with a robust understanding of WTO dispute settlement procedures, knowledge of the practical aspects of dispute settlement and the legal underpinnings of the dispute settlement system, and development of applied skills in these areas. Participants will learn from legal experts from the Secretariat, seasoned government officials, respected private legal practitioners, and academics through a series of presentations, round-table discussions, videos, exercises, and simulations.

Implemented within the WTO progressive learning framework, this online course, spread over four weeks represents the highest level of learning ("Level 3") among WTO training activities. The course is targeted at participants who possess a sound knowledge of the general features of the WTO system and its dispute settlement mechanism. The course requires a commitment of 5 hours per week in online presence as well as offline time for review and practical exercises.

WTO Members and Observers are invited to present up to two candidates to participate in this course. Only candidates who satisfy the following criteria will be considered:

- a. The course will be conducted in English. All-around proficiency in English is therefore an essential prerequisite for participation.
- b. Participants should possess a legal background or be directly involved at a technical, practical or policy level in WTO dispute settlement. Preference will be given to candidates who have already completed the "Level 2 WTO thematic dispute settlement course" or who have commensurate knowledge or professional experience.

A selection process will be conducted to fill the **thirty** (30) available spaces for government officials from Members and Observers.

Pursuant to Article 27.3 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, this course is open to all interested Members and Observers.

The WTO will communicate directly with the selected participants after the conclusion of the selection process.

How to apply:

Interested candidates need to submit the online application form, available at:

https://wto.formstack.com/forms/in_depth_course_on_wto_dispute_settlement

The online application form requires uploading scanned copies of the candidate's passport, CV and of an official nomination letter, duly signed and stamped by the competent government authority. A template for the nomination letter is attached as Annex.

Applications are to be validated by the Permanent Missions/Embassies to the WTO. Validations should be addressed by email to the WTO Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (email: logistics.unit@wto.org) **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2025.**

In light of complex arrangements involved in the organization of these activities, we need to stress that beyond this deadline, the Secretariat is not in a position to process the names of new participants. The WTO Secretariat reserves the right to postpone or cancel this activity in the event of *force majeure* or other reasons that render the execution of the activity impracticable.

***Spanish/French**

Este curso será dado en inglés, por consiguiente, la invitación y el formulario de candidatura serán distribuidos únicamente en inglés.

Ce cours étant donné en anglais, l'invitation et le formulaire de candidature sont distribués en anglais uniquement.

ANNEX: Template for Nomination Letter – In-Depth DS Course **To be completed by the National Nominating Authority**

The Government of:	
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- officially nominates:

Name of candidate:	
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- to attend the In-Depth Dispute Settlement Course;
- confirms that the candidate possesses a legal background or is directly involved at a technical, practical or policy level in WTO dispute settlement, and has full command of English, which would enable him/her to successfully and actively participate in the Course; and,
- is fully aware that this nomination is subject to the decisions of the WTO Selection Committee and to the conditions described in the Annex to this application, which we have thoroughly read and accepted.

Details of the Government Official responsible for nominating this candidate:

Family name	
First name	
Title/Position	
Ministry	
E-mail address:	
Telephone:	

By signing and stamping this form, the Candidate and the Nominating Authority certify that all information included is complete and correct.

Candidate

OFFICIAL
STAMP

Nominating Authority

Date:

Date:

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS: Friday, 7 November 2025
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This template (once completed) must be uploaded to the [online application form](#), with a copy of the passport and a CV.