

IOTA ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES JANUARY – JUNE 2019



115TH MEETING OF THE IOTA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The 115th meeting of the Executive Council of IOTA took place in Sweden in the city of Malmö, on the 24 and 25 January 2019 and was hosted by the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket). During the meeting the Executive Council approved the mandates of the Forum on Combatting VAT Fraud and the new Human Resource Management Forum as well as the priorities of the Technical Activities Work Programme for 2020.

The framework for the evaluation of the implementation of the IOTA Strategy was established and guidance was provided to take forward the international strategy of the organisation.

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PRINCIPAL CONTACT PERSONS AND THE SECRETARIAT ARE NATURAL ALLIES IN MOVING IOTA FORWARD

This Forum was held in Zurich on 12 - 13 March 2019, hosted by the Swiss Federal Tax Administration. The Forum serves as a platform for dialogue between IOTA and the 44 tax administrations. PCPs play a key role in the organisation as a bridge between the members, exchanging information, preparing and implementing the work programme.

PCPs were consulted on the preparation of the Work Programme 2020 and the drafting of a PCP Statute. They had a chance to learn more in-depth about the technical assistance project, how to submit and answer the IOTA Technical Enquiries and were updated on ISORA and on the new financial framework of the organization.

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116TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



The 116th meeting of the Executive Council of IOTA was hosted in Berlin on the 13 and 14 May 2019 by the Tax Department of the German Federal Ministry of Finance. The Council held interviews with the candidates for the Executive Secretary job position and shortlisted Mr. Frantisek Imrecze, former President of IOTA in 2017/2018 and former President of the Slovak Financial Administration, and Mr. Laurent Amalric, high-level official of the General Directorate of Public Finances in France and current tax attaché in Madrid. The two candidates will be submitted to election during the second part of the administrative session of the forthcoming 23rd General Assembly, scheduled for the morning of the 3 July 2019 in Brussels.

During the Council meeting the outcome of the governance task teams, the internal audit report and the agenda items for the General Assembly were discussed and key statutory documents were endorsed by the EC, namely the proposals for Budget and Work Programme for 2020, the 2018 Financial Report and the draft 2018 IOTA Activities and Strategy Implementation Reports. These documents will be submitted to the next General Assembly for approval.

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TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY IOTA FOR ITS MEMBERS**PREVENTION OF VAT FRAUD IN THE AUTOMOBILE SECTOR****CASE STUDY WORKSHOP**
12-14 February, Budapest, Hungary

44 participants from 26 IOTA member countries together with Europol and the European Commission met in this IOTA Case Study Workshop to present and share experiences in the prevention, detection and control measures used to combat different kinds of VAT fraud in the area of second-hand car dealing.

[Read more](#)**IOTA FORUM ON THE USE OF DATA FROM AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION (AEOI)****IOTA FORUM**
19-21 February, Baku, Azerbaijan

55 participants from 28 IOTA member countries met to discuss ways of the effective implementation of AEOI. They could gain knowledge on data analytics/data modelling implemented with the support of the information available in the CRS reports. Participants also gained awareness of the effective use of the received CRS data to identify non-compliance.

[Read more](#)**IOTA LAUNCHED A NEW FORUM ON HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT****IOTA FORUM**
9-11 April Ghent, Belgium

The Federal Public Service Finances of Belgium hosted the first meeting of IOTA Forum on Human Resource Management in Ghent on 9-11 April 2019 to discuss how to face today's HR challenges in the transformation phase of tax administrations.

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IOTA WORKSHOP ON THE ORGANIZATION OF CALL CENTRE STRUCTURES IN IOTA MEMBER ADMINISTRATIONS

IOTA WORKSHOP
15-17 May 2019, Katowice, Poland

IOTA Workshop “Organisation of Call Centre Structure in IOTA Member Administration” took place 15-17 May in Katowice, Poland which was hosted by Ministry of Finance and National Revenue Administration of Republic of Poland. About 60 officials dealing with call / contact centres from 31 IOTA tax administrations attended that event. This event addressed how IOTA member tax administrations can further develop and modernise call centres and leverage on the availability of new methods and technologies. Representatives of Romania, Poland, Russia, Hungary, Azerbaijan, Belgium and Sweden presented their latest developments and best practices in this area. The event had a number of plenary and group discussions as well as interactive sessions. In addition, the event host organised a visit to a call centre in Benzin.

