

**9<sup>TH</sup> AFRICA INITIATIVE MEETING, 26-28 MAY 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**DAY 1: Wednesday 26 May 2021, 11:00 – 14:00, Paris time**  
**Launch of the “Tax Transparency in Africa 2021: Africa Initiative Progress Report”**

**11:00-11:15****WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Practical information

**Welcome address by:**

- **Mr Githii Mburu**, Chair of the Africa Initiative, Commissioner General, Kenya Revenue Authority

**11:15-11:45****PRESENTATION OF “TAX TRANSPARENCY IN AFRICA 2021: AFRICA INITIATIVE PROGRESS REPORT”**

The Tax Transparency in Africa report is a key output of the Africa Initiative. It is published annually and informs decision makers and citizens, by providing comparable statistics on tax transparency as one of African countries’ response to the issue of illicit financial flows (IFFs).

The *Tax Transparency in Africa 2021 report* (TTiA 2021) measures progress made by African countries in 2020.

The Secretariat will present the report, highlighting its main findings and key take-aways.

**Presentation by:**

- **Ms Zayda Manatta**, Head of the Global Forum Secretariat

**11:45-12:45****MEASURING PROGRESS: WHERE IS AFRICA ON THE TAX TRANSPARENCY AGENDA?**

The TTiA 2021 report highlights the progress made by African countries in setting up a framework for tax transparency and effective exchange of information (EOI). However, most of the Africa countries are yet to unlock its potential to enhance domestic resources mobilisation (DRM). This session will discuss the key findings of the report in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the remaining barriers on this agenda.

**Panel 1: Making tax transparency a priority for Africa**

This panel will welcome the progress made and discuss the role of decision-makers in prioritising tax transparency and EOI as a tool for combating IFFs to increase domestic resources available for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063.

**Panellists:**

- **H.E. Mr Albert M. Muchanga**, Commissioner, Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining, African Union Commission

- **Mr Pascal Saint-Amans**, Director of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- **Mr Githii Mburu**, Chair of the Africa Initiative, Commissioner General, Kenya Revenue Authority
- **Ms María José Garde**, Chair of the Global Forum
- **Mr Logan Wort**, Executive Secretary of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF)

**Moderator:**

- **Ms Elza Sandrine Sawadogo**, Journalist, newsroom manager at *l'Économiste du Faso*, Burkina Faso, member of the International consortium of investigative journalist (ICIJ)

12:45-13:55

**Panel 2: Translating progress made into revenue gain**

The TTiA 2021 report shows African countries are now leveraging tax transparency and EOI. However, from 2014 to date only eight African countries have reported identifying additional revenue as a result of information received from other countries. This shows that the progress is uneven. This panel will discuss possible ways of using the EOI infrastructure to support tax audits, tax investigations and other compliance activities to better enforce domestic tax laws and raise more revenues.

**Panellists:**

- **Ms Carina Sugden**, Chief Governance Officer, Governance and Public Financial Management Coordination Office, African Development Bank Group
- **Ms Erica Gerretsen**, Ag. Director, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission
- **Ms Chenai Mukumba**, Policy, Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network-Africa
- **Mr Philippe Tchodie**, Commissioner General of *Office Togolais des Recettes* (OTR) and Chairperson of the African Tax Administration Forum
- **Professor Léonce Ndikumana**, Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation (ICRICT)  
**Mr Edward Kieswetter**, Vice-Chair of the Africa Initiative and Commissioner of South African Revenue Service (SARS)

**Moderator:**

- **Mr Maxime Koami Domegni**, Journalist, Francophone Africa Editor - Global Investigative Journalism Network

13:55-14:00

Closing of the launch of the “Tax Transparency in Africa 2021: Africa Initiative Progress Report”