

nto

**1st
Technical
Conference**



Building stronger partnerships to fight tax-related illicit financial flows

CONFERENCE BOOKLET
19-21 October 2021, virtual set-up



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I. WELCOME TO THE 1ST NTO TECHNICAL CONFERENCE



Dear participants,

The Network of Tax Organisation (NTO) is proud to welcome you to the 1st NTO Technical Conference on **Building stronger partnerships to fight tax-related illicit financial flows (IFFs)**.

Launched in May 2018 in Ottawa, the NTO is a network of nine regional and international tax organisations aiming to develop and promote effective tax systems. The conference is organised by the NTO Secretariat – facilitated by the International Tax Compact (ITC) – in collaboration with NTO member organisations and financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The goal of the NTO is to act as a global platform for the exchange of experiences, knowledge, and best practices on tax administration matters.

To organise the first NTO Technical Conference is an important step in the young history of the NTO. The conference brings participants from more than 100 revenue administrations worldwide together and supports towards establishing strong tax systems as a means to contribute to the well-being of people.

The first NTO Technical Conference will concentrate on widening collaboration to tackle tax-related IFFs. It will aim at analysing current good international practices of tax administrations regarding the fight against IFFs. It will also serve as a global platform to identify and explore possible approaches and future contributions of the NTO and NTO member organisations to reinforce international and inter-institutional cooperation between revenue administrations and other government bodies in combating tax offenses.

This booklet serves as a comprehensive guidance, which will lead you through the whole conference. It contains the programme and provides background information on the agenda, the speakers and the sessions.

The NTO sincerely hopes that the various sessions, the exchanging of experiences and networking with other tax administrators around the world during and after the conference will give you the opportunity to inspire and be inspired on how to further implement good practices, mechanisms and tools to fight IFF.

Lastly, the NTO conference team wants to thank all NTO members for their efforts in the organization of the conference and particularly the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT) for co-hosting this event.

We wish you all an enjoyable and exciting time during the conference.

NTO Conference Organization Team



II. PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

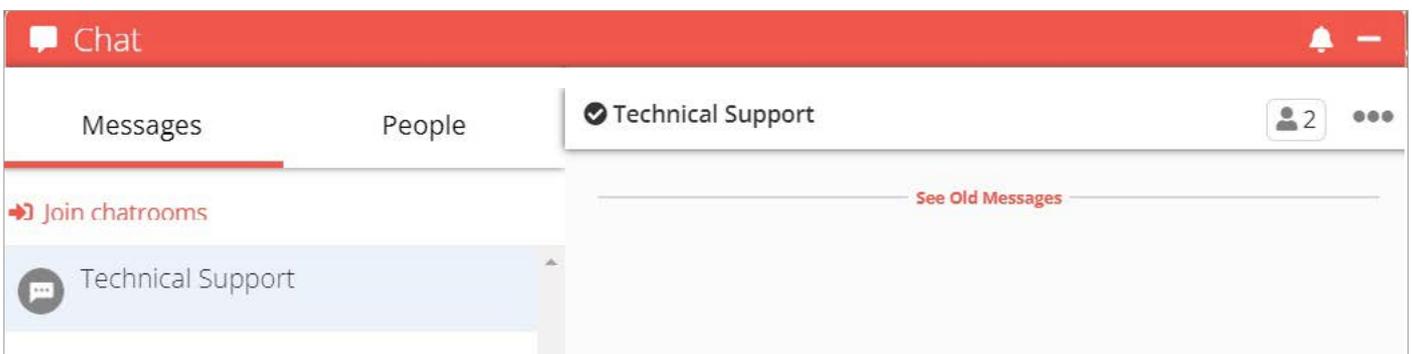


User guide for attendees

To participate at our first NTO Technical Conference that is hosted on the vFairs platform, this guide helps you to get familiar with the virtual environment of the event beforehand.

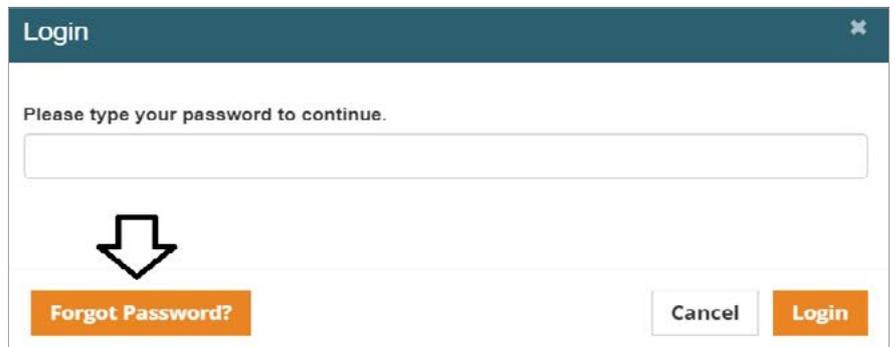
Helpdesk/contact points

You can contact technical support directly through 1STNTOTECHNICALCONFERENCE@getvfairs.io or through the embedded chat of “technical support” in the platform.



Login

Please enter the [NTO conference here](#). To login please enter your email address that you provided upon registration. The platform will ask you then to create your personal password. Please remember and use this password to access the platform always after that.



The screenshot shows a login form titled 'Login'. It has a dark blue header bar with a close button. Below the header, there is a text input field for the password. Below the input field, there is a large downward-pointing arrow icon. At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'Forgot Password?' (orange), 'Cancel' (white), and 'Login' (orange).

Menu Bar

When you enter the event, the menu bar will navigate you through the entire conference. You can access the event halls (Lobby, Exhibit Hall & Auditorium) or make use of the following features available:



- **Video Vault:** It contains a directory of videos which are available on the event for you to watch. You can save videos [by adding them](#) to “My Suitcase”.
- **Resources:** Find all the documents which are showcased on different booths and read them by clicking on the ‘View’ button. You can also save documents [by adding them](#) to “My Suitcase”.
- **My Suitcase:** Find all the resources (documents and videos) that you have saved. Feel free to [email the items](#) to yourself or colleagues so you can access them even after the event is over.
- **Networking (Chat):** The conference will be an interactive event. To communicate with other conference participants, please click on the networking tab or on the blue chat icon. You can either
 - start an individual conversation with another attendee,
 - join a group chat on a specific topic or get in touch with the booth representatives (please check their availabilities at the respective booth) and
 - receive a chat invitation by a booth representative who might want to draw your attention to their institution. [Learn more about chat invitation.](#)

You can send file attachments to your chat partner. Additionally, you have the opportunity start an audio/video call. [Learn more about chat features.](#)

- **Information Desk:** If you face any technical issue during the event, you can get assistance. Submit your query in the Technical Support chat room, which can be accessed at:
 - Info desk tab in the Menu bar. Another info desk can be found in the lobby.
 - Technical Support chatroom in the CHAT tab (find more information on the chat below)

Notifications

On the live event day, you might get various notifications at different times. These notifications help you to view/explore/attend important stuff going on in the event. Learn how to [minimize notifications](#) and keep your screen clutter free.

