



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
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MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Undersecretary
Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change and
Chairperson of the National Gender and Development
Focal Point System

FROM : The OIC Director
Human Resource Development Service

**SUBJECT : INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND RECOMMEND
RESEARCH PAPERS IN THE WORLD TRADE CONGRESS ON
GENDER ON 05-07 DECEMBER 2022 IN GENEVA,
SWITZERLAND**

This pertains to the electronic mail of Ms. Kareen Hope A. Eltagon, Multilateral Relations Division, Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), inviting the DENR to participate and recommend research papers in the World Trade Congress on Gender on 05-07 December 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Congress aims to deepen the understanding of women empowerment to overcome future crises (i.e., environmental, financial, food-security) and the role of trade in contributing to and accelerating economic recovery and building a gender-responsive economic environment. It provides a good opportunity for the Philippines to continue demonstrating global leadership on women empowerment and gender equality.

In this regard, the Philippine Mission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva recommends the following avenues for the Philippines to contribute to the Congress:

1. Participation of senior officials in the high-level panel on 05 December 2022 to discuss how research and trade policymaking can support women economic empowerment; and
2. Recommendation of papers on women empowerment, such as those produced by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies or papers commissioned in relation to the "Supporting Women's Economic Empowerment Project in the Philippines (GREAT Women Project 2)" and other development cooperation projects.

The WTO will not provide funds for the speakers to attend and contribute to the Congress. The deadline for the confirmation of representatives as well as recommendations of papers is on 23 September 2022.

Attached is the electronic mail and program information for ready reference. For further inquiries, your office may directly contact the DTI-BITR through email addresses: NormaArpafo@dti.gov.ph, KareenHopeEltagon@dti.gov.ph, and JohnJocelTirado@dti.gov.ph, (copy furnished bitrwtodesk@dti.gov.ph).

For your information and consideration.

M. M. M.
MIRIAM M. MARCELO



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MEMORANDUM

FOR/TO : **The OIC Director**
Human Resource Development Service

FROM : **The OIC Director**
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **INVITATION TO THE WORLD TRADE CONGRESS ON
GENDER TO BE HELD ON 5 – 7 DECEMBER 2022 IN GENEVA,
SWITZERLAND**

DATE : **06 SEP 2022**

This has reference to the electronic mail dated 05 September 2022 from Ms. Kareen Hope A. Eltagon, Multilateral Relations Division – Bureau of International Trade Relations, Department of Trade and Industry, regarding the invitation for the Philippines to participate in the World Trade Congress on Gender to be held on 5 – 7 December 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Congress aims to deepen understanding on the role of the women empowerment to overcome future crises (i.e. environmental, financial, or food security – related) and the role of trade in contributing to and accelerating economic recovery and building a gender – responsive economic environment.

The Philippine Mission to the WTO in Geneva recommends the following avenues for the country to contribute to the Congress:

1. Participation of a cabinet – level or senior officials in the high – level panel on 05 December 2022 to discuss how research and trade policy – making can support women economic empowerment. Mission also recommends exploring the participation of a private sector representative from the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment or the Private Sector Advisory Council; and
2. TCWM members may also wish to recommend relevant research papers for the WTO Congress, including those produced by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) or commissioned in relation to the “*Supporting Women’s Economic Empowerment Projects in the Philippines (GREAT Women Project 2)*” and other development cooperation projects.

In this regard, we would like to respectfully refer the said invitation to your office. For further information, kindly refer to the indicative program attached to the Geneva WTO – PM report and you may also contact the DTI – BTR through the email address: NormaArpafo@dti.gov.ph, KareenHopeEltagon@dti.gov.ph, and JohnJocelTirado@dti.gov.ph, copy furnished bitrwtodesk@dti.gov.ph. Please be informed that the WTO will not be able to fund speakers to attend and contribute to the Congress.

For your information and consideration.


