UPDATE ON THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF FISCAL AFFAIRS (CFA) AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (DAC) MEETING ON “TAX AND DEVELOPMENT”, AND THE JOINT CENTRE FOR TAX POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION (CTPA)/DCD/DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (DEV) GLOBAL FORUM FOR DEVELOPMENT ON DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

DAC Meeting, 3rd November 2009

This Room Document is submitted for INFORMATION under Item 7 of the Draft Annotated DAC Agenda [DCD/DAC/A(2009)14/REV1].

It provides a brief update on progress with planning these events.

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JT03273267

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Background

1. The economic crisis has exposed a fragmented international response to global concerns over financial regulation and control over illicit flows. In the field of taxation, it is clear that a more integrated approach is needed to ensure that international efforts to address tax havens is combined with efforts to support the effectiveness of tax administration in all countries. The G20 is looking for proposals as to how developing countries can participate in fast moving global debates about tax evasion and avoidance and how OECD countries can support both international and national efforts in the developing world both politically and financially. Many issues of common concern to both donors and treasury and finance officials in OECD countries boil down to the capacity and effectiveness of revenue administrations in the developing world.

Joint Committee of Fiscal Affairs (CFA) and Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Meeting on Tax and Development, 27th January 2010.

2. If the OECD is to respond effectively to the urgent requirements of the G20, a more coherent and strategic response is required, combining the efforts of the Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the Development Assistance Committee. On 27 January 2010, a meeting will bring together for the first time members of the CFA with DAC counterparts from OECD capitals to discuss a more joined up and integrated approach to international and national taxation and development issues. CFA’s observer countries, as well as representatives from developing countries will be invited to provide their perspective, including from recently established regional organizations such as the African Tax Administration Forum. This meeting provides an opportunity to make immediate progress on a joint action plan. A draft agenda has issued to the DAC and CFA for comments.


3. On 28th January, a Global Forum will discuss domestic resource mobilisation and development issues. The draft agenda, which is currently being finalised, will include presentations and discussions on successful fiscal policies, the fiscal-social contract and the opportunities and challenges of donor support to revenue policy and administration. Of most importance, a significant part of the meeting will be dedicated to debating how developing countries can benefit from an increasingly transparent international tax environment. A broad range of stakeholders from governments, as well as from academia, think tanks, NGOs and civil society, will take forward this important and current policy issue taking into account the previous day’s discussions.

4. The next iteration of both draft agendas will issue in early November.