Lobby

You can also enter some of the halls listed in the menu bar via the lobby (see picture). It contains the doors to other spaces and halls of the event such as

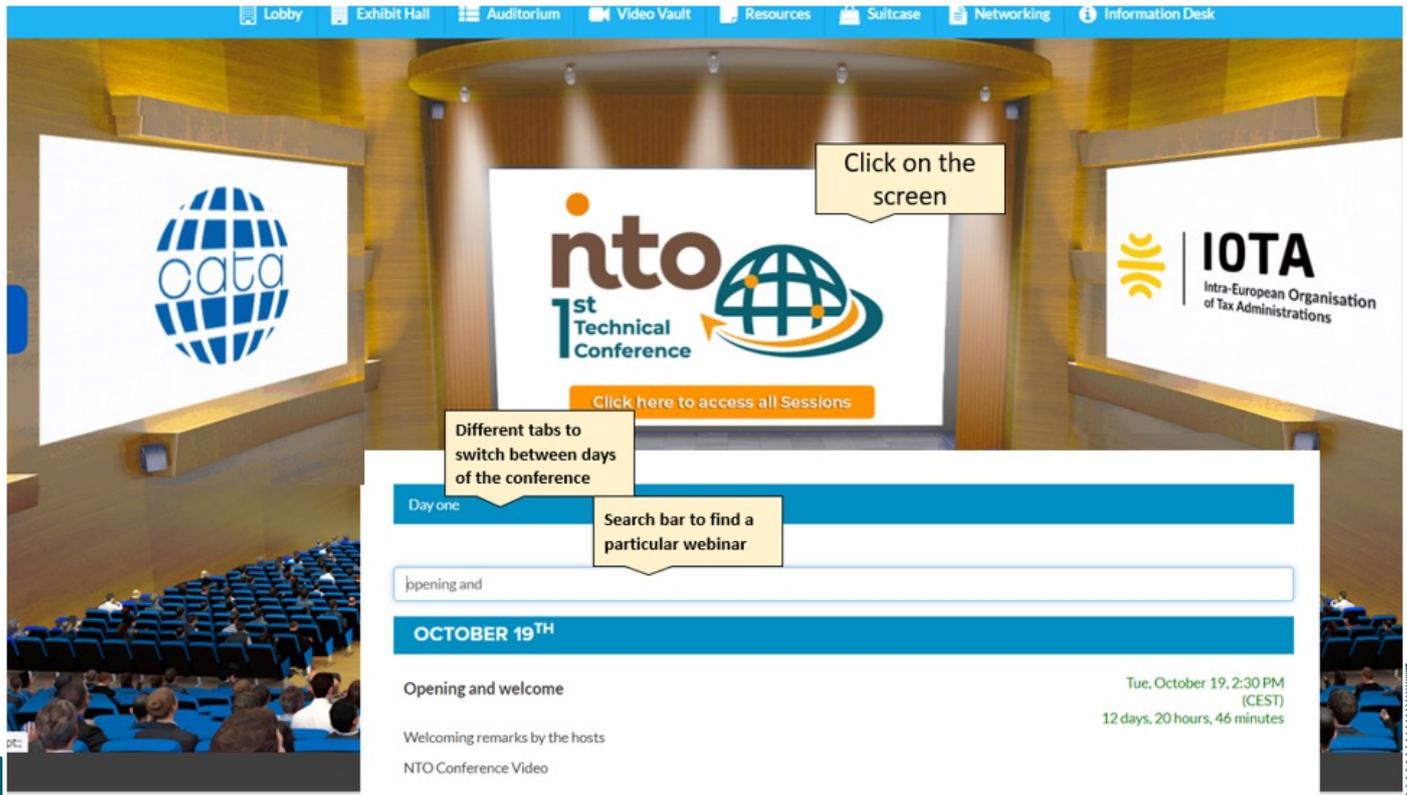
- **Exhibit Hall:** Visit the virtual booths of the NTO members here. Once entered in an exhibit hall, you can [visit a specific booth](#) to explore its features and interact with focal points.
- **Auditorium:** It takes you to the hall where you can access all plenary and breakout sessions, as well as workshops that you can easily participate in. The sessions will be live. Find the programme [here](#). In an auditorium, using the webinar listing page, you can do the following:
 - [Access the webinars listing to watch/participate in our sessions](#)
 - [Create a personalized agenda](#)
 - [Bookmark a webinar to your personal calendar](#)

• **Information Desk:** Do you have any questions? Click on “INFO” and the technical support will be happy to help.



Auditorium

It takes you to the hall where you can access all the scheduled conference sessions. The Auditorium resembles the image shared below. To see/access the webinar listing/agenda, you need to click on the screen of the auditorium.



Languages

In order to listen to the sessions in your preferred language (Spanish or French), please click on Interpretation tab when in the session and choose the respective channel. Please also mute the original audio by clicking on mute button in the left bottom corner of the videostream.



Netiquette



Check your audio and video settings before joining the conference

- To get familiar with the equipment that you are going to use and conference platform features.



Avoid distractions and multitasking

- Please close other applications/browser tabs when using the computer and do not send messages or make phone calls at the same time.



Promote exchange, discussion and networking

- The conference platform allows participants to interact and exchange experiences. Make good use of it!



Confidentiality

- The sensitive nature of the topic requires that no materials are shared outside of the participants' circle (platform of the conference).



No spam

- Any contributions that make improper use of the conference platform will be removed.



III. EVENT AGENDA





DAY 1: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND EXISTING CHALLENGES

19 OCTOBER
14:30 - 18:30 CEST

WELCOME REMARKS & KEYNOTE SPEECH

NTO WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

OPENING PANEL: TAX ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST IFFS – A FIRST HIGH LEVEL OVERVIEW

SESSION 1A: THE ROLE OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP (IMPLEMENTATION, REGISTERS, ETC.) IN COMBATING TAX CRIMES

SESSION 1B: FINANCING TERRORISM, MONEY LAUNDERING AND TAX EVASION: WHAT IS THE EFFECTIVE RESPONSE FROM TAX ADMINISTRATIONS?



DAY 2: BEST PRACTICES OF INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION ON THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS

20 OCTOBER
14:30 - 18:30 CEST

PLENARY SESSION: HOW CAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CONTRIBUTE TO COMBATING IFFS?

SESSION 2A: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: COOPERATION BETWEEN TAX ADMINISTRATIONS

SESSION 2B: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COOPERATION: COOPERATION BETWEEN TAX ADMINISTRATIONS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

SESSION 2C: DIGITAL TOOLS FOR TACKLING TAX FRAUD, EVASION AND OTHER TAX-RELATED IFFs

SESSION 2D: ENFORCEMENT OF TAX COMPLIANCE IN THE DIGITAL SPACE



DAY 3: LESSONS LEARNT AND WAY FORWARD

21 OCTOBER
14:30 - 18:30 CEST

PLENARY SESSION: CRITICAL AREAS IN THE CURRENT METHODS OF COMBATING ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES

PLENARY SESSION: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN ENSURING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' ACCESS TO GLOBAL TAX INITIATIVES

CLOSING PANEL: ROLE OF THE NTO AND TAX ORGANISATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TAX-RELATED IFFs AND IN STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.



IV. PROGRAMME AND SPEAKERS





Dr. Melinda Crane
MODERATOR

Dr. Melinda Crane has given speeches and moderated events and discussions for a wide range of international organizations. She is an experienced TV anchor, chief political correspondent at Deutsche Welle (DW) TV and also hosts the DW talk show "To the Point". As International Affairs Consultant to the discussion show "Sabine Christiansen" she produced interviews with Kofi Annan, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton and George Bush, among others.



