

**Thirty-eighth regional course on key issues on the international economic agenda  
Singapore, 13 November to 1 December 2017**

**Application guidelines**

**Applicant profile**

The course is aimed primarily at mid-level government officials dealing with international economic issues, including the formulation and implementation of policies in one or more fields covered in the course syllabus (attached).

To be considered for nomination, candidates should meet the following requirements:

- Have an advanced degree in economics, business, international relations, trade law or public administration. A first degree with proven relevant work experience may also be accepted if space is available in the course.
- Have between 4 and 10 years of relevant professional experience in a national public administration, an international or regional development organization, a research institute or a university dealing with the fields covered in the course syllabus.
- Be in a position to use and disseminate the information and knowledge acquired during the course. In this context, it is highly desirable that participants remain in relevant positions for a sufficient length of time after completion of the course so that the skills and knowledge gained can be disseminated as widely as possible at their workplace.
- Have a full working knowledge of English, the official language of the course, with proven written and verbal communication skills.

**Instructions for submitting online applications**

Candidates will be contacted to complete an online application. Applications must be submitted in English and contain the following items:

- Application form.
- Detailed curriculum vitae.
- Letter of motivation stating how the applicant in the discharge of his or her professional duties contributes to policy design and implementation in the areas of trade, investment or finance; how the course will contribute to enhancing his or her professional and personal development; and why the applicant feels he or she should be chosen to attend this course.
- Short essay answering question 1 and one of the other two questions in the course syllabus relevant to his or her national context (no more than 250 words per question).

**Nominations**

Nominations containing the names and email addresses of the candidates must be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat through the permanent mission accredited to the United Nations Office at Geneva by **Thursday, 14 September 2017**. Nominated candidates will be contacted with regard to an online application that must be completed by **Thursday 21 September**.

Nominations should be sent to the following address:

Ms. Randa Jamal, Project Coordinator  
Knowledge Development Branch  
Division on Technology and Logistics  
UNCTAD secretariat  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Tel: 41 22 917 2718  
Email: [randajamal@unctad.org](mailto:randajamal@unctad.org)  
<https://p166.unctad.org/>

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**Essay questions for applicants**

Applicants will be contacted by email to complete an online application. Kindly ensure that names and email addresses are sent to the secretariat as soon as possible, no later than **Thursday, 14 September 2017**.

The online application must include responses to two of the questions listed below. All applicants must answer question 1 and either question 2 or question 3. The online application must be submitted by **Thursday, 21 September**.

Please ensure that responses take into account the national context with regard to economic development objectives. The reply to each question should not exceed 250 words.

Question 1 (must be answered by all applicants)

How is national development planning undertaken in your country? What are the broad macroeconomic principles and objectives that determine your Government's approach and the choice of policies used? What is the role of economic development, and which are the relevant agencies responsible for its implementation? What are the indicators that best measure economic development in your country? What do they show about your country?

Please answer one of the following two questions:

Question 2

What roles do trade, investment and finance policies play in addressing economic challenges in your country? What domestic and international constraints affect the choice and design of these policies and their implementation? What are their main effects?

Question 3

What roles do technology and/or entrepreneurship and/or trade logistics play in supporting economic development in your country? Are these issues incorporated into your national economic development plans and strategies? If so, how? Give a brief description of the main challenges faced with respect to each of the three above-mentioned issues. If they are not part of your national economic development plans and strategies, explain why.