Dear Member,

We hope you had some time to relax throughout the past weeks and feel ready to begin working and attending IOTA events! Besides our well-known Forum Meetings, such as Tax Debt Management or Human Resources Management, we will also organise several insightful webinars and workshops before the end of the year. As always, our aim is to facilitate knowledge sharing between member tax administrations and to offer a platform to discuss relevant topics. Keep on scrolling to find out more!

IOTA NEWS

01.09.2021

New Executive Secretary Joins IOTA Secretariat

Mrs Alix Perrignon de Troyes has begun her three-year term as Executive Secretary of IOTA as of 1st September 2021. Mrs Perrignon de Troyes joins the organisation after working at the Directorate General of Public Finances of France, bringing extensive experience both from the field of international taxation and people’s management to the team. A warm welcome to Mrs Perrignon de Troyes!

Launch of ISORA 2021

The International Survey on Revenue Administrations (ISORA 2021) will be launched on the 8th of September 2021. ISORA collects comparable data on tax administration from more than 155 Tax Administrations around the world, using questions and definitions agreed by four international organisations: CIAT, the IMF, IOTA and the OECD. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported...
many of the participants in ISORA 2018 and 2020, and is again working with CIAT, the IMF, IOTA and the OECD to assist participants in ISORA 2021. The ISORA coordinators and correspondents at the tax administrations will complete and submit the survey in the coming months. ISORA 2021 will cover the 2020 fiscal year, the first annual survey to cover a single fiscal year.

VITARA Modules on Reform Management – Deadline Extended

The deadline to register for the two VITARA e-learning modules on Reform Management has been extended until 7th September 2021. Both modules can be completed between 1st - 22nd September 2021. The two new training modules address the challenges tax administrations face in designing and implementing tax administration reforms.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Please note: Registration for the below events is only possible for Principal Contact Persons of IOTA. If you would like to attend, kindly contact the PCP or Shadow PCP of your Tax Administration to invite you to the event you are interested in.

23.09.2021

Joint IOTA/OECD Regional Consultation on BEPS for Eurasia – Addressing the Tax Challenges of Digitalisation: Further developments on the two-pillar solution

The event is a regional consultation on BEPS for Eurasian countries addressing the tax challenges of digitalisation. This consultation follows the issue of the “Statement on a two-pillar solution to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalisation of the economy” made following the Inclusive Framework on BEPS (IF) meeting held on 1 July 2021 and will focus on the remaining technical issues and a detailed implementation plan to be finalised by October 2021. This far, more than 130 member jurisdictions have agreed to the Statement.
The meeting will be held in a virtual format and will be co-hosted by IOTA and the OECD. The event will aim to raise awareness, explore opportunities to pursue common goals and overcome possible challenges, and gather feedback from countries on the topics under discussion. A Save the Date will be sent out to PCPs and Shadow PCPs at the beginning of August and the invitation package will be issued either late August or early September.

29–30.09.2021, Digital

**Workshop on Improving Communications Strategies and Customer Service towards International Taxpayers**

This workshop aims to identify practical solutions for enhancing services to international taxpayers implemented by IOTA member tax administrations, focusing on front-end initiatives – segmentation, direct/proactive communication, application of nudging techniques.

Within the scope of this workshop, international taxpayers are defined as:

- taxpayers (residents and non-residents) residing in another jurisdiction than their own
- foreign taxpayers (individuals or companies) who might have a tax obligation where they live or where they are professionally active

5–7.10.2021, Digital

**IOTA Forum on Tax Debt Management**

The meeting of the IOTA Forum on Tax Debt Management will cover strategies, working methods, obstacles and best practices on the effective management of tax debts taking into account the COVID-19 crisis.
More specifically, the meeting of the Forum will address the following topics:

- How IOTA member tax administrations handled tax debt management during the pandemic crisis
- Getting tax debt recovery back on track (Exit strategies and roadmaps)
- New or adapted methods and tools (campaign letters, online service platforms, call centres, etc.) to ensure taxpayers are able to settle debts resulting from the COVID-19 crisis
- Enhancement of risk analysis methodologies to support debt collection taking into account the application of new adequate segmentation of tax debtors during and after COVID-19 crisis

Tackling insolvency and bankruptcy during and after the COVID-19 crisis evaluating how IOTA member tax administrations handled tax debt management during the pandemic crisis - lessons learnt, the effect of the measures taken, possible improvements, etc.

19-21.10.2021, Digital

1st NTO Technical Conference - Building Stronger Partnerships to Fight Tax-Related Illicit Financial Flows

The Network of Tax Organisations (NTO) will organise its 1st Technical Conference under the theme “Building stronger partnerships to fight tax-related Illicit Financial Flows” aiming to analyse current best international practices and serve as a starting point for further discussion on the fight against tax-related IFFs on the global level. The 1st NTO Technical Conference will provide an inclusive platform for broad-based discussions on the latest international developments in tackling tax crimes, the changing nature of tax-related IFFs, practical challenges and ways forward in tackling tax offenses. The Conference will serve as an interactive environment for in-depth exchange of experiences and best practices between tax practitioners with a view to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones for an effective global fight against tax crime. Over the course of three days in a virtual format, the Conference will offer interactive panels, breakout sessions and workshops in English that will be simultaneously translated into Spanish and French.
Latvia Introduces Changes in Legislation to Simplify Paying Taxes

Latvia introduces changes in legislation to simplify paying taxes and encourage transparency and compliance. The first change to the Law on Taxes and Duties simplifies tax payments on income received by micro-enterprises by creating an Operating Income Account (OIA). Micro-enterprise taxpayers will no longer be required to calculate and make tax payments into the state single tax account. Instead, tax will be calculated by the State Revenue Service (SRS) based on revenue deposited into the OIA, and the bank will automatically transfer it to the single tax account.

Full event recordings:
(for registered users of the IOTA website)

25th IOTA General Assembly – Technical Session

Watch Day 1 and Day 2 of the Technical Session, which followed the theme 'Ensuring the most effective use of data in the age of tax transparency'.

(Registered website users should click on 'Technical Presentations' on the website in order to see the videos.)
At IOTA’s 2020 Forum on Use of Data from Automatic Exchange of Information, the Federal Ministry of Finance Austria gave a presentation on the work of their Predictive Analytics Competence Centre, which was set up in 2016 in order to make better use of the taxpayer data held. Their Data Scientists have used algorithms and statistical methods as part of the risk assessment process to identify the highest-risk taxpayers. As a follow-up to their presentation, the Federal Ministry of Finance Austria has prepared a short paper which outlines their data mining processes. The paper provides details of their network analysis, data matching (entity generation approach), analytical approach and use of risk criteria. They discuss the challenges of working with the data and how they have overcome these challenges.

Would you like to see your IOTA Paper published? Do you have any relevant issues you wish to share? Apply NOW!

Please note: Before submitting your paper, kindly contact the IOTA PCP of your Tax Administration for approval and include them in your correspondence with us as well. Thank you for your cooperation!
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