DAY ONE: "International developments and existing challenges"
TUESDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2021

● 14:40 – 15:00

Welcome and Introduction
Moderation by Dr. Melinda Crane | Deutsche Welle

High-level opening remarks



Dr. Maria Flachsbarth
PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY TO THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, GERMANY

Maria Flachsbarth has been a member of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU) party since 1991. In March 2018 she became the Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development. Prior to that, from December 2013 to March 2018, she was Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture. Since 2014, Dr. Flachsbarth serves as Deputy Chairwoman of the Lower Saxony Regional Group of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag.



Carlos Lopes
PROFESSOR AT THE MANDELA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE,
UNIVERSITY OF CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Carlos Lopes is a Professor at the Mandela School of Public Governance as well as the University of Cape Town. Prof. Lopes has occupied several leadership positions across the United Nations system, including: Policy Director for Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Head of UNDP's policy bureau, Head of UNITAR and the UN System Staff College, UN Resident Coordinator in Zimbabwe and Brazil and the 8th Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa. He is a member of the African Union (AU) Reform team and the AU High Representative for Partnerships with Europe and he has served in the Global Commission for Economy and Climate and the Global Commission on the Geostrategy of Energy Transformation, among others.



Ruud de Mooj
ADVISOR TO THE IMMEDIATE OFFICE OF THE FISCAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Ruud De Mooij is an advisor in the International Monetary Fund's Fiscal Affairs Department, where he previously headed the Tax Policy Division. He has extensive experience in providing capacity development on tax policy issues in over 25 countries. Mr. De Mooij was a Professor of Public Economics at Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He is also a research fellow at the University of Oxford, the University of Bergen and Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung (ZEW) in Mannheim.



Irene Ovonji-Odida
ADVOCATE AND MEMBER OF UN FACTI HIGH LEVEL PANEL AND AU/ECA HIGH LEVEL
PANEL ON ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS FROM AFRICA

Irene Ovonji-Odida is a member of the United Nations (UN) FACTI High Level Panel and African Union Commission/United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (AU/ECA) High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa (Mbeki Panel). Ms. Ovonji-Odida is an Independent Commissioner of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation (ICRICT) and member of the South Centre Tax Initiative Steering Committee. As well, she is a former Legislator of the East African Legislative Assembly.



H.E. Albert Muchunga
TBC



Márcio Ferreira Verdi
HEAD OF THE NTO COUNCIL AND CIAT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Márcio Ferreira Verdi is an economist and career tax auditor in the “Secretaria da Receita Federal de Brasil”. In 2009, he was appointed CIAT Executive Secretary, previous to this position he was in CIAT Operations’ Directorate, in charge of the international cooperation and assistance in the agency. He worked for 28 years in the Brazilian Government Administration. After the foundation of NTO in 2018, Mr. Verdi has been elected the Head of the NTO Council and re-elected unanimously for the next period of 2 years in the NTO General Assembly in August 2020.

● 15:45 – 17:00

OPENING PANEL: TAX ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS (IFFS) – A FIRST HIGH-LEVEL OVERVIEW

IFFs include revenues from illegal activities such as tax evasion, international bribery and corruption, among others. National efforts alone are not sufficient to combat them. Therefore, several initiatives have joined forces to combat IFFs and to mobilize domestic revenues by implementing respective standards and national policies. Tax administrations (TA) ensure the application of new regulations in practice. Thus, they are one of the key actors in setting up the legal framework and applying the legislation effectively. However, there are numerous challenges TA must face. The purpose of the first panel is to set the floor for the whole conference and give all participants an overview of illicit financial flows and their implications on the work of tax administrations.

Speakers:



Prof. Attiya Waris
UN INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON FOREIGN DEBT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Professor Attiya Waris was appointed the UN Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights by the Human Rights Council at its 47th session and took up this function on 1 August 2021. She holds a PhD in Law and is a specialist in Fiscal Law, Policy and Development. She is the first female Director of Research and Enterprise at the University of Nairobi. Ms. Waris teaches at the Law School, University of Nairobi, Kenya and has previously taught in South Africa, Rwanda, Malaysia and the United Kingdom. Prof. Waris has researched and published on global, African, Asian, European as well as Latin American issues.



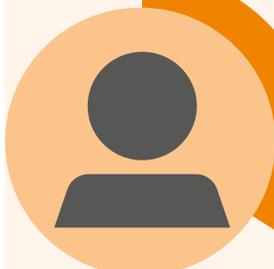
Brig. Gen. Giuseppe Arbore
HEAD OF OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT, GUARDIA DI FINANZA, ITALY

Brigadier General Giuseppe Arbore is Head of the Department Operations of the Guardia di Finanza (GdF) General Headquarters. In the past, he imparted his knowledge on legal and technical subjects at interforce and military bodies, as well as at the higher training schools of the Corps. At the Academy of the GdF, he was a teacher for auditing, taught techniques for protection of revenue and lectured on countering international tax evasion and fraud. Among other teaching assignments, he was a Delegate to the European Council for the drafting of Community regulations regarding the legal protection of the Euro.



Agnes Asobola Nabwire
AG COMMISSIONER FOR TAX INVESTIGATION, UGANDA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Agnes Asobola Nabwire joined the Tax Investigations Department as the Assistant Commissioner Intelligence Division at the Uganda Revenue Authority in 2020. Currently she holds the position of Acting Commissioner Tax Investigations. In the past, she also served for the Customs Department carrying out different roles, such as: Officer, Supervisor, Manager Post Clearance Audit and Assistant Commissioner Enforcement. Throughout her career she has gained vast experience in Audit, Enforcement, Border Control and Investigations.



Godfrey Baloyi
HEAD OF CRIMINAL AND ILLICIT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE



Simen Bjørnerud
SENIOR ADVISOR, NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (NORAD)

Simen Bjørnerud is a senior advisor in the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). As part of the Tax for Development team, he manages a portfolio of activities that aims to enable development countries to improve financing for national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through increased tax revenue and a strengthened social contract.



MARCOS ROCA
TAX AND CRIME ADVISER AT THE OECD

Marcos Roca works as Tax and Crime Adviser at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In this capacity he supports the standard-setting and capacity building programmes of the OECD Task Force on Tax Crimes and Other Crimes, including managing the OECD Academy for Tax and Financial Crime Investigation and its regional centres. He also contributes, on behalf of the OECD, to the fight against illicit financial flows conducted by the G20, G7, FATF and other international forums. He has extensive experience in the public Sector in Argentina and before joining the OECD, he was Chef de Cabinet to one of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Buenos Aires.

● 17:15 – 18:15

SESSION 1A: THE ROLE OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP (IMPLEMENTATION, REGISTERS, ETC.) IN COMBATING TAX CRIMES (parallel session)

Moderator: Ridha Hamzaoui, Principal Research Associate at the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD)

When beneficial ownership information is available, owners cannot disguise their activities and hide their assets and the financial trail from law enforcement authorities using layers of legal structures spanning multiple jurisdictions. The availability of beneficial ownership information is a key requirement of international tax transparency and the fight against tax evasion and other financial crimes. The attendees of this breakout session will benefit from hearing first-hand experiences of tax administrations and other institutions working to implement beneficial ownership legislation, regulations and registers. The speakers of the session will present country specific cases that have advanced and further benefited from their registers and gain a view on successes and challenges that were overcome.

Speakers:



Ridha Hamzaoui

PRINCIPAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AT THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF FISCAL DOCUMENTATION (IBFD)

Ridha Hamzaoui is the Managing Principal for the Middle East and North Africa region within the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD) Knowledge Centre. He is also an expert on tax law and tax treaties for the UN Development Programme in the Middle East and North Africa regions. With IBFD, Mr. Hamzaoui has contributed to various tax policy review and capacity development programmes for tax authorities in the Africa and Middle East regions. Mr. Hamzaoui is a regular speaker on international tax issues, and an instructor for IBFD open and in-house courses.



