



39th CATA Technical Conference Communique

Sheraton Fiji Resort, Nadi, Fiji
12 - 16 November 2018

We, the heads and nominated representatives of tax administrations of the Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators (CATA) met in Nadi, Fiji from 12 - 16 November 2018. We acknowledge the growing need for us to focus on building sustainability and resilience in our administrations, which was the theme for our conference as we celebrated our ruby anniversary and 40 years of establishment.

We recognize that to ensure sustainability and resilience there is the need for increased focus on maintaining taxpayer services leveraging technology as a key enabler of efficient, accurate and tailor made taxpayer services.

We appreciate the collective efforts of members to develop stakeholder engagement strategies and facilitate information exchange through the use of multilateral and bilateral instruments. However, in acknowledging the increased demand for transparency and exchange of information standards, the challenges and constraints faced by Small Island Developing States need critical consideration including provision of necessary assistance.

We note the developments highlighted by key private sector partners on the global tax agenda, revenue statistics and new technologies, and urge our members to take keen interest on these and use the knowledge gained to help guide the formulation of their policies and administrative practices.

The 39th Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators Conference was attended by 33 countries comprising of 144 delegates including representatives

from organisations such as the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD), International Monetary Fund and Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (IMF-PFTAC), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and Pacific Island Tax Administrators Association (PITAA). Special guests from Data Tech International, Greenbox Inc., Nauru, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Solomon Islands, and Vizor Software were also in attendance.

Recognizing the importance of partnership between CATA and other similar regional and international tax organisations, we witnessed and appreciate the signing of a 'Letter of Intent' to between PITAA and CATA, which will enhance collaboration between the two organisations.

We applaud and congratulate the Pacific Island Tax Administrators Association for signing a memorandum of understanding to join the Network of Tax Organisations (NTO).

The members also endorsed the report of the CATA Management Committee as a comprehensive document outlining the activities of the Association for the period 2019/20 to 2020/21.

To this end the members:

1. Expressed their appreciation to the outgoing President Dato' Sri Sabin Samitah (Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia) and the Management Committee for their commitment in ensuring the growth and sustainability of the Association.
2. Elected Mauritius to hold the presidency for the period 2018 to 2021.

3. Elected Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda (representing Northern African Region), Kingdom of Eswatini, Malawi, (representing Southern African Region), Malta, United Kingdom (representing European Region), Fiji and Samoa (representing the Pacific Region), India, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka (representing Asian Region).
4. Endorsed the nomination by the Management Committee of Fiji as the CATA Chairman and United Kingdom as Vice Chairman.
5. Elected Botswana (representing Southern African Region), Uganda (representing Northern African Region), Cyprus (representing European Region), Fiji (representing Pacific Region), Sri Lanka (representing Asian Region) as Regional Directors.
6. Adopted the report of the Management Committee including the financial report, Work Plan and budget.

Noting that the last CATA Technical Conference in the Pacific Region was held 21 years ago, the members expressed their appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Fiji and the management of Fiji Revenue and Customs Service for hosting the 39th CATA Technical Conference and the hospitality extended to the delegates.

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