



**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS WILL CARRY OUT FIRST ROUND
OF WTO PRIVATE SECTOR CONSULTATIONS FROM 16th APRIL – 3rd MAY, 2018**

The Government of The Bahamas wishes to advise the business community that it will be carrying out its first round of consultations to obtain private sector input as a part of its efforts to join the World Trade Organization (WTO). The consultations will be industry specific and are intended to inform the Government's negotiating position in respect of each economic sector. To that end, the input of the business community in this consultative process would be welcomed.

The consultations will be held from **16th April, 2018 – 3rd May, 2018** at the **Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, Cable Beach, 3rd Floor Conference Room**.

Please consult the consultation schedule below to determine the date and time that consultations will be held for your particular industry and confirm your attendance using the contact details below.

If you have any questions regarding which sector your business falls into, please visit the website of the Ministry of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration for more information: www.bahamasministryoffinancialservices.com, or contact the Ministry by email at trade@bahamas.gov.bs or by phone at 328-5071-6.

If you are unable to attend the in-person consultations and would wish your input to be taken into consideration, please complete the appropriate Questionnaire (which is available on the Ministry's website: www.bahamasministryoffinancialservices.com). **If you are located in the Family Islands and would wish to participate via videoconference, please contact the Ministry by email at trade@bahamas.gov.bs or by phone at 328-5071-6.**

If your business is a member of an association, please also liaise with your association representative to coordinate the positions, concerns or questions of your particular industry. A list of applicable associations is included in the consultation schedule below. However, if your association is not listed, please contact the Ministry so that it may be included in any future listing.

WTO PRIVATE SECTOR CONSULTATION SCHEDULE: 16th APRIL, 2018 – 3rd MAY,

DATE	TIME	SECTORS	RELEVANT ASSOCIATIONS
Monday, 16th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry (incl. manufacturing and mining) 	Bahamas Light Industries Development Council; Bahamas Manufacturers Agents & Wholesalers; Bahamas Hotel and Tourism Association
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture 	Bahamas Agricultural Producers Association; Farmers' Association; Cooperatives
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries 	Bahamas Fisheries Association
Tuesday, 17th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal services Arbitration, mediation and conciliation services 	Bahamas Bar Association; Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Bahamas
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting services Auditing services Book-keeping services Taxation services 	Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants; Institute of Internal Auditors
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architectural services Engineering services 	Professional Architects Board; Institute of Bahamian Architects; Professional Engineers Board; Bahamas Society of Engineers; Bahamas Engineers, Architects & Allied Professions
Wednesday, 18th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical services (incl. specialised medical services) Dental services Veterinary services 	Bahamas Medical Council; Medical Association of The Bahamas; Bahamas Dental Council; Bahamas Pharmacy Council; Bahamas Pharmaceutical Association; Optometric Association of The Bahamas
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services provided by midwives, nurses, physiotherapists and para-medical personnel Health related and social services 	Health Professions Council; Nursing Council of The Bahamas; Nurses Association of The Bahamas; Bahamas Association of Physiotherapists
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real estate services 	Bahamas Real Estate Association
Thursday, 19th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telecommunications services 	
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising and public relations services Market research and public opinion polling services 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management consulting and related services Placement and supply services of personnel (i.e. human resources) 	Caribbean Institute of Management Consultants (Bahamas Chapter)
Friday, 20th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services incidental to agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing, mining, and manufacturing (i.e. services supplied on a fee or contract basis) 	
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audio-visual services (motion picture, cinemas) Sound (music) recording services 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audio-visual services (radio and television) News agency services 	
Monday 23rd April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation and security services 	
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and repairs of vehicles, maritime vessels, aircraft and other equipment Building cleaning services 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal services (hair and beauty, washing, cleaning, funeral, cremation, undertaking and other personal services) 	
Tuesday, 24th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wholesale and Retail Services (food and beverage) 	Bahamas Retail Grocers Association
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wholesale and retail services (sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories, and motor fuel) 	Bahamas Motor Dealers Association; Bahamas Petroleum Retailers Association
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wholesale and retail services (non-food and beverage) 	Bahamas Federation of Retailers
Wednesday, 25th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entertainment services (theatre, live bands and circus services) Cultural services (libraries, museums and other cultural services) Sporting and recreational services (sports and recreational facilities, athletic services and related support services) 	
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gambling and betting services 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational services Research and development services 	
Thursday, 26th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photographic services Publishing and printing services Packaging services 	
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marina operators Boat charters 	Association of Marina Operators of The Bahamas
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban planning services Landscape architectural services 	Bahamas Landscaping Association
Friday, 27th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General construction work for buildings 	Bahamas Contractors Association; Bahamas Electrical Contractors Association
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer and related services (incl. software implementation services; data processing services; data base services; and other computer services) 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental services (incl. sewage services; refuse disposal services; sanitation and similar services) 	
Monday, 30th April, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial services (commercial banking) Credit unions 	Clearing Banks' Association of The Bahamas; Bahamas Financial Services Board; Bahamas Institute of Financial Services
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial services (private banking) 	Bahamas Financial Services Board; CFA Society of The Bahamas; Bahamas Institute of Financial Services; Association of International Banks and Trust Companies
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance and insurance-related services 	Bahamas Insurance Association; Bahamas Insurance Brokers Association
Tuesday, 1st May, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hotels (incl. convention) 	Bahamas Hotel and Tourism Association
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurants (incl. catering) 	Bahamas Professional Services and Restaurant Alliance
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel agencies Tour operator services Tourist guide services Other tourism-related services 	Bahamas Dive Association; Bahamas Fly Fishing Industry Association
Wednesday, 2nd May, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passenger and freight transport services (incl. maritime, air and road) 	Bahamas Mail Boat Association
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postal and courier services Services incidental to passenger and freight transport (incl. maintenance and repair of vessels, aircraft and vehicles; rental of vessels, aircraft and vehicles; pushing, towing and other supporting services) 	
	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious services Services of non-profit organisations, community and civil society organisations 	
Thursday, 3rd May, 2018			
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other services not otherwise specified 	