[Read more](#)



IOTA WEBINAR

29 May 2019, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

On 29 May 2019 the 1st IOTA webinar “New challenges and ways to enhance taxpayer service in the digital age” was broadcasted live from a professional studio in Amsterdam.

More than 130 participants have registered for this event seeking to explore the latest developments in delivering e-services, including, use of Application Programming Interface (API), “natural” or “transactional” taxation, taxpayer nudging, use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and many other methods and ideas to enhance taxpayer services in the digital age.



This 90 min webinar contained 3 brief presentations where speakers from Finland, Belgium and UK shared with viewers their approaches in delivering personalised and relevant digital services that offer taxpayers new ways of managing their tax obligations online.

A number of interactive polls were conducted during the webinar asking participants to reflect on the most potential/prominent tax compliance area used for applying APIs, the use nudging to enhance tax compliance, major challenges for adoption of new digital tax service solutions, etc.

This webinar is available on-demand to IOTA members (registered users of IOTA website) after registering through the dedicated webpage.

[Read more](#)

3RD MEETING OF THE IOTA FORUM ON IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES TO COUNTER BEPS

IOTA FORUM

4-6 June 2019, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia



57 participants from 30 IOTA member countries, OECD and representatives from business and tax consultancy attended the meeting. Participants discussed and shared strategies and the practical application of working methods and tools developed to effectively counter Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS). The main focus of the meeting was the presentation and discussion of the draft IOTA Reports on “Effective Treatment of Tax Rulings subject to the Exchange between Tax Administrations” and “Optimising the Process of Handling Mutual Agreement Procedures (MAPs)”. Other topics included “Country-by-Country (CbC) Reporting”, the “Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS (MLI)”, and “Businesses’

Experiences and Expectations on CbC Reporting and MAPs”. The meeting also provided an opportunity to delegates to strengthen the network of tax officials specialising in the subject in order to improve international cooperation among IOTA member tax administrations in countering BEPS.

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IOTA IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

ANNUAL TAX FORUM IN BAKU WITH THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF IOTA



The Ministry of Taxes of the Republic of Azerbaijan organized its Annual Forum in Baku on the 18 February 2019. This year’s Forum was dedicated to discuss taxes, transparency and development. Mr. Mikayil Jabbarov, the Minister of Taxes presented the recent tax reforms introduced in Azerbaijan, very much targeted at combatting shadow economy and tax evasion and ensuring a business-friendly environment so that conditions for a fair tax system can be established. Miguel Silva Pinto, the Executive Secretary of IOTA, was a speaker at the Forum and thanked the Ministry of Taxes for its engagement and cooperation with IOTA, on-going now for 17 years. he subject in order to improve international cooperation among IOTA member tax administrations in countering BEPS.

OECD CAPACITY BUILDING WEEK WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL TAX EXPERT

Roman Bichevoy, IOTA’s International Taxation Expert, represented the organisation in the Capacity building week in OECD on 19-21 February in Paris, France. This was a series of meetings organised by Global Relations Programme (GRP) and Forum on Tax Administration (FTA) of OECD.

The purpose of this meeting was to improve coordination in capacity building efforts of OECD countries. Different programmes within OECD have indicated the growing need to improve their cooperation with RTOs, and specifically, with IOTA.

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IOTA PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE OECD GLOBAL FORUM ON VAT



Melbourne, Australia hosted the fifth meeting of the OECD Global Forum on VAT 20-22 March 2019. The Forum welcomed around 300 representatives from over 100 countries and jurisdictions across the globe together with officials from international organisations.

Massimo Morarelli, our International Tax Expert represented IOTA as one of the panellists to the plenary session on VAT/GST Policy, Administration and Compliance.

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OECD FORUM ON TAX ADMINISTRATION WITH IOTA PARTICIPATION IN SANTIAGO

Heads and representatives of 46 Tax Administrations gathered in Santiago, Chile on 26-28 March, 2019 for the 12th Plenary meeting of OECD Forum on Tax Administration (FTA). The meeting brought together over 140 delegates, including IOTA representative Eugenijus Soldatkovas, Manager of IOTA Work Programme.

