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1 ARTICLE XXI OF THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL AMENDING THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

1.1 Text of Article XXI

Article XXI

Institutions

Committee on Government Procurement

1. There shall be a Committee on Government Procurement composed of representatives from each of the Parties. This Committee shall elect its own Chairman and shall meet as necessary, but not less than once a year, for the purpose of affording Parties the opportunity to consult on any matters relating to the operation of this Agreement or the furtherance of its objectives, and to carry out such other responsibilities as may be assigned to it by the Parties.
2. The Committee may establish working parties or other subsidiary bodies that shall carry out such functions as may be given to them by the Committee.
3. The Committee shall annually:
 - (a) review the implementation and operation of this Agreement; and
 - (b) inform the General Council of its activities, pursuant to Article IV:8 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (hereinafter referred to as "WTO Agreement"), and of developments relating to the implementation and operation of this Agreement.

Observers

4. Any WTO Member that is not a Party to this Agreement shall be entitled to participate in the Committee as an observer by submitting a written notice to the Committee. Any WTO observer may submit a written request to the Committee to participate in the Committee as an observer, and may be accorded observer status by the Committee.

1.2 Article XXI:1

1. At its meeting on 17 May 2023, the Committee adopted adopted a Decision on Rules of Procedure for the Selection of the Chairperson of the Committee ([GPA/CD/3](#)).

1.3 Article XXI:3

2. Pursuant to Article XXI:3, the Committee has reviewed annually the implementation and operation of the Agreement on Government Procurement and has annually informed the WTO General Council of developments during the periods covered by such reviews. These reviews are available in the following documents: [GPA/126](#) and [GPA/126/Corr.1](#) for 2014, [GPA/134](#) for 2015, [GPA/141](#) and [GPA/141/Corr.1](#) for 2016, [GPA/145](#) and [GPA/145/Corr.1](#) for 2017, [GPA/AR/1](#) for 2018, [GPA/AR/2](#) for 2019; [GPA/AR/3](#) for 2020; [GPA/AR/4](#) for 2021; [GPA/AR/5](#) for 2022; and [GPA/AR/6](#) for 2023.

1.4 Article XXI:4

3. Since the entry into force in April 2014 of the Agreement on Government Procurement, as amended by the Protocol Amending the Agreement on Government Procurement, the Committee on Government Procurement has approved the following requests for observer status:

- the observer request by Tajikistan¹ on 25 June 2014²;
- the observer request by Pakistan³ on 11 February 2015⁴;
- the observer request by Costa Rica⁵ on 3 June 2015⁶;
- the observer request by Thailand⁷ on 3 June 2015⁸;
- the observer request by Seychelles⁹ on 16 September 2015¹⁰;
- the observer request by Kazakhstan¹¹ on 19 October 2016¹²;
- the observer request by Afghanistan¹³ on 18 October 2017¹⁴;
- the observer request by Brazil¹⁵ on 18 October 2017¹⁶;
- the observer request by Belarus¹⁷ on 27 June 2018¹⁸;
- the observer request by Paraguay¹⁹ on 27 February 2019²⁰;
- the observer request by Philippines²¹ on 26 June 2019²²;
- the observer request by Ecuador²³ on 26 June 2019²⁴;
- the observer request by the United Kingdom²⁵ on 26 February 2020²⁶;
- the observer request by Côte d'Ivoire²⁷ on 20 July 2020²⁸; and

¹ [GPA/W/329](#) and [Corr.1](#).

² [GPA/M/56](#), para. 1.2.

³ [GPA/W/330](#).

⁴ [GPA/M/59](#), para. 1.2.

⁵ [GPA/W/331](#).

⁶ [GPA/M/61](#), para. 1.2.

⁷ [GPA/W/332](#).

⁸ [GPA/M/61](#), para. 1.2.

⁹ [GPA/W/333](#).

¹⁰ [GPA/M/62](#), para. 1.2.

¹¹ [GPA/W/338](#).

¹² [GPA/M/66](#), para. 5.

¹³ [GPA/W/343](#).

¹⁴ [GPA/M/69](#), para. 1.2.

¹⁵ [GPA/W/344](#).

¹⁶ [GPA/M/69](#), para. 1.2.

¹⁷ [GPA/W/346](#).

¹⁸ [GPA/M/72](#), para. 2.2.

¹⁹ [GPA/147](#).

²⁰ [GPA/M/75](#), para. 2.2.

²¹ [GPA/148](#).

²² [GPA/M/76](#), para. 1.2.

²³ [GPA/149](#).

²⁴ [GPA/M/76](#), para. 1.2.

²⁵ [GPA/151](#).

²⁶ [GPA/M/78](#), para. 2.2.

²⁷ [GPA/153](#).

²⁸ [GPA/M/79](#), para. 1.2.

Agreement on Government Procurement, as amended by the Protocol Amending the Agreement on Government Procurement, done at Geneva on 30 March 2012– Article XXI (Practice)

- the observer request by the Dominican Republic²⁹ on 20 September 2022³⁰; and
- the observer request by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)³¹ on 31 October 2022.³²

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Current as of: July 2024

²⁹ [GPA/157](#).

³⁰ [GPA/M/86](#), para. 2.1.

³¹ [GPA/156](#).

³² [GPA/M/86](#), para. 2.16.