



World Customs Organization

Rue du Marché 30, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium
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To the attention of beneficiary WCO Members

10.07.2023 / Brussels
23HL0381E

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 **Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** at the Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), 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 is aimed at **promising young managers from the beneficiary WCO Member Customs administrations**. Candidates should have demonstrated **potential for growth and commitment to the service** of their administration 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 March 2024 and conclude in March 2025.

The Master's Degree Programme comprises two segments: an academic segment and a practical segment. The academic segment starts with focused teaching of foundational skills in strategic management and IPR. It then moves to a range of applied topics which help scholars understand how to design, implement, and evaluate public policies, particularly Customs policy, in accordance with development strategies for organizations. The practical segment is taught in cooperation with Japan Customs, including the Japan Customs Training Institute.

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

The application process for candidates is as follows :

- The nominated applicant requests Website access via the online registration option on the AGU's Website (<http://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>), which should be completed **by 15 August 2023**.
- The applicant must then complete the application forms and submit them with all the supporting documents **by 1 September 2023** to the AGU Master's Programme Admissions Office address as indicated on the application Web page.

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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.

If you have any questions regarding this Programme, your staff may contact Mr. Tetsuo Mizunuma of the WCO Capacity Building Directorate (Tel.: + 32 2 209 96 47; E-mail: scholarship@wcoomd.org), or the Master's Programme Admissions Office at the AGU Graduate School of Business (Tel.: + 81 3 3409 6239; E-mail: info_smiprp@busi.aoyama.ac.jp).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kunio Mikuriya".

Kunio Mikuriya
WCO Secretary General