



Reporting on trade and integration matters for Africa: a training course for journalists

9-10 May 2018

Newlands Sun Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa

The Trade Law Centre (**tralac**) aims to build capacity for Africa to trade better. To this end tralac offers training programmes, does analysis of trade and integration developments and supports an active debate on trade and regional integration law and policy. We are convinced that access to information on trade and integration developments is essential to enhance the quality of trade policy and governance. The role of the media, and specifically of journalists is critical to make progress in these areas.

tralac will be hosting its first training workshop for journalists who write on trade and integration matters, 9-10 May, in Cape Town, South Africa. The aim of this training workshop, is not only to provide updates on trade developments, and facilitate discussion among journalists, but also to appraise the important changes that are taking place with respect to access to information, the role of the media, technology and innovation in the media and associated governance issues, and the relationship between journalists and sources of information (including official government sources, think tanks and experts).

The Workshop will include practical exercises, reviewing case studies (including reports on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). In addition, the programme will include a focus on the use of data, infographics/visualisation and the use of different channels of information dissemination (including social media).

Our aim is also to build a network of trade journalists in Africa – this is the first step in this process.

tralac Training for Journalists

Draft Programme

Day 1: 9 May 2018

8:45	Registration
09:00 – 09.30	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Opening remarks and course overview Introductions and expectations</p> <p>Trudi Hartzenberg, tralac</p>
09:30 – 10:45	<p>Session 1: Trade policy and regional integration – unpacking the language of trade and integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is trade policy (what are trade policy instruments)? - Free Trade Area, Customs Union, Common Market, Economic Union, Monetary Union - Institutional architecture for trade governance: World Trade Organisation, regional economic communities....
10:45 – 11:00	Tea break
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Session 2: International trade law 101 – making trade policy work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International trade agreements, domestic laws and regulations - How to international trade agreements enter into force (signature, ratification....)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 3: Trade and integration in the news 1: update on the African Continental Free Trade Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the AfCFTA? What is in the Agreement? - From 2012 to the Kigali Summit (21 March 2018) - Where do we stand, what happens now? What do member states have to do? - When will it be possible to trade under the AfCFTA?
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/coffee
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Session 4: Practical session: case study</p> <p>Examining an AfCFTA story (case will be provided)</p> <p>Exercise: Participants are required to write one trade story during the training workshop (a brief will be provided, this will be completed by end of the workshop)</p>
19:00	Dinner (Bihari Restaurant at the Newlands Sun Hotel)

Day 2: 10 May 2018

09:00 – 10:30	<p>Session 5: Trade and integration in the news 2: update on the Tripartite Free Trade Area, and regional economic communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are regional economic communities (SACU, SADC, EAC, COMESA) - What is the TFTA? - Where do we stand and what is happening now? - RECs, TFTA and AfCFTA?
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Session 6: Practical session 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of data to tell trade and integration stories (including infographics) <p>Case 1: Reporting on SACU revenue shares among member states Case 2: A trade facilitation story: what happens at a border post (egBeitbridge)?</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 7: Practical session 3 – Journalism and media in the 21st century</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication channels: print, TV, social media, blogging and vlogging, direct dissemination (newsletters), - Interactive communication (managing comments, feedback, contributions from members of the public) - Access to and sharing of information (governance issues) <p>Discussion</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/coffee
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Session 8: Establishing a regional network of trade journalists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network configuration - How can it work? - How can tralac feature in the network? <p>Further training? What happens after this training workshop?</p>
17:00	Close and Dinner at 19:00

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