MELINDA C. CAPISTRANO

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 cc: "Angelo Salvador M. Benedictos" <AngeloSalvadorBenedictos@dti.gov.ph>, "Marie Sherylyn D. Aquia" <SherylynAquia@dti.gov.ph>, Norma Serra Arpafo <NormaArpafo@dti.gov.ph>, Ana Clarisa Abastillas <AnaClarisaAbastillas@dti.gov.ph>, "John Jocel F. Tirado" <JohnJocelTirado@dti.gov.ph>, BTR WTO Desk <bitrwtodesk@dti.gov.ph>

Sent on behalf of BTR Director Angelo Salvador M. Benedictos

Attention: DTI-ROG, PCW, PIDS

On behalf of the Technical Committee on WTO Matters (TCWM) Chair, DTI Undersecretary Ceferino S. Rodolfo, we refer you to the attached invitation for the Philippines to participate in the **World Trade Congress on Gender** (ZWTO-180-2022 dated 24 August 2022). This will be held on 5-7 December 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Congress aims to deepen understanding on the role of women empowerment to overcome future crises (i.e., environmental, financial, or food-security related) and the role of trade in contributing to and accelerating economic recovery and building a gender-responsive economic environment.

The Philippine Mission to the WTO in Geneva (Geneva-WTO PM) recommends the following avenues for the Philippines to contribute to the Congress:

1. Participation of a cabinet-level or senior official in the high-level panel on 5 December 2022 to discuss how research and trade policy-making can support women economic empowerment. Mission also recommends exploring the participation of a private sector representative from the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment or the Private Sector Advisory Council.
2. TCWM members may also wish to recommend relevant research papers for the WTO Congress, including those produced by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) or commissioned in relation to the "Supporting Women's Economic Empowerment Project in the Philippines (GREAT Women Project 2)" and other development cooperation projects.

For further information, kindly refer to the indicative program attached to the Geneva WTO-PM report. **Please be informed that the WTO will not be able to fund speakers to attend and contribute to the Congress.**

We would appreciate receiving the confirmation of the Philippines' representative/s as well as the research papers/studies to be presented at the event **no later than 23 September 2022**. For further inquiries, you may contact the DTI-BTR through e-mail addressed to NormaArpafo@dti.gov.ph, KareenHopeEltagon@dti.gov.ph, and JohnJocelTirado@dti.gov.ph (copy bitrwtodesk@dti.gov.ph).

Thank you very much!

Best regards,

Kareen Hope A. ELTAGON (Ms)

Multilateral Relations Division

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 **ZWTO-180-2022_WTO Invitation for the Philippines to the World Trade Congress on Gender.pdf**
1396K

To: SFA
Fr: Geneva WTO
Rt: OUMAIER
Dt: 24 August 2022
Re: **WTO Invitation for the Philippines to the World Trade Congress on Gender**
Cc : Geneva PM, Berne PE, HRMO, OUA
Secretary of the Department of Agriculture
Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry
Secretary of the National Economic Development Authority
Undersecretary of DTI and Chair of the Technical Committee on WTO Matters
Cn: ZWTO-180-2022
Pgs: 3 pages including this page

Mission is pleased to inform the Department that the WTO, through its Trade and Gender Unit (TGU), will organize and host in Geneva on **5-7 December 2022** the first-ever World Trade Congress on Gender, with the theme "*Gender Equality for Sustainable Trade and Recovery*." Featuring research papers of trade and gender experts, the Congress aims to deepen understanding on the role of women empowerment to overcome future crises (i.e. environmental, financial or food security-related) and the role of trade in contributing to and accelerating economic recovery and building a gender-responsive economic environment.