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BRITACOF CONFERENCE

The 1st Conference of the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum (BRITACOF) took place in Wuzhen, China 18-20 April. BRITACOF had over 350 participants from 85 jurisdictions around the world, 16 international organisations, including IMF, WBG, OECD, UN and many others. Roman Bichevoy, IOTA's International Taxation Expert participated in this event representing IOTA. The purpose of this conference was to officially establish BRITACOM, its governance bodies, discuss 5 topics which BRITACOM will be focused on and announce action plan of the organisation.



7TH MEETING OF THE OECD/G20 INCLUSIVE FRAMEWORK ON BEPS



Over 280 delegates from 99 countries and jurisdictions as well as 10 international and regional organisations, including IMF, Worldbank, UN, CIAT, and ATAF discussed tax challenges arising from digitalization and progress made in countering BEPS. The 129 members of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS adopted a **“Programme of Work to Develop a Consensus Solution to the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy”** with a view to reporting progress to the G20 Finance Ministers and deliver a unified long-term solution by the end of 2020.

The Forum on Tax Administration (FTA) reported on the outcomes of its work. The priorities of the FTA for 2019/2020 are (i) tax certainty and BEPS, (ii) tax cooperation, and (iii) digitalisation of the tax administration. The programme and benefits of the “International Compliance Assurance Programme” (ICAP) were also explained. ICAP 2.0 currently comprises 18 countries, including 13 IOTA member tax administrations.

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IOTA PARTICIPATION IN THE “FUTURE OF EUROFISC WORKSHOP” IN PARIS



In the framework of the Fiscalis 2020 programme, a Workshop about “The Future of Eurofisc” was held on 12-13 June in Paris. Eurofisc – established by EU Regulation No 904/2010 - contributed since 2010 to detect and prevent cross border VAT fraud.

The workshop focused on the main challenges of Eurofisc, in particular as regards its governance, organisational and operational aspects. Innovative solutions that could be implemented to remedy the main issues and make Eurofisc more effective and efficient were examined.

Massimo Morarelli, our international tax expert, represented IOTA and illustrated in a plenary session of the second day of the workshop the IOTA activities in the field of combating VAT fraud.

In addition, delegates discussed in breakout sessions which aspects must be taken into account by policy makers to implement possible options enabling Eurofisc to reach its full potential and to deliver results expected by Ministers of Finance in fighting cross-border VTA fraud.

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PUBLICATIONS

38TH EDITION OF THE TAX TRIBUNE MAGAZINE



In this edition of the magazine you can read about:

- how the Polish Secretary of State at the Ministry of Finance's opinion on tax revenues and combat sports have anything in common,
- how the Montenegrin Tax Administration proceeds with the Twinning Project and the cooperation with Spain,
- what team spirit and fair play mean for the Bulgarian Revenue Agency,
- what the multi-agency programme means in Norway,
- how the Greece-Azerbaijan Twinning project goes on and
- how Latvia works on improving the taxpayer rating system.

Find the magazine [HERE](#).

SUMMARY FLYER ON ISORA PROJECT



WHAT IS ISORA?

It is the result of collaboration between Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Intra-European Organisation of Tax Administrations (IOTA), and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to collect data regarding tax administrations.

HOW CAN YOUR TAX ADMINISTRATION USE ISORA?

Measure, compare and benchmark your performance
 Improve your organisational and administrative processes
 Find appropriate solutions for underperformance in particular areas

43 OF 44 IOTA MEMBER ADMINISTRATIONS PARTICIPATED IN ISORA 2018.

UPCOMING IOTA TECHNICAL EVENTS UNTIL SUMMER

Visit our website [click here](#) for more information!

23RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOTA



The 23rd General Assembly of IOTA “Are Tax Administrations Ready for the Tax Official of Tomorrow?” will be held on 3-4 July in Brussels.

We will discuss how tax administrations are changing human resources policies in shaping a tax administration of the future. Come and join us for redefining the profile of the tax official, discuss new behaviour, the visionary workforce, mobility and staff management and many more issues.

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