



## THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS TO HOLD ANOTHER ROUND OF WTO PRIVATE SECTOR CONSULTATIONS, 18<sup>TH</sup> TO 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

The Government of The Bahamas wishes to advise the business community that it will hold additional, **industry-specific consultations** to obtain private sector input regarding membership in the World Trade Organization. The consultations will be held from **18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2019 at the Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, Cable Beach, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room.**

The consultations will be industry specific and are intended to inform the Government's negotiating position regarding responses received to date from WTO Members States concerning The Bahamas' Revised Goods and Services Offers, submitted to the WTO in September 2018. To that end, the input of the business community in this consultative process would be welcomed.

The Revised Goods and Services Offers can be viewed by visiting The Bahamas Trade Portal via [www.bahamastradeinfo.gov.bs](http://www.bahamastradeinfo.gov.bs) or the Government's official website via [www.bahamas.gov.bs](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs)

Please consult the consultation schedule below to determine the date and time that consultations will be held for your specific industry. Correspondence would have also been dispatched directly to the representative bodies listed below.

If your business is a member of an association, please liaise with your association representative to coordinate the positions, concerns or questions of your particular industry.

Please feel free to contact the Ministry of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration for more information by phone at 328-5071-6.

## WTO INDUSTRY CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULE: 18<sup>TH</sup> TO 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

DATE	TIME	TARGETED SECTORS	RELEVANT ASSOCIATIONS
<b>Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	10:00 am – 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounting services</li> <li>• Auditing services</li> <li>• Book-keeping services</li> <li>• Taxation services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA)</li> <li>• Institute of Internal Auditors (IIABC)</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Architectural services</li> <li>• Engineering services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Architects Board</li> <li>• Institute of Bahamian Architects</li> <li>• Professional Engineers Board</li> <li>• Bahamas Society of Engineers</li> <li>• Bahamas Engineers, Architects &amp; Allied Professions</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	10:00 am – 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General construction work for buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Contractors Association</li> <li>• Bahamas Electrical Contractors Association</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real Estate Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Real Estate Association (BREA)</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	10:00 am – 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Port Authority (Nassau)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arawak Port Development</li> </ul>
	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising services</li> <li>• Public opinion polling services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Association of Advertising &amp; Marketing (BAAM!)</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audio-visual services (<i>incl. motion picture &amp; video tape production and distribution services; and motion picture projection services (cinemas) and sound recording services</i>)</li> <li>• Audio-visual services (<i>incl. radio and television services; radio and television transmission services</i>)</li> </ul>	
<b>Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Time TBC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Hall Meeting on the WTO (at the invitation of DPM Turnquest)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Public in Freeport</li> </ul>
	<b>Time TBC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Consultations re WTO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand Bahama Port Authority</li> </ul>
	<b>Time TBC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Consultations re WTO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand Bahama Container Port</li> <li>• Grand Bahama Ship Yard</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	9:00 am – 10:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wholesale and Retail Services (food and beverage)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Retail Grocers Association</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wholesale and retail services (non-food and beverage - excluding sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories, and motor fuel)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Federation of Retailers</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>
	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wholesale and retail services (sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories, and motor fuel)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bahamas Motor Dealers Association</li> <li>• Bahamas Petroleum Retailers Association</li> <li>• <i>Other representatives of these sectors</i></li> </ul>