Ljubinka Andonovska

EXPERT IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REGISTRATION, CENTRAL REGISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Ljubinka Andonovska has worked for the Central Register of the Republic of North Macedonia for 10 years now and her expertise is in filing solutions, information issuing solutions, digitalization, interoperability, and data quality. She was a member of the core team for the establishing of the Macedonian register of beneficial owners. She is currently engaged as an Expert in Beneficial Ownership Registration at the EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism and as a Research Analyst for the Tax Justice Network's Financial Secrecy Index in the field of legal and beneficial ownership transparency.



Lotfi Bouchaala
HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION UNIT AT DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES IMPÔTS, TUNISIA

Lotfi Bouchaala is Head of the International Information Exchange Unit at the DGI since July 2020. Before, he was Director of Crosschecking and Data Collection for Foreign Intelligence Sharing for 7 years. Since March 2019 Mr. Bouchaala is also Board Member of Directors of the National Business Registry that represents the Ministry of Finance. Before joining the DGI, he was Team Leader of auditors in charge of the in-depth audit of tax files in the National Tax Control and Investigation Unit.



Mabifi Mabengane
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATION OFFICER, COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT,
BOTSWANA UNIFIED REVENUE SERVICE



Daphne Bakae
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATION OFFICER AT THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DEPARTMENT OF THE BOTSWANA UNIFIED REVENUE SERVICE (BURS)

Daphne Bakae is Principal Investigation Officer at the Anti-Money Laundering Department of the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS). Ms. Bakae has been working at BURS for 13 years. She is an expert in Tax Fraud Investigation and Anti-Money Laundering and has extensive experience in Tax Audit. In the past, Ms. Bakae also worked in the Returns Processing Unit under Taxpayer Services where she gained deep knowledge in tax administration. Also, she is a certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist and Forensic Investigation Professional.

● 17:15 – 18:15

SESSION 1B: FINANCING OF TERRORISM, MONEY LAUNDERING AND TAX EVASION: WHAT IS THE EFFECTIVE RESPONSE FROM TAX ADMINISTRATIONS? (parallel session)

Moderator: Cléber Homem da Silva, Head of the Research and Investigation Office at the Federal Revenue Secretariat of Brazil

The combat of money laundering and terrorist financing contributes to improving global security, integration of the international financial system and sustainable growth of the countries' economies creating conditions for social development.

This session will specify possible issues that tax administrations (TA) are facing and there will be an exchange of practical experiences on how each type of IFFs affect and is dealt with by TAs. The participants will talk about the common most challenging cases and good practices of identifying and combatting them from tax administration point of view. The session will feature unique experience of benchmark institutions in the fight against financial crimes: USA Internal Revenue Service, Italian Guardia di Finanza, and Brazilian Federal Revenue Secretariat. Indonesia will present their rich experience and successes in implementing digital forensic activities, focusing on the approach and results it can bring in calling out uncomplying taxpayers and thus recovering revenues.

Speakers:



Cléber Homem da Silva
HEAD OF THE RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION OFFICE AT THE FEDERAL REVENUE SECRETARIAT OF BRAZIL

Cléber Homem da Silva is a Tax Agent of Federal Revenue Secretariat of Brazil (RFB) since 1999. He began his activities as Federal Tax Agent. In 2001, he joined the Research and Investigation Office in Brasília, a regional unit from the Brazilian Federal Revenue's Tax Intelligence Unit. Since 2009, Mr. Homem da Silva has been heading the Research and Investigation Office in Rio de Janeiro, where he has been responsible for providing and analysing all the tax matters related to the investigation in that state. Also, he participates in search and seizure of warrants in cooperation with the federal prosecutors and federal police.



Col. t.ISSMI. Claudio Petrozziello
HEAD OF THE INFORMATION COORDINATION OFFICE OF GUARDIA DI FINANZA HEADQUARTERS, ITALY

Claudio Petrozziello is currently chief of the Intelligence Hub at the headquarter of the Guardia di Finanza (GdF) in Rome. After his graduation at the GdF Academy, he was promoted to Commander in 1995 and led several units that combat tax evasion and money laundering, among others. After having carried out various roles as e.g. Colonel at the Portuguese Maritime Analysis and Operation Centre (Narcotics) and GdF County Commander, in 2013 he became Deputy Director of the GdF's Unit for (Inter)national Investigations of Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Financial Crime Investigations. From 2015 to 2021 he has served as tax, anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing expert at the Italian embassy in London.



Izazi Mubarok
HEAD OF TAX FORENSICS SECTION I, DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF TAXES, INDONESIA

Izazi Mubarok is a Digital Forensics (DF) Investigator at Directorate General of Taxes (DGT) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of the Republic of Indonesia (RI). Since 2011, he has been dealing with formulating regulation and standard procedures of DF, developing competency and skills for DF examiners, to leading DF tasks, which cover technical processes and procedures of acquisition and preservation, examination, analysing, archiving and reporting. Also, he is one of the Chairmen of Indonesian Digital Forensics Association (AFDI). Mr. Mubarok has extensive experiences and strong ability in the field of investigation and audit in the IT and financial sector.



Stephan Robinson
**SPECIAL AGENT AND SENIOR ANALYST AT IRS CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA)**

Stephan Robinson is a Special Agent of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service at the Criminal Investigation (IRS:CI) division. He has been working with the IRS:CI for more than 34 years and since March 2017, he has served as a Senior Analyst in the Narcotics and National Security Section. In this role, he works with the Field Offices and partners with other U.S. and international law enforcement agencies to identify and support criminal tax, money laundering, and financial transaction reporting crimes investigations in the narcotics and counterterrorism program areas. He also serves as IRS:CI Liaison to the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence.



DAY TWO: “BEST PRACTICES OF INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION ON THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS”

WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2021

● 14:40 – 15:55

PLENARY SESSION: HOW CAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CONTRIBUTE TO COMBATING IFFS?

IFFs have a global dimension and affect every economy, large and small. To ensure effective response to IFFs, authorities, institutions and national governments must understand the importance of international cooperation among a variety of public entities and stakeholders to fight tax and other financial crimes across national boundaries. This fight requires national cooperation among different institutions involved in the fight as well as regional and international cooperation among jurisdictions. It is therefore in the best interest of world’s economies, especially developing countries, to coordinate their resources, laws, mechanisms and efforts in combating IFFs globally.

The purpose of this session is to discuss the forms and limits of international cooperation, obstacles and way forward in improving international cooperation among governments, tax authorities, financial intelligence agencies and other institutions. Speakers from various organisations, e.g. national revenue authorities, networks and international initiatives fighting for tax justice, among others, will provide valuable insights into how successful tax administrations have been in making use of the increased transparency and global data availability. The speakers will also discuss how to facilitate such cooperation and how to overcome common challenges.

Speakers:



Muazu Umaru
DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ACTION GROUP AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING IN WEST AFRICA (GIABA)

Muazu Umaru currently serves as the Director of Policy and Research at the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA). He is a recognized expert in national anti-money laundering and countering terrorist financing (AML/CFT), in particular. Muazu Umaru has over 23 years of operational, governance, policy and management experience. He has led the conduct of researches for GIABA and consistently and actively participated in the work of the Financial Action Task Forces for the last eleven years. He has supported GIABA member countries in building and improving their AML/CFT systems by developing national strategies and enhancing capacity building.



