

WTO Training Centre at HKU

HKU has been designated as the official World Trade Organisation (WTO) training centre for the Asia-Pacific Region which would offer the Regional Trade Policy Courses (RTPC) to government officials in the entire Asia-Pacific region in partnership with the WTO.

The designation is the result of a very keen competition between HKU and the National University of Singapore – the other institution on the final shortlist. The Deputy Director-General of the WTO, Dr Kipkorir Aly Azad RANA, in announcing WTO's decision, commends that both universities "had made excellent offers and are clearly in a position to provide an appropriate framework, both academic and logistical, to ensure the success of such a course", and that "it was a very close decision to take".

The final decision to choose HKU as its regional training centre is a recognition of WTO of the academic excellence of HKU as a leading tertiary education institution in Asia. This is also the result of the effort of the University to convince the WTO that Hong Kong is the best location for its Asia-Pacific regional training centre, in view of its being a leading international financial centre whose economy is built on the ethos of free and fair trade.

Mr John C Tsang, Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology, HKSAR, said, "I am most pleased to note that the University of Hong Kong has been designated as the official World Trade Organization (WTO) training centre for the Asia-Pacific Region. It is a clear recognition of our status as a separate and active member of the WTO and a staunch supporter of the multilateral trading system."

The bidding proposal was prepared by the Faculty of Law. The programme is multi-disciplinary in nature, and, involves expertise and support from the University's Institute of China and Global Development, Faculty of Business and Economics, Centre of Asian Studies, Centre of Urban Planning and Environmental Management, and Faculty of Education, in addition to the Faculty of Law itself. 



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