Seminar on Trade and Investment Facilitation under the Global Development Initiative

Name	Seminar on Trade and Investment Facilitation under the Global Development Initiative						
Organizer	Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO), Ministry of Commerce, P. R. China						
Time	May 30 th to June 12 th , 2024 (14 days)				Language	English	
Invited Participants	Officials from relevant departments from developing countries (for officials at the Director- General and Director level)						
Number of Participants	25 persons in total						
Requirements for the Participants	Age	Under 50 for officials at the Director-General level; under 45 for officials at the Director level					
	Health	Participants should be in good health, and provide a health certificate or medical examination form issued by a local public hospital. Participants should be free of diseases prohibited by Chinese laws and regulations to enter the country, free of other serious chronic diseases such as severe hypertension, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, and diabetes, mental diseases or infectious diseases that may pose a significant public health risk, not in the period of recovering from major surgery or acute illness, not severely physically disabled nor pregnant.					
	Language	Participants should be capable of listening, speaking, reading and writing in English that can meet the requirements of the class.					
	Others	Family members or friends shall not follow					
Host City	Beijing		Local Temperatu	ure	Average temperature: 25°C - 30°C		
Cities to Visit	Pending		Local Temperatu	ure	/		
Notes	/						
Contact of the Organizer	Contact Person(s)	Mr. ZHENG Mingyuan					
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About the Organizer		The Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO) is an educational and training institution directly under the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China. Established					

in 1980, AIBO is located in Changping District, Beijing, about 30 kilometers from Beijing Capital International Airport. It boasts comprehensive infrastructure to provide services such as accommodation, catering, training and meetings for trainees.

One of the main responsibilities of AIBO is to implement human resources development and cooperation projects, especially training courses for officials. The Academy serves as the main base for China's foreign aid training, offering both off-line and on-line training in China and overseas.

Backed by the Ministry of Commerce and in close cooperation with China's top think tanks, research institutes and universities, AIBO brings together a large number of China's top experts and scholars to provide intellectual support for foreign aid training. It has developed a number of high-quality foreign aid training projects in the fields of trade and investment, international economic cooperation, governance and public management, which have proved to be fruitful.

Since 1998, AIBO has successfully held over 2,000 training sessions for officials from developing countries (including 131 ministerial seminars), benefiting nearly 70,000 trainees from other developing countries around the world.

AIBO will adhere to the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and take the important concepts, including a community with a shared future for mankind, pursuing the greater good and shared interests, and sincerity, real results, amity, good faith, mutual benefit and inclusiveness, as strategic guidance and fundamental principles to be followed. It will facilitate the joint efforts in implementing major initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Global Development Initiative (GDI), and continue to help developing countries accelerate their development by sharing China's experience and programs.

Background: The Global Development Initiative (GDI) upholds the following core principles: staying committed to development as a priority; staying committed to a people-centered approach; staying committed to benefits for all; staying committed to innovation-driven development; staying committed to harmony between human and nature; and staying committed to results-oriented actions. It is closely related to improving people's well-being and helps realize the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Trade and investment facilitation measures can enhance the resilience of trade flows, attract international investment, save time and costs for enterprises, and help countries strengthen their competitiveness, more fully participate in the global economy, and realize their economic development at a faster pace.

Purpose: The Seminar aim to share China's policies and practices on trade and investment facilitation, promote cooperation among developing countries in areas such as trade in goods and services, digital economy, and industrial and supply chains, improve the business environment, better attract international investment, establish a platform for developing countries to exchange on investment and trade facilitation, and advance the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative and the joint implementation of the GDI, thus enabling people of various countries to share the fruits of development.

Content: The main topics of the Seminar include an overview of China's national conditions, China's reform and opening-up and the Chinese path to modernization, the national governance ideas of Chinese leaders, the Belt and Road Initiative and GDI, development trends in trade and investment facilitation, the reconstruction of economic and trade rules under changing international circumstances, trade facilitation measures by China Customs, the functions of Chinese trade promotion agencies and the building of trade promotion system, facilitation of trade and investment for small and medium-sized enterprises, China's experience in utilizing foreign investment, and an introduction to the construction of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone.

Methods: Inviting experts in China's trade and investment to conduct themed lectures; organizing discussions and exchanges between trainees and experts, as well as among trainees; arranging for trainees to visit Beijing and other cities to have a thorough grasp of their trade and investment facilitation measures and conduct on-site exchanges and inspections in relevant agencies and companies.

(The above is a preliminary schedule, which can be adjusted based on actual circumstances. The final version will be provided after trainees' arrival in China.)

About the Project

- 1. Please prepare your passport, Chinese visa and third-party transit country visa (if necessary) before coming to China.
- 2. If you cannot depart on time due to special circumstances, or if there is a flight delay during the transfer, please contact the Chinese embassy or the organizer in time and inform the staff of the new flight No. and time of arrival in Beijing so that the staff can arrange pick-up for you.
- 3. In principle, it is not allowed to change the air tickets to China. If you really need to do so, please contact the Chinese embassy and follow the procedures to change your ticket. If you change the air ticket without consent, the organizer will report it to the Chinese embassy and the costs and responsibilities therefore incurred shall be borne by yourself.
- 4. After claiming your luggage, please wait patiently at the international arrival exit (or domestic arrival exit) and the staff will pick you up with a pick-up board with your name on it. If you wait more than 15 minutes, please call the organizer immediately.
- 5. In case of lost luggage to be registered with the airline, please first communicate with the organizer to confirm the luggage delivery location and then fill in the registration form.
- 6. Dress code: Please pay attention to the weather conditions of the host city during the seminar and bring appropriate clothes. For important occasions, please dress formally (national costumes are acceptable).

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