



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of International
Economic Relations



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE



AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
INFORMATION AND COOPERATION

Preliminary programme

WORKSHOP on
WTO ACCESSION
and
TRADE FACILITATION AND TRANSIT

Hotel Intercontinental

Vladimira Popovica St. 10, 11070 Novi Belgrade, tel. 381-11-311-3333, fax. 381-11-311-1402

Belgrade

19-20 October 2005

Web site: http://www.unece.org/trade/workshop/belgrade_oct05_e.doc

The Ministry of International Economic Relations of Serbia, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and the Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation (AITIC) in collaboration with the Ministry of International Economic Relations of Serbia and Montenegro, the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the national trade facilitation body of Serbia and Montenegro (SCGPRO), the WTO secretariat, PLAC, USAID, UNCTAD, UNITAR, iDEAS and the European Commission are organizing a Workshop on WTO accession and trade facilitation and transit.

The objective of the Workshop is to raise awareness of the importance of integration in the international, rules-based trading system and of trade and transport facilitation for the economic and political development of Serbia and Montenegro. Due to the recent political transformations, the transition process in this country has been more complex than in other countries. This is reflected in the international trading practices, integration with EU, relations with such bodies as the WTO and the implementation of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the countries in South Eastern Europe (SEE). The Government of Serbia, which is responsible for the accession of the Republic of Serbia to WTO, is convinced that the future prosperity of the country lies in its integration with Europe, acceleration of the reform processes, including those required by the accession to WTO.

Awareness at all levels in Serbia and Montenegro is critical, because the reform process involves not only the Government of Serbia, but it also necessitates endorsement and participation of all stakeholders. **The target audience** of this workshop includes national actors and agencies, who need more information on the advantages and necessity of their participation in trade and transport liberalization and facilitation, and in the preparation for WTO accession. These include businessmen, especially in the agricultural sector, members of Parliament, civil society, media, and representatives of various government agencies.

The workshop should contribute to designing a mechanism for improving collaboration and exchange of information between the Government and the business community, parliamentarians, civil society and relevant international organizations.

The workshop will stress that Serbia is not alone in the process of transition, and that the Government has the support of the international community, as this process requires the active participation of both the public and the private sectors. The international community can assist and monitor reforms, but the Governments of Serbia and Montenegro should undertake the actual reforms.

First day – 19th October 2005

9:30 Registration

Chairperson: to be appointed by the Serbian hosts

10:00 Welcome address

Vojislav Kostunica, Prime Minister

10:15 Opening Session

Milan Parivodic, Minister of International Economic Relations of the Republic of Serbia

François Roux, Ambassador to WTO, Belgium (Chairman of the Working Party on the Accession of Serbia)

Paolo Garonna, Acting Executive Secretary, UNECE

Esperanza Duran, Executive Director, AITIC

Slobodan Milosavljevic, President of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 Session II: Challenges of WTO accession, European and Regional Integration: Implications for Serbia

Dusko Lopandic, Assistant Minister of International Economic Relations

Mr. Arif Hussein, Director WTO Accession Division

Tanja Mišćević, Secretary General of the European Integration Office of the Republic of Serbia

Goran Živkov, Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

Predrag Bjelić, Professor of International Trade at Belgrade University

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 Session II: Continuation

A Neighbour's Experience with the Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Zoran Jolevski, Chief of Party, WTO Compliance Activity (USAID project)

A Parliamentarian's Perspective on WTO Accession

Dragor Hiber, president of the Board for Development International Economic Relations of Serbian Parliament

WTO Accession – View of International Experts

Thomas Mathew, UNCTAD, Division on International Trade in Goods, Services and Commodities

Allen Shinn, USAID Project Director

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

Mr. Imboden, IDEAS

Daniel Linotte, PLAC

Sergio Delgado, AITIC expert

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Discussion

Conclusions and recommendations

09:30 Session III: Trade and Transit Facilitation

Mary O'Mahony, Secretary, Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe

Dusko Lopandic, Assistant Minister of International Economic Relations: (t.b.c.)

10:00 Trade Facilitation

Customs Modernization and Progress on the Single Window Project

Dragan Jerinic, Director General Serbian Customs Administration

Single Windows: How to achieve successful implementation

Tom Butterly, acting deputy chief, Global Trade Solutions branch

Cross-Border Logistics and Trade Facilitation in Southeastern Europe

John Clendenin, CEO of ICLogistics

Trade Facilitation in Serbia: Achievements and Challenges ahead

Dusan Mladenovic, Chairman, SCGPRO, and Secretary, Association of Transport and Telecommunications, Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12,00 Continuation

The business community case

Dragoslav Jerinic, Director, INTERJUG

Trade Facilitation in SEE and the WTO

Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, UNECE

Discussion

12:30 Transit and Serbia's Economic Development

Ministry of Capital Investments (t.b.a.)

South East European Transport Observatory (SEETO), Belgrade (t.b.c.)

Joint presentation: UNECE and IRU: Transit issues, TIR and Serbia

Maria Ceccarelli, TIR Secretariat, UNECE

Julian Genkov, International Road Transport Union (IRU)

Discussion

13:30 Conclusions and recommendations