

## IMPLEMENTATION OF WTO PROVISIONS AND BUSINESS AWARENESS OF WTO ACCESSION

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16 May, 2014. Dushanbe city

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### TAJIKISTAN TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY'S ADVANTAGES AND CHALLENGES FROM COUNTRY'S WTO ACCESSION

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**The impact of Tajikistan's membership in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for its textile and clothing sector was discussed in Dushanbe on 16 May 2014.**

A workshop followed by a press-café for the journalists on WTO accession with a particular emphasis on the textile sector was organized by the International Trade Centre today, on 16 May 2014, in Dushanbe city. Representatives of Tajik textile and clothing sector, related governmental agencies, international organisations, and media participated at the event to discuss the WTO requirements for the textile and clothing sector, benefits and challenges this sector gains and faces from country's accession to WTO, and the impact of Tajikistan's membership to the WTO for its textile and clothing sector. Both workshop and press-café were organized under ITC project, which supports the Republic of Tajikistan in implementation of the WTO provisions and the Government's WTO commitments. The ITC project is funded by the Government of Switzerland within its Trade Cooperation Program (TCP) in Tajikistan.

Mr. Paolo R. Vergano, expert in international trade, and this workshop's trainer, stated that, since the termination of the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing in 2004, products of the textile sector of the member country are fully covered by the rules of the multilateral trading system.

While introducing the workshop and press-café participants with the list of the related WTO agreements, Mr. Vergano also shared his view on the impact of Tajikistan's accession to WTO for the country's textile and clothing sector. He said: *"Despite the possible negative impacts from WTO accession to the private sector in the short run, as a result of introducing more transparent, secure and predictable trading framework, the positive effects of WTO accession will likely be felt in the medium or long term. I would recommend continuing familiarization of the Tajik business with the WTO advantage opportunities and resources, securing the textile and clothing industry's interests through continuous engagement into trade negotiations and technical discussions, as well as provision of access to the relevant WTO mechanisms and instruments for the Tajikistan's textile and clothing sector"*.

**The ITC, through this technical assistance project, is committed to support Tajikistan's public and private sector in strengthening their knowledge of the opportunities and challenges stemming from the WTO membership.**

**Swiss support:** Within its Cooperation Strategy for 2012-2015, Switzerland focuses on four sectors in Tajikistan; Health, Rule of Law, Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, and Private Sector Development. The overall goal of Swiss Cooperation in Tajikistan is to support the transition process in the country through contributing to economic development and by helping build institutions and systems which are responsive to the population's needs. [www.swisscoop.tj](http://www.swisscoop.tj), [www.deza.admin.ch](http://www.deza.admin.ch), [www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch](http://www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch)

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