



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

EDITORIAL

Dear members,

It is my pleasure in welcoming you to our first edition of the Newsletter for this year.

As the Commonwealth celebrates significant 75-year milestone this year with a theme 'One Resilient Common Future: Transforming our Commonwealth' it is also a good time for us as CATA one big family across the six continents to reflect on our strength when we are connected through shared values and goals.

Now, the timing is perfect for us to re-evaluate how we could strengthen this connection, leveraging on advancement in technology.

Initiatives towards reinvigorating CATA are being carried out by the Secretariat and I encourage members to work with the Secretariat and share new innovative ideas in making CATA even stronger.

Together we could achieve more!

See you in the next new edition of the Newsletter.

Dr Esther A.P. Koisin
CATA Executive Director

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Upcoming Events

- CATA hosting Regional Directors and Country Correspondents Meeting on 22 & 23 April 2024 at The CATA Secretariat, London
- CATA Management Committee Meeting scheduled for 24 & 25 April 2024
- 2024 TOIT - Transfer Pricing Workshop scheduled for 24 to 28 June 2024
- 2024 TOIT - Tax Treaty Workshop 2024 scheduled

NEWS FROM THE CATA SECRETARIAT

(Please click on the headlines to view the full articles on the CATA website)

[IRBM has a new CEO and CATA has a new Chairman](#)



The Honourable Dr Abu Tariq Jamaluddin has

recently succeeded Datuk Mohd Nizom Sairi as the Chief Executive Officer of the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia and as a consequence is also now the new Chairman of CATA's Management Committee.

[CATA has a new Executive Director](#)



Dr. Esther A. P. Koisin, formerly the Director of the Department of International Taxation, Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia joined as a New Executive Director of CATA from 29 January 2024.

[Next CATA 2024 Technical Conference announced](#)



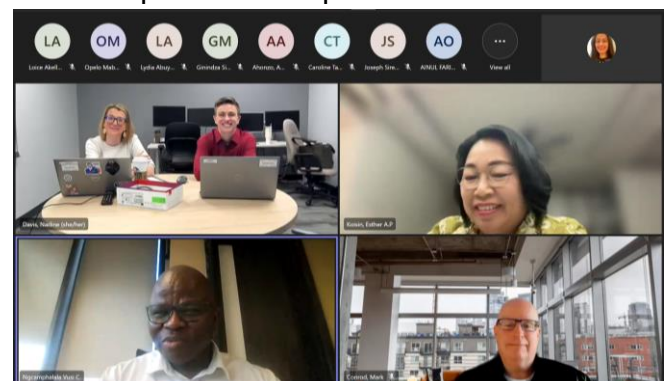
SAVE THE DATE: CATA Secretariat delighted to announce that the 44th CATA Technical Conference will be hosted by the Mauritius Revenue Authority between 21 and 25 October 2024.

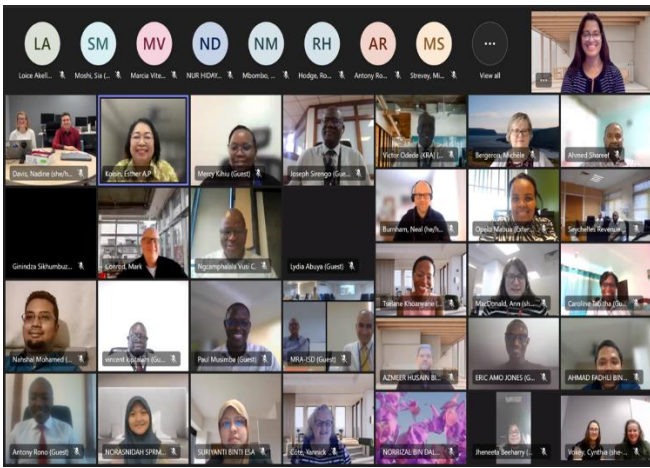
[CATA WEBINAR: Canada Revenue Agency \(CRA\) Webinar Presentation on E-invoicing](#)

held successfully on Tuesday, 6th February 2024 where this presentation addressed on digital transformation gaining critical global traction, the transformation and modernization of invoice exchanges in a standard structure manner known as electronic invoicing (e-invoicing).

