

Course on “WTO Rules on Trade in Services: The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)”

An in-depth course on the GATS’ rules

Day 1: Tuesday, 28 February 2017

9.50 am – 11.20 am

0) Introduction

- Trade in services
- Economic significance of trade in services
- Services trade restrictiveness

1) What is the GATS?

- GATS’ structure
- GATS’ key concepts

11.40 am – 1.10 pm

2) Applicability of the GATS

- GATS’ scope of application
- Government procurement of services
- Relationship with the GATT 1994

1.40pm – 3.10 pm

3) Non-Discrimination under the GATS

- Most-Favoured Nation Treatment (MFN)
- MFN Exemptions and Exceptions
- GATS case law

Day 2: Wednesday, 1 March 2017

9.50 am – 11.20 am & 11.40 am – 1.10 pm

4) Liberalization of trade in services under the GATS (1)

- Barriers to trade in services
- Specific commitments
 - Market access
 - National treatment
 - GATS case law

1.40 pm – 3.10 pm

5) Liberalization of trade in services under the GATS (2)

- Schedules of specific commitments
- Modification of schedules
- GATS case law
- Doha-round negotiations on services
- Plurilateral negotiations on a "Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)"

Day 3: Thursday, 2 March 2017

9.50 am – 11.20 am & 11.40 am – 1.10 pm

6) Domestic regulation of trade in services under the GATS

- Effective regulation of services trade
- Administrative practices and procedures
- Regulatory measures
- Pro-competitive regulation of telecommunications ("reference paper")
- Prudential regulation of financial services ("prudential carve-out")
- Recognition
- Regulatory cooperation
- Doha round negotiations on domestic regulation

1.40 pm – 3.10 pm

7) Exemptions and Exceptions under the GATS

- General exceptions
- GATS case law
- Security exceptions