

Train for Trade II

EU-UNCTAD joint Programme for Angola



Commercial
diplomacy

Training Workshop

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRADE IN SERVICES

jointly organized by UNCTAD and WTO

Luanda, Angola, 25–28 March 2019

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

Under the commercial diplomacy subcomponent of the Angola project, activities are planned to seek to strengthen human, institutional and policy-making capacities to support the analysis, formulation and implementation of national trade in services policy frameworks as well as effective participation in multilateral, regional and sub-regional trade negotiations and agreements conducive to economic, human and social development and poverty alleviation in Angola. Specifically tailored training will be provided to ensure that Angola reaps the benefits and successfully addresses the challenges associated with trade in parallel negotiations in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), in the Tripartite (COMESA, EAC, SADC) Free Trade Area, between SADC and the EU under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), in the context of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA), and under the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The main goal of the workshop is to provide training to Angolan services negotiators and line ministries to enable them to engage effectively in multilateral and regional negotiations on trade in services. The workshop will consolidate knowledge on the key concepts and legal obligations under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services, and the Protocol on Trade in Services under the Agreement Establishing the AfCFTA, with particular emphasis on the scheduling of specific commitments. Throughout the seminar, time will be set aside to allow participants to ask questions and to provide comments. The activity aims to achieve the following objectives:

Objective 1:

Increase participants' understanding of main services concepts in multilateral and regional instruments.

Objective 2:

Enhance participants' knowledge of scheduling techniques and technical aspects thereof, including through practical exercises focusing on the interpretation and drafting of schedules of specific commitments.

Objective 3:

Collect information on Angola's applied regime, to enable negotiators to prepare services offers in the context of services negotiations.

The training is expected to be helpful to Angolan officials involved in the services negotiations to prepare services offers, particularly in the context of SADC, where Angola plans to submit its offer before April 2019.



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD



EUROPEAN UNION



Republic of
ANGOLA

PARTICIPANTS

Officials from the following government agencies:

- Ministry of Commerce
- Ministry of Planning and Territorial Development
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of Environment
- Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations Office in Geneva
- Ministry of Petroleum
- Ministry of Industry
- Ministry of Public works
- Ministry of Geology and Mines
- Ministry of Water and Energy
- Ministry of Posts and Communication
- Ministry of Hotels and Tourism
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Ministry of Youth and Sports
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Family Affairs and Women Promotion
- Various regulatory entities

Participants from the Regional bodies/Private sector/civil society/Women groups/Parliamentarians:

- ACOM
- Association of Hotels and Resorts of Angola or Association of Travel Agencies and Tour Operators of Angola
- Angolan Association of Banks
- Agency for Investment and Export Promotion
- National Institute of Statistics
- the Angola Industry Association
- the Chambers of Commerce
- port or road corridors
- the major universities and research institutions
- NGOs working on economic development issues
- Women groups
- Parliamentarians
- SADC Secretariat

TIME AND DURATION

4 days, from 25 March to 28 March 2019.

Training of trainers' sessions are open to all participants.