The Mission's GAD focal person and assistant focal person met with the WTO Secretariat TGU Head, Ms. Anoush der Boghossian, on 17 August 2022. Ms. der Boghossian encouraged the Philippines to actively participate in the Congress and contribute in three possible ways:

1. High-Level Opening

On the first day of the Congress, a panel on "Where Policy Meets Research" will be organized consisting of high-level government representatives, preferably at the Ministerial-level, to discuss how research and trade policy-making can support women economic empowerment. Ministers are expected to share best practices, government measures and initiatives that support women's resilience during and after a crisis (i.e. climate change and natural disasters, COVID-19 pandemic, global financial collapse or armed conflicts). WTO Director-General Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is expected to participate in the panel. Ms. der Boghossian said a minister may tackle any topic (education, tourism, SMEs, intellectual property, rural development, digital divide, etc.) during the panel as long it is relevant to gender equality vis-à-vis economic recovery. A minister may also wish to participate as a member of the panel of reactants.

2. Research Panels

The Congress will showcase 20 sessions where trade and gender researchers present their work and findings. WTO members would be invited to act as discussants to share their experiences and discuss trade policy that addresses the issues raised by research. TGU is reviewing hundreds of research papers but may still accept additional papers for presentation.

3. Reception

WTO Members will be invited to contribute to the reception on 5 December 2022 by providing food, drinks or specialty products for around 100 participants. In particular, Members will be

invited to showcase products (or services) made by women or female-owned companies in their countries or initiatives they are taking to support these women. It will be an opportunity for governments to use the Congress as a platform to demonstrate their engagement towards women's economic empowerment. The Congress organizers would set up 10 stands in the WTO atrium for this purpose. These stands with the information about women's products and governments' trade and gender initiatives will remain after the reception throughout the Congress.

Annex 1 outlines the draft and indicative structure of the program. TGU has informed Mission that **WTO will not be able to fund speakers to attend and contribute to the Congress.**

Mission's recommendations

The Congress is a good opportunity for the Philippines to continue to demonstrate its global leadership on women empowerment and gender equality. As noted in the World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report, the Philippines remains a top performing country ranking second in the Asia-Pacific region and 17th globally. In this respect, Mission would recommend the following avenues for the Philippines to contribute to the Congress:

1. Mission would recommend the identification of a cabinet-level official to participate in the high-level panel on 05 December 2022 at the WTO Secretariat. Ideally, the senior official should represent an agency that is implementing programs that mitigate against economic shocks, including the Covid-19 pandemic and increased environmental vulnerability. Should a government representative not be available, Mission would also recommend exploring the participation of a private sector representative from the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment or the newly constituted Private Sector Advisory Council.
2. The TCWM or Department may also wish to recommend relevant research papers for the WTO Congress, including those produced by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) or commissioned in relation to the "Supporting Women's Economic Empowerment Project in the Philippines (GREAT Women Project 2)" and other development cooperation projects.

For the Department's and TCWM's consideration and appropriate action.


GABRIEL R. BAUTISTA
Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

ANNEX 1

WORLD TRADE CONGRESS ON GENDER DRAFT PROGRAMME STRUCTURE <i>5-7 December 2022</i>		
5 December	6 December	7 December
Morning sessions		
Curtain raiser (short preliminary to the main event): Book launch 1 WTO Chairs programme and Cambridge + video (?) – (9:00-10:00)	Trade and gender research sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: 9:00-10:30 Session 2: 10:30-12:00 Session 3: 12:00-13:30 	Trade and gender research sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: 9:00-10:30 Session 2: 10:30-12:00 Session 3: 12:00-13:30
Networking breakfast and presentation of the Congress' Ambassadors (as long as there is coffee and interest)	Policy research "speed dating" event (1 hour minimum)	Book launch 2: WTO publication on trade, gender and climate change (13:45-14:30)
Afternoon sessions		
Official opening: when politics and research meet Theme: resilience and recovery (includes presentation of Hub's paper) (15:00-17:00)	Trade and gender research sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: 14:30-16:00 Session 2: 16:00-17:30 	Trade and gender research sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: 14:30-16:00 Session 2: 16:00-17:30
The trade and gender debater club (2 debates) followed by reception	Side event on Gender based violence and trade (18:00-19:30)	Closing – Ambassadors' outcomes and recommendations (17:45-18:15)
Reception and end Day 1	End Day 2	End Day 3 and Congress