



Press Release
2018-09-03

TRAINING ON MARKET ACCESS AND TECHNICAL REGULATION

COPANT conducted the virtual training via Web Ex on June 2018

This virtual course on Market Access and Technical Regulations was developed and delivered by the expert Ileana Martínez, Past-President of IAAC and with many years of experience in the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the World Trade Organization (WTO/TBT).

The virtual workshop was held in 2 different sessions, one in Spanish, 26 and 27 June 2018, and another version in English, 28 and 29 June 2018. 40 people participated in both versions of the following 22 countries: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, United States, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Dominican Republic, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and Uruguay.

The objective of the training program was to provide representatives of the NSB members of COPANT with knowledge and tools to understand how technical standardization and the relationship with stakeholders in their countries can help to have a more efficient process for the establishment of technical regulation and promoting/facilitating market access. The training was addressed to members of the National Committees of the NSBs and related standardization, conformity assessment and communication staff in the NSBs

The content of the workshop was as follows:

1. WTO TBT Agreement

- Principles of the Agreement
- Triennial Reviews
- Case Studies of disputes under the TBT Agreement

2. Technical Standards vs. Technical regulations

- Good standards practices
- Good regulatory practices
- Examples/Case studies of countries that have good experiences in the use of standards to establish public policies.

3. Market Access

- Role of the Quality Infrastructure (International and National)
- Successful programs on Market Access using the Quality Infrastructure: government programs or productive sectors programs
- Multilateral recognition agreements to facilitate market access
- Good conformity assessment practices

4. Engagement with Stakeholders

- How to involve the government and businesses in the establishment of public policies based on international standards
- Examples of good practice

The training (video only available in Spanish) can be seen on our educational website:

<http://edu.copant.org/en/technical-barriers-to-trade/>