[CATA WEBINAR: Canada Revenue Agency's \(CRA's\) Digital Transformation Journey](#)

Successfully conducted on Tuesday, 13th February 2024. The presentation provided an overview of the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA's) digital transformation journey, challenges faced and examples of accomplishments.



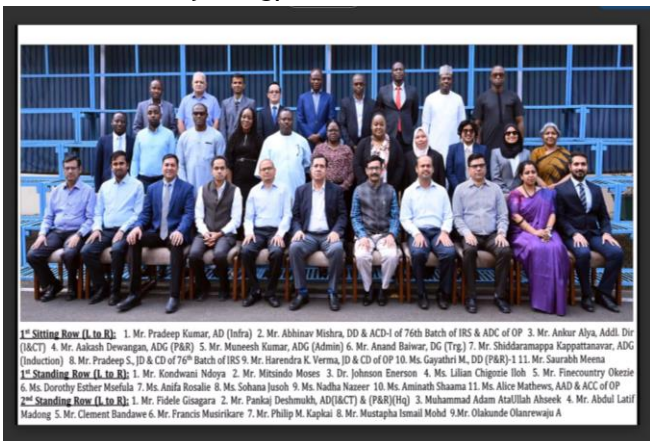


[Commonwealth Day Message from The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC, Commonwealth Secretary-General.](#) (PC: *The Commonwealth*)



[2023 CATA NADT \(Modern Techniques of Investigations and Intelligence Gathering\) Workshop held in Nagpur](#)

CATA in partnership with NADT organised this interactive 5 days' workshop on 26 February to 01 March 2024 at the National Academy of Direct Taxes Academy, Nagpur.



[CATA's SLP \(Senior Leadership Programme\) 2022 Closing Event](#)

The final phase of the CATA Senior Leadership Programme 2023 ended with a closing ceremony event held at The Marlborough House in London on Friday, 22 March 2024 to celebrate the work of the delegates and to thank all those who have contributed to the success of the programme.

[NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS](#) [By CATA Country Correspondents](#)

(Please click on the given links to view the full articles on the CATA website)

[Commonwealth Day 2024](#)



Message from [His Majesty The King for the Commonwealth Day Service of Celebration.](#) (PC: *The Commonwealth*)

CANADA



[The Canada Revenue Agency launches a new disaster relief page to help affected Canadians:](#) Natural disasters,

such as floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, have been occurring more frequently and with greater severity. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) recognizes the challenge this can pose for affected Canadians to comply with their tax obligations.

ESWATINI



[Cutover to Oracle Revenue Management and Billing System:](#) The Eswatini Revenue Service is happy to announce

the successful cut-over into Oracle Revenue Management and Billing System on the 4th March 2024.

GUYANA



[Enhancing Capacity For The Petroleum Cost Recovery And Petroleum Revenue Departments:](#)

The Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) has undertaken significant initiatives to bolster its capabilities in the oil and gas sector.

KENYA



[KENYA'S TAX LANDSCAPE \(FISCAL YEAR 2022/23\):](#)

The East African Revenue Authorities published the seventh (7th) edition of the Regional Comparative Report which provides a systematic analysis and comparison of revenue and other key performance areas among the region's revenue authorities for the fiscal year (FY) 2022/23 (July 2022 to June 2023).

MALAYSIA



[The Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia \(IRBM\) has received official visits from Maldives](#)

[Inland Revenue Authority \(MIRA\) and Tanzania Revenue Authority \(TRA\)](#), members of CATA in the first quarter of 2024.

