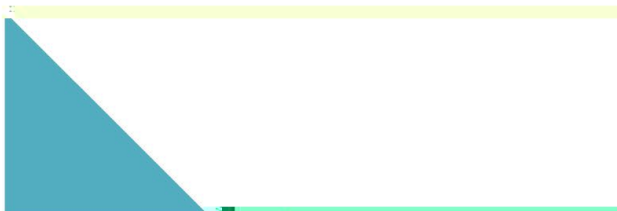


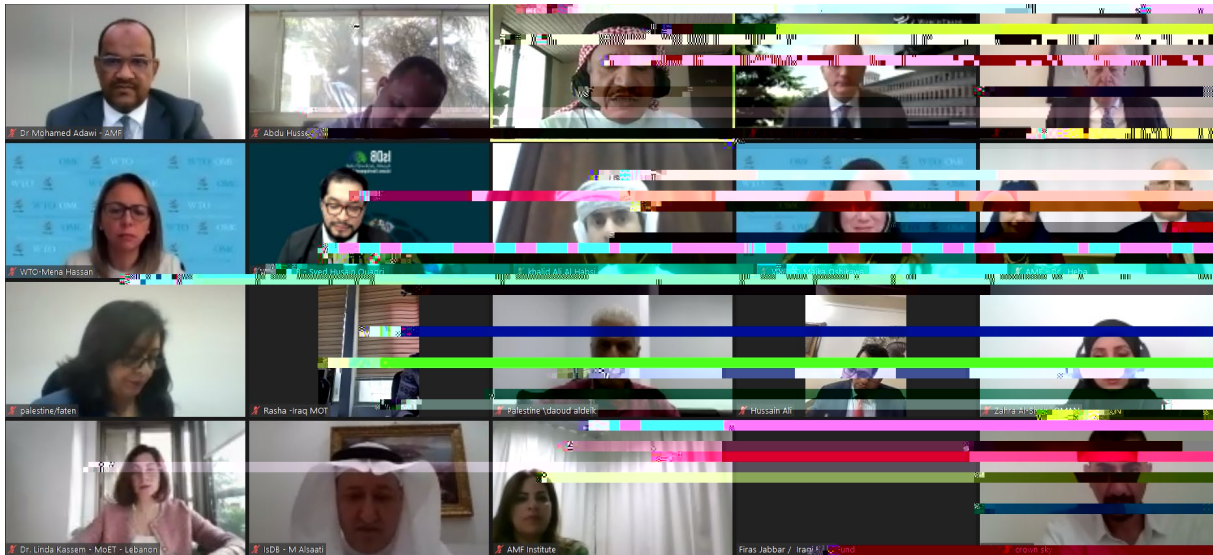


# 2<sup>nd</sup> High-Level Regional Dialogue on WTO Accessions for the Arab Region

Adaptive Approaches to WTO Accession amid  
COVID-19

7-9 February 2022, Virtual Event (Zoom)





### 1st High-Level Regional Dialogue on WTO Accessions for the Arab Region – 8-10 November 2020

For questions and inquiries on the Programme of the High-Level Regional Dialogue, please contact:

- Ms Mena Hassan (tel: +41 22 739 65 22; e-mail: [mena.hassan@wto.org](mailto:mena.hassan@wto.org))
- Mr Samer Seif El Yazal (tel: +41 22 739 54 59; e-mail: [samer\\_seif@wto.org](mailto:samer_seif@wto.org))
- Ms Rania El Cheik Taha (tel: +97 12 617 17 52; e-mail: [EPI@amfad.org.ae](mailto:EPI@amfad.org.ae))

## Introduction



TUESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2022

## SESSION 2 – TRADE IN SERVICES: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES TODAY

11:00- 12:15 CET /14:00- 15:15 GST

In this session, experts will examine the importance of trade in services for the Arab acceding economies. It will demonstrate how trade in services can be improved through adherence to WTO agreements and international best practices and highlight the synergies and complementarities of the WTO Services Agreement (GATS) and services under the GAFTA. This will be followed by an open discussion among participants.

11:00 -12:15  
(CET)

**Moderator** : Dr. Maha Gabbani, Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO

14:00- 15:15  
(GST)**Speakers** :

- Mr. Hamid Mamdouh, Senior Counsel, King & Spalding LLP and Former Director of Trade in Services and Investment Division, WTO
- Dr. Heba Abdel Monem, Chief, Studies & Statistics Division, AMF
- Dr. Mohamed Ismail, Economist, AMF

Open Discussion

## Short break

12:15- 13:00 CET / 15:15- 16:00 GST

## SESSION 3 – THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN WTO ACCESSION OF ARAB COUNTRIES

13:00- 14:30 CET /16:00- 17:30 GST

In this session, experts will highlight the important role the private sector plays as a key stakeholder in trade policy formulation and WTO accession. The session will encourage dialogue between the public and private sectors and mobilise joint efforts towards successful WTO accession. This will be followed by an open discussion among participants.



WEDNESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2022

SESSION 4 – TRADE FACILITATION AMID AND BEYOND COVID - 19

11:00- 12:15 CET /14:00- 15:15 GST

In this session, experts will examine the importance of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and discuss how trade