

# NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

Dear Member,

We have a challenging yet fruitful month behind us with a brand new initiative in a form of a **Video Event**, collected measures taken by 12 IOTA member Tax Administrations regarding their **external and internal communication strategies** during Covid-19 crisis. However, our biggest achievement in June was that we successfully conducted the first ever digital General Assembly via video conference. In this newsletter, we introduce you to the highlights of the 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and much more. Keep on scrolling!

## Covid-19 Crisis Support

### Communication of Tax Administrations in Covid-19 times

As a forerunner of the Communication Forum which will be held in November 2020, with the contributions of our members we collected the measures taken during the world pandemic regarding the External and Internal Communication of Tax Administrations.

- 11 videos on external communication
- 7 videos on internal communication
- Speeches from 3 Director Generals



[Watch the Videos](#)

### Actions taken by Tax Administrations to help taxpayers during the crisis

We kept on collecting and sharing the efforts taken by our members to support their taxpayers during these challenging times. Click on the flags for the latest additions or on the button for the whole list.

[Go to the Covid-19 Crisis Support page](#)



Estonia



Georgia



Lithuania



Slovak Republic

## IOTA News



### Greece reappointed as IOTA PRESIDENT for 2020/2021

One of the highlights of the 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly was that the **Members reappointed Greece to hold IOTA Presidency for the 2020/2021 term**. This unprecedented action of appointing the same member second time in a row for Presidency, showed that IOTA Members unite not just to share information and experience but also when it comes to solidarity.

See you next year at the 25<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in the sunny Greece!

[Read the Resolution of the 24th General Assembly](#)

### Revised IOTA Strategy

A Working Group with representatives from Azerbaijan, Italy, Romania, Sweden, UK and IOTA Secretariat suggested modifications to the structure of the **IOTA Strategy 2018-2022** with a view of simplifying the document and separating the key performance indicators into annual implementation plans. This **more concise, clear and focused Strategy** is aiming to tackle current challenges of IOTA and ensure its sustainable development and growth.

### Amended IOTA Charter

During the 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly the Members approved the technical, the procedural and seven substantive amendments to the **IOTA Charter** as proposed by the Executive Council. It covers a clear definition of **Observers and Partners**, and also includes changes in **IOTA Presidency** and the **role of the Principal Contact Persons**.

[Read the Strategy](#)

[Read the Charter](#)

## Activities

### HIGHLIGHTS of the 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> June 2020, Video Conference

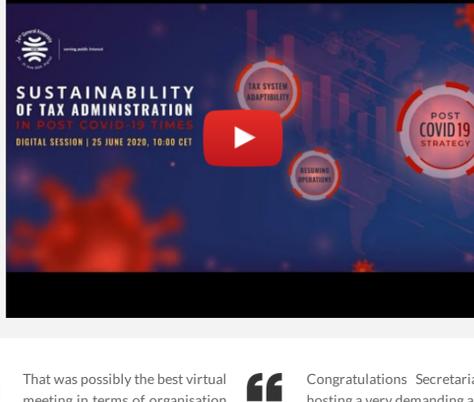
- ✓ **ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION**  
The Members approved by voting all **Statutory reports for 2019**, the reviewed **IOTA Strategy 2018-2022** and the amendments to the **Charter** and Report on the **Review of Financial Framework**
- ✓ IOTA Executive Council for the term 2020/2021: **Austria, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, France, Italy, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland**
- ✓ **TECHNICAL SESSION**  
More than 150 registered participants and the theme was: **Sustainability of tax administration in post COVID-19 times**
- ✓ **Presenters**  
SWEDEN  
**Katrin Westling Palm**, Director General  
ITALY  
**Paolo Valerio Barbantini**, Deputy Director General  
FRANCE  
**Jérôme Fournel**, Director General  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
**Daniil Egorov**, Commissioner  
OECD FTA SECRETARIAT  
**Peter Green**, Director



[Summary of the 24th General Assembly](#)

[Communiqué of the 24th General Assembly](#)

### Watch the recording of the Technical Session



“ That was possibly the best virtual meeting in terms of organisation and time management I have attended so far...”

**-Francesca Vitale**  
ITALY

“ Congratulations Secretariat for hosting a very demanding agenda over MS Teams - your hard work in preparing this has paid off!

**-Charlotte Sтивен**  
UNITED KINGDOM

“ I highly appreciated the approach regarding the countries' responses to COVID-19, but also the impeccable way of organizing the digital event and presenting the participants.

**-Mirela Călugăreanu**  
ROMANIA

## Member News



### Appointment of an Acting Head of the State Tax Service of Azerbaijan

Earlier this year the Charter of the State Tax Service (STS) under the Ministry of Economy was endorsed and **Mr. Orkhan Nazarli** was appointed as **Acting Head of STS**. We wish Mr. Nazarli good luck and success in his new position and hope for a fruitful partnership with IOTA.

[More about Mr. Orkhan Nazarli](#)



### Legal basis for Videoconferencing in Tax Application

On 17 June, a modification of the **General Tax Act of Spain** was published in the State Official Gazette with the aim to **allow videoconferences in the framework of tax application procedures**. The system started in 2019 as a pilot and is called “VIVI”.

[More information about VIVI in Spain](#)



### State Revenue Committee of Armenia welcomes a new Chairman

On June 5, 2020, **Mr. Edvard Hovhannisyan** was assigned to the position of the **Chairman of the State Revenue Committee of Armenia**. We wish him great success in his new position and beneficial collaboration with IOTA.

[More about Mr. Hovhannisyan](#)



### New Chairman has been appointed to the State Tax Service of Ukraine

**Mr. Oleksiy Lyubchenko** has been appointed to the position of the **Chairman of the State Tax Service of Ukraine** earlier this year. We wish Mr. Lyubchenko accomplishments and rewarding cooperation with IOTA.

[More about Mr. Oleksiy Lyubchenko](#)

## Publications

### IOTA PAPERS

#### TRANSFER PRICING REGULATIONS IN ARMENIA

Andranik Hakobyan, Chief Tax Inspector from the State Revenue Committee of the Republic of Armenia is the author of our latest IOTA Paper about the new regulation of transfer pricing.

[Read it now](#)

### IOTA Papers

#### TRANSFER PRICING REGULATIONS IN ARMENIA



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