MALDIVES



[Operational Plan for 2024:](#)

MIRA published its operational plan for the year 2024 providing a brief overview of the activities planned for the year, carried out by teams across various directorates of the organization. The document also reflects the organization wide activities planned for the year 2024.

MAURITIUS



[The MRA launched its 5th Organizational Integrity Perception Survey:](#)

Integrity is the cornerstone of a good tax administration and since its inception in 2006; the

Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) has placed ethics and integrity on the highest agenda of its tax administration operation. This is in line with its vision to be a world class Revenue Authority respected for its professionalism, efficiency, fairness, integrity and its contribution to our economic and social development.

NEW ZEALAND



[Security Awareness Proficiency at Inland Revenue:](#)

Our Information Security and Awareness Programme, known as Whakangungu Kaitiaki, supports Inland Revenue (IR) with our information security and keeps our systems and data secure. Research suggests that 90% of security breaches are due to human error. Whakangungu Kaitiaki supports us to understand our vulnerabilities and improve our information security competency as an organisation, reducing the risk of breaches and cyber-attacks on IR's systems.

PAKISTAN



[OECD, HMRC and FBR collaborating under TIWB Pilot Project on Criminal Investigation:](#)

HMRC and the Pakistan Federal Board of Revenue have partnered under the OECD's Tax Inspectors without Borders programme for Criminal Investigations since July 2022. The current programme is supposed to end in July 2024. The programme is supervised by the Directorate General of International Tax Operations through which the officers of the Intelligence and Investigation Directorate General of FBR are trained considering various factors.

SINGAPORE



[Seamless Filing From Software initiative:](#)

Together with its software partners, the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore organised a fair for businesses to obtain a better understanding about IRAS' Seamless Filing From Software initiative, including how these businesses may adopt the initiative to fulfil their tax obligations more easily and accurately, reduce their compliance cost, and obtain the benefits of digital record keeping.

[Singapore unveiled its budget for Financial Year 2024](#): please click here for more details on the tax-related changes.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS WEBSITES

(Please click on the given links to view the full articles on the members website)

AUSTRALIA



[Commissioner's address to the National Press Club 2024](#), Transformation, trust, and tax: The Commissioner's story.

[ATO welcomes report: 'How to tell people they owe the government money' - from Inspector-General of Taxation / Taxation Ombudsman, Commonwealth Ombudsman / ACT Ombudsman](#)

THE GAMBIA



[Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\) between Gambia Revenue Authority \(GRA\) and Financial Reporting Oversight Board \(FROB\)](#): The Gambia Revenue Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Financial Reporting Oversight Board (FROB), marking a pivotal collaboration in the realm of financial transparency.

GHANA



[AMENDMENTS OF TAX LAWS](#): The Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) announces for the information of the general public the coming into force of the amendments of the following tax Laws.

MAURITIUS



[MRA pioneers AEOI \(The Automatic Exchange of Information\) implementation](#) As a trusted organisation in the global fight against tax evasion and money laundering, MRA is committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity and accountability. The successful implementation of AEOI further solidifies MRA's position as a leader in tax administration and underscores its pivotal role in promoting a fair and transparent tax environment in Africa.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



[Overarching Plan In Place To Address Recommendations From The Exchange Of Information On Request Peer Review](#): Papua New Guinea (PNG) now has a plan in place to continue to address the recommendations that were made by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes (Global Forum) in our Exchange of Information on Request (EOIR) Peer Review Report. This plan is the Exchange of Information on Request Country Action Plan 2019-2024 (EOIR CAP).

RWANDA



[RRA EMPHASIZES THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH IN DIGITALIZATION](#): Commissioner General Bizimana Ruganintwali Pascal reaffirmed RRA's cultural shift and commitment to research excellence in tax administration as key to maintaining the organization's status as a progressive, forward-thinking, people-centric tax authority, mobilizing resources for the country's development.



Dr Esther Koisin



Rasmita Patro



Gerry Cook

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything." – William Shakespeare



(PC: Ali G Rashidi)