Chenai Chido Mukumba
POLICY RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY MANAGER AT THE TAX JUSTICE NETWORK AFRICA

Chenai Mukumba is the Policy Research and Advocacy Manager at the Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA’s). She is responsible for leading the policy unit and coordinating the institution’s research and policy engagement at regional and global levels. She also oversees the institution’s technical backstopping of TJNA’s national-level advocacy. Most recently, Ms. Mukumba was elected as Vice Chair for the ATAF’s African Tax in Women Network.



Konan Benoit Djaha
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ACTION GROUP AGAINST
MONEY LAUNDERING IN WEST AFRICA (GIABA)



Philip Mensah
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AT THE GHANA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Philip Mensah is the Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Treaties with the Ghana Revenue Authority. He has over 30 years of experience in the legal profession with a specialisation in international trade, customs law and international taxation. He is a highly skilled manager with extensive experience in project management. Mr. Mensah is currently serving as a Commissioner for the Ghana International Trade Commission (GITC) and is member of the Steering Group of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.



Abd Muiz bin Kamaludin
DIRECTOR OF THE INLAND REVENUE BOARD OF MALAYSIA

Abd Muiz bin Kamaludin is the Director of the Special Operation Department at the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRBM). His department deals with financial crime cases and illegal activities, and it represents the organisation in the National Anti-Financial Crime Centre (NFCC). He has been working for the IRBM since 2002 and he has gained a range of experiences over the last 19 years, which include: tax investigation, tax auditing and civil collection.



Rusudan Kemularia
HEAD OF THE TAX INSPECTORS WITHOUT BORDERS SECRETARIAT

Rusudan Kemularia joined the Tax Inspectors Without Borders team to lead a review of the initiative. Prior to that, Ms. Kemularia was Georgia's Vice Minister of Finance, leading tax reforms and work in all areas of public finance, including tax and customs policy and administration, among others. Also, she was appointed as a Secretary to the Parliament and Co-Chair of the Tax Dispute Resolution Council. She negotiated numerous double taxation avoidance treaties and implemented anti-avoidance regulations (e.g. transfer pricing rules) in Georgia. From 2012-2019 she has worked as General Counsel of the Millennium Challenge Corporation-funded project.

● 16:10 – 17:10

SESSION 2A: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: COOPERATION BETWEEN TAX ADMINISTRATIONS (parallel session)

Moderator: Mary Baine, Director of Tax Programmes at the African Tax Administration Forum

Tax administrations (TA) do not only have a crucial role in collecting tax revenues but also in the ecosystem of actors combatting tax-related IFFs. Their access to tax and fiscal data as well as their know-how in tax matters put them at the forefront of the detection and conviction of fraud and harmful transactions. Nevertheless, TA face various obstacles ranging from constraints on information exchange to the lack of analytics tools or trained staff. Based on the specific cases from tax administrations, this session will discuss various aspects of international cooperation and its major challenges. The presenters of this session will focus on country-specific issues that are most relevant to their tax administrations and highlight strategies to overcome these obstacles. Analysing cases of successful transnational cooperation between tax administrations and drivers of their success will allow to derive useful lessons for robust future cooperation for the attendees.

Speakers:



Sameera Khan
MANAGER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE TAX PROGRAMMES DIRECTORATE OF THE AFRICAN TAX ADMINISTRATION FORUM (ATAF), SOUTH AFRICA

Sameera Khan is the Manager Technical Assistance in the Tax Programmes Directorate of the African Tax Administration Forum since 2017. In this position she provides technical assistance to developing countries to strengthen their tax systems. Ms. Khan also oversees the delivery of technical assistance requested by member countries either through customised long-term country programs or short terms programs focussing on different areas such as transfer pricing, exchange of information and domestic taxes, among others. Ms. Khan is also an accredited TADAT assessor. Before joining the ATAF, Ms. Khan worked at the South African Revenue Service in the field of Tax, Forensic and Criminal Investigation as well as Risk Management.



Tom Gardiner
LEADER OF COMPETENT AUTHORITY AT HER MAJESTY'S REVENUE AND CUSTOMS OFFSHORE INTELLIGENCE, UNITED KINGDOM

Tom Gardiner is Lead Competent Authority for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Offshore Intelligence on a key number of areas, including the share of Information and Intelligence for Tax Fraud. Mr. Gardiner also leads the International Engagement matters for HMRC Offshore Intelligence focusing on intelligence that supports HMRC strategies in the fight against Offshore Tax Crime and Evasion. Mr. Gardiner is the Chair of the J5 Intelligence and Development group tackling enablers of offshore and transnational crime. Mr. Gardiner has been involved in a number of OECD Projects: facilitating the creation of the North Atlantic Fisheries Intelligence Group and fighting against offshore tax crime and money laundering together with partners to form the Ottawa Group.



María Pilar Jurado Borrego
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS AND TAX DEPARTMENT OF THE AGENCIA ESTATAL DE ADMINISTRACIÓN TRIBUTARIA (AEAT), SPAIN

María Pilar Jurado Borrego is Director of the Customs and Excise Department of the State Tax Agency. In her role she is responsible for the implementation of new environmental taxes, such as value of the production of electricity, nuclear related taxes and fluorinated gases tax. In January 2012 she was appointed Director General of the Customs and Excise Taxes Department of the Spanish Tax Agency. Before that, Ms. Jurado Borrego was Deputy Director for Excise from 2008-2012. She regularly participates in meetings at EU level (European Council, European Commission's Committees and workshops) related to Energy Tax Directive modification, among others.



Robert Thomson
AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE DELEGATE TO THE OECD

Robert Thomson is the current OECD Delegate of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) in Paris. Also, he leads the Joint International Taskforce on Shared Intelligence and Collaboration (JITSIC), where he facilitates and operationalises the sharing of intelligence and in tackling operational risks in tax administrations. Before, Mr. Thomson's role was Assistant Commissioner in Public Groups and International. He was responsible, among others, for developing a strategy that assured Insurance Companies, Large Superannuation (Pension) Funds and Managed Investment Trusts were paying the correct amount of income tax.

● 16:10 – 17:10

SESSION 2B: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COOPERATION: COOPERATION BETWEEN TAX ADMINISTRATIONS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS
Moderator: Elfrieda Tamba, Former Commissioner General, Liberia Revenue Authority

Inter-agency cooperation is crucial in disrupting the proliferation of illicit financial flows across national borders. Strategies for that may involve several government agencies: tax authority, financial intelligence agency, customs authority, anti-money laundering agencies, the police and specialized law enforcement agencies responsible for investigating corruption offences and the public prosecutor's office and financial regulators. However, linkages between these pillars are not always well-established; information gathered by revenue authorities is often limited for usage by others, and bank secrecy prevents crucial exchanges among the agencies to pinpoint and capture the offender.

The objective of this case-based session is to discuss the importance, specific cases and major obstacles to inter-agency cooperation in combating illicit financial flows by examining various aspects of cooperation (e.g. legal/ad-hoc frameworks, priorities, available resources, etc.). The session will also highlight strategies to overcome these obstacles. The representatives of tax authorities and other agencies will focus on country-specific issues and success stories from their experience of interagency cooperation

Speakers:



Biola Shotunde
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR AT THE NIGERIAN FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT, NIGERIA

Biola Shotunde is the Associate Director, Intelligence and Investigation Support and CTR Analysis at the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU), Abuja. She is founder of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the NFIU. Prior to her current position, she was Head Field Intelligence and Counterterrorism and Strategic Intelligence and Head of the Capital Market and Insurance Operations Analysis Department, respectively. The NFIU is the central repository of all financial intelligence related to the combat of corruption, money laundering and terrorism, among others.



