



World Customs Organization

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For the attention of :
WCO developing-country Members

27.10.2023 / Brussels
23HL0558E

Dear Director General,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Customs Organization (WCO) will award a number of scholarships for the **Master's Degree Programme in Public Finance at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)** in Tokyo, Japan. Funds for these scholarships will be provided by Japan Customs under the Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme (Scholarship Programme).

The Scholarship Programme aims at **promising young managers from the Customs administrations of developing-country Members**. Candidates should demonstrate **potential capability and commitment to contribute to the growth of the service of their administrations** and should be **fully proficient in English**. Conditions of candidacy and selection are specified in the attachment. This Master's Degree Programme will start in September 2024 and finish in September 2025.

The Master's Degree Programme comprises two segments: an academic segment and a practical segment. The academic segment provides rigorous, economics-oriented training aimed at developing a broad understanding of the theoretical, empirical and institutional aspects of Customs policy implementation and administration. The practical segment is taught in co-operation with Japan Customs, including the Japan Customs Training Institute, pursuing acquirement of enough knowledge and Customs practices applicable for their home administration for further improvement of Customs procedures and modernization.

Attached to this letter, you will find a set of documents explaining the administrative provisions governing the Programme, application procedures and information for applicants from the University. If you would like to nominate a candidate or candidates from your Administration for this Scholarship Programme, please arrange for the application to be submitted with all supporting documents, including a Nomination Form from your Administration (downloadable from below-mentioned Website after online registration).

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The application process for candidates is as follows:

- The nominated applicant must read carefully and consent to the ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (Annex 1)

The nominated applicant must read the GRIPS Online Application Guide thoroughly: https://www.grips.ac.jp/cms/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/GRIPS_AppGuide_2024.pdf

- The applicant fills out and submits the Online Entry Form (https://webentry.grips.ac.jp/entry_form/) **by 15 February 2024** (no later than 17:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)). The GRIPS Admissions Office will send you an ID and a password by e-mail.
- The applicant must then complete and submit the Online Application Form and send all the supporting documents **by 22 February 2024** (no later than 17:00 JST) to the GRIPS Admissions Office address as indicated on the application Web page.
- The Nomination Form, which can be downloaded from the application Web page, should be completed and submitted along with the rest of the supporting documents.

Please note that applications received after the deadlines will not be considered. As late submissions, including of supporting documents such as proof of English proficiency, are not acceptable, applicants and nominating Administrations are encouraged to prepare the required documents well in advance.

Should you have any questions regarding this Programme, a member of your staff may contact Mr. Tetsuo MIZUNUMA of the WCO Capacity Building Directorate (Tel.: + 32 2 209 94 36; or E-mail : scholarship@wcoomd.org), or the GRIPS Admissions Office (E-mail : admissions@grips.ac.jp).

Yours sincerely,

Kunio Mikuriya
Secretary General