Hans Petter Tetmo
SENIOR ADVISER FOR TAX CRIMES, NORWEGIAN TAX ADMINISTRATION, NORWAY



Dr. Aboubakar Nacanabo
HEAD OF LARGE COMPANIES, TAX AUDIT UNIT AT THE DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES IMPÔTS, BURKINA FASO

Aboubakar Nacanabo is the Head of Large Companies at the office Tax Audit Unit at the Direction Générale des Impôts (DGI) in Burkina Faso. He is a Tax Inspector and an expert in international taxation with experience in transfer pricing legislation, BEPS action number 4 on interest deduction, permanent establishment and taxation of the digital economy. He was recently appointed as the chair for ATAF Technical Committee and for African Experts in International Taxation Network.



Elfrieda Tamba
FORMER COMMISSIONER GENERAL, LIBERIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Elfrieda Tamba is a retired Commissioner at the Liberia Revenue Authority, where she championed and led its establishment. Ms. Tamba successfully achieved the position of Chief Financial Officer at the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI). She joined the public sector in August 2006 as the Deputy Minister of Finance for Revenue where she relentlessly initiated and successfully implemented various transformational and modernization reforms in revenue administration. Also, she has served as Chair of the West African Tax Administration Forum (WATAF), Council Member of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) and Co-chair of the Addis Tax Initiative.

● 17:20 – 18:20

SESSION 2C: DIGITAL TOOLS FOR TACKLING TAX FRAUD AND EVASION AND OTHER TAX-RELATED IFFS

Moderator: Raul Zambrano, Technical Assistance and Information Technology and Communication Director, CIAT

Constantly changing complexity and nature of IFFs as well as new forms of tax crime require innovative methods to combat tax fraud. Based on global data and intelligence from numerous sources, technology can support criminal investigation and improve intelligence programs in reducing transnational tax crime, cybercrime and money laundering. This session is aimed at showcasing new digital tools and approaches developed by tax authorities and other stakeholders to increase cross-border collaboration in the fight against international and transnational tax crime and money laundering.

The Republic of Honduras will present their practice in implementing a digital tool and share knowledge on developments of Latin American Countries in the framework of the Punta del Este Declaration, an Latin American Initiative to tackle tax evasion, corruption and other financial crimes through transparency and exchange of information (EOI) for tax purposes.

The United Kingdom (UK) is invited to share experience of using the [FCI NET](#), a decentralised computer system enabling agencies fighting financial economic crime to search for data on their suspects in a privacy friendly way.

Speakers:



Raul Zambrano
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, CIAT

Raul Zambrano is the Director of Technical Assistance and Technology of the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT). He has led international multidisciplinary teams in modernization projects implemented by CIAT and has participated in process improvement and information systems development and evaluation as a consultant in more than twenty tax and customs administrations. He has lectured on databases, information systems management, and object orientation and held seminars on technology and tax administration at various academic institutions. Also, he is member of the BEPS Action 1 The Task Force on Digital Economy (TFDE) and he has authored and edited several publications on tax administration and technology.



Miriam Guzman
HEAD OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE AT THE HONDURAN TAX ADMINISTRATION



Roberto Ramos
DIRECTOR OF THE LARGE TAXPAYER DIRECTORATE AT THE HONDURAN TAX ADMINISTRATION

Roberto Ramos Obando is Director of the Large Taxpayers Directorate in the Revenue Administration Service (SAR) of Honduras, previously serving as head of the Department of International Taxation and Transfer Pricing. He holds a master's degree in European and International Taxation from Lund University, Sweden, and a law degree from the Central American Technological University (UNITEC), where he works as a professor of tax law.

He is currently the representative of Honduras to the OECD's BEPS Inclusive Framework, the Forum on Harmful Tax Practices (FHTP) and other multilateral organizations.



Simon Lowndes
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AT THE RISK AND INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, HER MAJESTY'S REVENUE AND CUSTOMS , UK

● 17:20 – 18:20

SESSION 2D: ENFORCEMENT OF TAX COMPLIANCE IN THE DIGITAL SPACE
Moderator: Massimo Morarelli, International Tax Expert at the Intra-European Organisation of Tax Administrations (IOTA)

New business models and actors (e.g. digital platforms, intermediaries, etc.) play an important role in facilitating e-commerce, communication, providing entertainment, information, social networking etc. without having any physical link in the jurisdiction of taxation. Thematic social websites and mobile applications are increasingly spreading where hidden business transactions can be conducted through intermediaries or directly between the service provider and its customer.

This makes it difficult for tax administrations to conduct traditional compliance actions to ensure that digital economy businesses are accounting for their correct tax liabilities. Tax authorities have to keep the pace with this new economic environment, using the advantages and tools of the IT technology. They have started extensively to utilize advance data analytics in controlling both the digital and "traditional" economy.

The objective of this session is to explore effective solutions implemented by tax administrations concerning the detection and prevention of new VAT fraud schemes facilitated by digital platforms selling goods. The session will also raise awareness about new types of VAT fraud schemes emerging in the digital economy and identify examples of effective use of available databases.

Representatives of the Italian Revenue Agency and French tax administration will present the IOTA Project on detection and prevention of VAT fraud involving digital operators and Chile will talk about their recent successes in implementation of VAT on digital services and ensuring compliance in this sphere.

Speakers in this breakout:



Vanessa Bianchini
TAX OFFICIAL OF THE ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY DIVISION, ANTIFRAUD UNIT,
ITALIAN REVENUE AGENCY

Vanessa Bianchini is Tax Official of the Analysis and Strategy Division at the Antifraud Unit of the Italian Revenue Agency. In 2008 she joined the Italian Tax Administration and since 2012 she has been working for the Antifraud Office. Her responsibilities include: (inter)national investigations related to tax frauds and international tax offences, auditing and risk analysis. Also, she is Member of the EUROFISC Group involved in the Working Field "Control of E-Commerce".



Massimo Morarelli
INTERNATIONAL TAX EXPERT AT THE INTRA-EUROPEAN ORGANISATION OF TAX
ADMINISTRATIONS (IOTA)

Massimo Morarelli is an International VAT Expert seconded by the Italian Revenue Agency to the Intra-European Organisation of Tax Administrations (IOTA). He is in charge of fostering co-operation between the member tax administrations in the field of VAT, Customs and Taxation of the Digital Economy. Mr. Morarelli is the Italian delegate at the OECD Working Party on Consumption Taxes (WP9) and its Technical Advisory Group (TAG). He also worked several years for the European Commission in Brussels (Directorate General for Taxation and Customs Union and Directorate General for Trade).



Fernando J. Barraza
COMMISSIONER, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (SII) OF CHILE

Fernando Barraza is the National Director of the Internal Revenue Service (SII) of Chile since August 2015. He has been a consultant to international organizations and academicians and an advisor to governments and tax administrations on innovation strategies and processes with the application of information technologies. Mr. Barraza has been responsible for directing the implementation of the country's latest tax reforms and important innovations such as VAT on digital services, and the pre-filled VAT returns, which allow taxpayers to comply easily with the payment of said tax.



Renaud Rodenas
DEPUTY HEAD OF THE VAT FRAUD DIVISION – COORDINATOR OF THE EUROFISC WF5
VAT FRAUD IN E-COMMERCE

Renaud Rodenas is Senior Tax Officer within the French Tax Administration. He has held several positions in the field of VAT fraud: Tax Auditor, later Head of a Tax Control Brigade as well as Deputy Head of the Tax Control Division in a Local Directorate. Finally, he became Deputy Head of the VAT Fraud Division within the National Directorate of Tax Inquiries (DNEF), where he dealt with different kind of fraud delicts. Since 2020, he is a member of the Expert Team of the Central Electronic System of Payment (CESOP). Also, he coordinates the Eurofisc working field 5 dedicated to VAT fraud in e-commerce.



DAY THREE: "LESSONS LEARNT AND WAY FORWARD"
THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021

● 14:40 – 15:40

PLENARY SESSION: CRITICAL AREAS IN THE CURRENT METHODS OF COMBATING ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES

According to the IMF and World Bank, criminals launder an estimated amount from two to nearly four trillion dollars each year. The complex and cross-sectorial nature of IFFs is given by their origins in the corruption of public and private activities; organized crime; tax evasion, and money laundering, among others. It requires policymakers to provide the legal and regulation framework, and national operational agencies and stakeholders to have a more strategic overview and tools to combat economic and financial crimes and IFFs. The tools are available and constantly develop on both local and international levels, but there is still much to be done in their improvement, in increasing their use and efficiency and in developing new ones. What are the minimum standards and regulations needed to address tax crime? What are the main challenges regarding digital space and technologies? Which instruments are underused? What are the untapped potentials? These questions and others will be discussed based on tax administrations' experiences on methods and tools to address financial crime and IFFs with specific focus on gaps and critical areas together with the standard setters' perspective.

Speakers:

Dra. Verónica Grondona

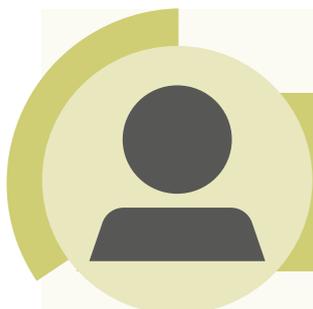
DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTORATE OF INTERNATIONAL TAXATION FINANCING AT THE PUBLIC REVENUES FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION, ARGENTINA

Verónica Grondona is the Director of International Tax Audit at Argentina's Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos (AFIP). From 2016 to 2019 she has been an Advisor to a political group in the European Parliament in relation to the Special Committee on financial crimes, tax evasion and avoidance (TAX3), and the Committee of Inquiry to investigate alleged contraventions and mismanagement in the application of Union law in relation to money laundering, tax avoidance and tax evasion' (PANA committee). Between 2019 and 2020, Ms. Grondona was a researcher for the Tax Justice Network. Among her main topics of research are transfer pricing, illicit financial flows, capital flows and their impact on gender inequality.

Biagio Carrese

DIRECTOR OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION AT THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY

Biagio Carrese has been Director of Criminal Investigations at the Canada Revenue Agency since 2019. For 29 years he worked as a police officer at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police where he gained experience with overseeing organized crime, terrorism and financial investigations of an international nature. He also managed the anti-money laundering and anti-bribery program for 2 years at the Royal Canadian Mint and was Director of Investigations for 3 years at Public Services and Procurement Canada.



Jennifer Bonocore

HEAD OF THE STRATEGIC COORDINATION AND MONEY LAUNDERING/TERRORIST FINANCING PREVENTION STANDARDS DEPARTMENT IN THE DIRECTORATE FOR MONEY-LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCING PREVENTION IN THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC REVENUES (AFIP), ARGENTINA

Jennifer Bonocore is Head of the Strategic Coordination and Money Laundering/Terrorist Financing Prevention Standards Department in the AFIP. Before, she was Supervisor of Regulated Entities at the Financial Information Unit of the Argentine Republic. In this role, Ms. Bonocore was responsible for inspections of subjects in matters of prevention against money laundering and financing of terrorism. Also, she worked as a University Professor of Economics at the University of Buenos Aires and in the Program on Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.



Sandro Leão

TAX AND CUSTOMS INSPECTOR AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR AT THE PORTUGUESE TAX AND CUSTOMS AUTHORITY

Sandro Leão is a Tax and Customs Inspector for the Portuguese Tax and Customs Authority. He has joined the Tax and Customs Authority in 2011 and has been working in the Criminal Investigation Unit, for nine years. In that position, he has investigated several cases of tax fraud involving the use offshore companies.

Previously, he had worked as Legal Officer and Head of Legal and Audit Division in other Portuguese Governmental Authorities. He has a degree in Law and a degree in Accounting and Finance. He is recognized as a trainer and has provided several training courses in the area of Administrative Law.



Marcos Roca

TAX AND CRIME ADVISER TO THE OECD

Marcos Roca works as Tax and Crime Adviser at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In this capacity he supports the standard-setting and capacity building programmes of the OECD Task Force on Tax Crimes and Other Crimes, including managing the OECD Academy for Tax and Financial Crime Investigation and its regional centres. He also contributes, on behalf of the OECD, to the fight against illicit financial flows conducted by the G20, G7, FATF and other international forums. He had extensive experience in the public sector in Argentina and before joining the OECD, he was Chef de Cabinet to one of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Buenos Aires.

● 15:55 – 16:55

**PLENARY SESSION: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN ENSURING
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' ACCESS TO GLOBAL TAX INITIATIVES**

Global solutions are necessary to facilitate transparency and cross-border cooperation and coordination. The following initiatives from around the world have emerged as e.g. standard setters and custodians of these international standards to identify global solutions to crack down on IFF: UN High Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (FACTI), Financial Action Task Force (FATF), OECD Global Forum, OECD`s Task Force on Tax Crimes and Other Crimes (TFTC), and Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS), among others. Nevertheless, joining such initiatives and implementing their standards does not come without costs.

Therefore, the aim of the panel is to discuss the opportunities and limits of becoming part of these initiatives, identify potentials for improvements regarding inclusiveness and the role of tax administrations. Representatives from tax administrations and speakers from international institutions, i.e. OECD, invite you to a joint discussion.

Speakers:

Professor Annet Wanyana Oguttu
PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION, UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

Annet Wanyana Oguttu is a professor of tax law in the Department of Taxation and in the African Tax Institute. As a recognised specialist in the field of international tax law, she is the author of several published books, e.g. "Base Erosion and Profit Shifting: A Blueprint for Africa's Response" and "International Tax Law: Offshore Tax Avoidance in South Africa". Prof. Oguttu is a member of the UN High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability and the Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (FACTI Panel) and she has served a Commissioner of the South African Law Reform Commission.

Matafeo Avalisa Viali Fautua'alii
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT THE MINISTRY OF CUSTOMS AND REVENUE, SAMOA

Matafeo Avalisa Viali-Fautua'alii is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Samoa's Ministry of Customs and Revenue (MCR) since 2016. She has more than 25 years of working experience in tax administration. As CEO, she oversees the overall administration and operations of both the Customs and Inland Revenue Services to carry out the broad functions: lead and administer the tax and customs systems effectively, whilst efficiently collecting maximum government revenues from all forms of taxes, duties and other non-tax revenues and facilitate legitimate trade and the movement of travellers across borders while ensuring compliance with Samoa's laws.



Koni Ravono
HEAD OF SECRETARIAT AT THE PACIFIC ISLANDS TAX ADMINISTRATORS
ASSOCIATION (PITAA)

Koni Ravono is the first Head of Secretariat of Pacific Islands Tax Administrators Association (PITAA) since its establishment in 2016. With more than 18 years of experience, she was a Tax Auditor at the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service and held the position of National Manager Audit Compliance managing Audit Compliance Fiji. Since 2013, Mrs. Ravono co-facilitates tax and management programs such as the Pacific Management Development Programme.



Miroslav Palanský
DATA SCIENTIST AT THE TAX JUSTICE NETWORK

Miroslav Palanský is a post-doctoral researcher with the CORPTAX group at the Institute of Economic Studies, Charles University, Prague, and a data scientist at the Tax Justice Network. Through his research, he aims to help in the ongoing fight against corruption, tax abuse and financial secrecy. He holds a master's and a Ph.D. in Economics from Charles University and a master's in Econometrics from Aix-Marseille University.



Zayda Manatta
HEAD OF SECRETARIAT AT GLOBAL FORUM ON TRANSPARENCY AND EXCHANGE OF
INFORMATION FOR TAX PURPOSES, OECD

Zayda Manatta is the Head of the Secretariat of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. In this role she plays a key role in monitoring and assessing the effective implementation of the international standards of exchange of information on request and the new standard on Automatic Exchange of Information. Also, she reports to the Director of the OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration (CTPA). Ms. Manatta participates actively in the CTPA management team, co-ordinating the development and implementation of horizontal projects and on strategies to advance the implementation and global impact of the OECD tax work. Previously she worked for the IMF as a Senior Economist and the Brazilian Revenue Administration.

● 17:10 – 18:10

CLOSING PANEL: ROLE OF THE NTO AND TAX ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TAX-RELATED IFFS AND IN STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Tax administrations have a crucial role to play in the fight against tax-related IFFs. They are strategic to provide needed resources, an adequate institutional set-up and processes that enable coordination with other relevant entities and players regionally and internationally. Tax organisations are, in their turn, created to support tax administrations in this process and strengthen their capacities. The NTO offers a platform for regional and international tax organisations and its members to stay on top of current challenges and effective instruments to combat IFFs. Speakers from NTO member organisations and representatives of international initiatives will reflect on their takeaways from the conference and views on the way forward for tax organisations and NTO to contribute to strengthening coordination and global effort in the fight against tax crime.

Speakers:



Isaác Gonzalo Arias Esteban
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND TAXATION DIRECTOR AT THE INTER-AMERICAN CENTER OF TAX ADMINISTRATIONS

Isaác Gonzalo Arias Esteban is International Cooperation and Taxation Director of the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT). In 2008 he joined CIAT as a Specialist in the Tax Research Management. Additionally, he has participated in numerous international activities promoted by the following (and further) institutions: CIAT, OECD, IDB, IMF, GIZ, World Bank, ITD, ITC. Among them, the CIAT Working Group on Exchange of Tax Information and Working Group No. 8 on “Avoidance and Evasion” stand out.



Jeneba J. Bangura
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GENERAL AT THE NATIONAL REVENUE AUTHORITY-SIERRA LEONE, CO-CHAIR OF THE ADDIS TAX INITIATIVE

Jeneba J. Bangura is Deputy Commissioner General of the National Revenue Authority of Sierra Leone. In this role, she has overseen the transformations to push DRM and to fully automate Tax Administration in Sierra Leone: She has supervised the implementation of the Customs Electronic Single Window, the Electronic Cash Register Project and the Integrated Tax Administration System Project. Prior to that, Ms. Bangura worked at Vera Institute of Justice as Director of Finance. She was also Senior Finance and Administrative Associate Arts Connection and Internal Auditor Metropolitan Transportation Authority, among others.



Erica Gerretsen
ACTING DIRECTOR AT DG INTPA, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Erica Gerretsen is the Acting Director for the Directorate “Sustainable Finance, Jobs and Growth, an Economy that works for the People” of Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA). She has been working for the European Commission since 1995, holding positions such as the Head of Unit for West Africa and for Central Africa. In 2016, she was appointed Head of Unit in DEVCO A4 “Budget Support, Public Finance Management and Domestic Revenue Mobilisation”. Ms. Gerretsen holds a master’s in business administration and a master’s in urban planning and local administration.



Catherine Lemesle
SECRETARY GENERAL AT THE EXCHANGE AND RESEARCH CENTRE FOR LEADERS OF
TAX ADMINISTRATIONS



Logan Wort
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AT THE AFRICAN TAX ADMINISTRATION FORUM

Logan Wort is the Executive Secretary of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF). As a sitting member of the Council of ATAF. He has headed the Task Team, which worked towards the establishment of ATAF in November 2009. Since joining ATAF, he has spearheaded tax administration reforms across the continent and continues to do so, not only in his capacity as Head of ATAF’s Secretariat, but also as a Member of the Consortium of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows of the UNECA and as a regular participant to the OECD Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the Global Forum for Transparency and Exchange of Information meetings. Prior to joining ATAF, Mr. Wort served as Group Executive at the South African Revenue Service.



V. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION



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After the conference, you will have the opportunity to access all materials such as presentations and information shared by NTO members via the conference platform. You can access the conference platform by using the same email and password that you used to attend the live event.

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The 1st NTO Technical Conference aims to providing a respectful and professional conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age, religion, mental illness, socioeconomic status, or political affiliation. The 1st NTO Technical Conference does not tolerate harassment of participants in any form (e.g. on the conference virtual platform, twitter, and other online media related to the event). Participants violating these rules will be asked to leave the conference at the discretion of the organisers.

Unacceptable behaviour

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Offensive verbal/written comments related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age, religion, mental illness, socioeconomic status, political affiliation.
- Deliberate intimidation, stalking or following.
- Harassing photography or recording.
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events.
- Usage of sexualized and gender insensitive images, activities, or other material.
- Usage of sexual or sexist language, images, or any language or images that could constitute harassment as defined above.
- Advocating for, or encouraging, any of the above behaviour.

Enforcement

This policy covers conference-related activities and their participants, speakers and organisers (all to be referred here as participants) are subject to this policy. If a participant engages in harassing behaviour, event organisers retain the right to take any actions to keep the event a welcoming environment for all attendees. This includes warning the offender or expulsion from the conference. The event organisers may take action to redress anything designed to, or with the clear impact of, disrupting the event or making the environment hostile for any participants. Participants are expected to follow these rules at all conference-related activities.

If a participant (e.g. through postings on social media, other online publications or another form of electronic communication) engages in conduct that violates this policy, the NTO may take appropriate corrective action, which could include imposing a temporary or permanent ban.

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If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns relating to harassment, please contact a member of the organisers at nto.conference@taxcompact.net immediately.

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Participants should conduct themselves at all times in a manner that complies with this policy prohibiting harassment and abusive behaviour, whether before, during, or after the event. This includes statements made in social media postings, on-line publications, and all other forms of electronic communication.



Being respectful of differing viewpoints and experiences: ensure to be receptive to constructive comments and criticism, as the experiences and skill sets of other participants contribute to the whole of conference outcomes.



Using welcoming and gender sensitive language: to foster an environment where everyone feels comfortable to interact.



Comprehensibility: in order to exclude nobody from the discussion, we kindly ask for clarity. Not all participants are familiar with all acronyms or find it easy to relate to specific technical terms.



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