



THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION OF TAX ADMINISTRATORS NEWSLETTER

June 2019



Editorial

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June marks the end of our financial year and the end of our 2015-19 Strategic Plan. The Management Committee at its meeting in April 2019 approved the next Plan for the 2019-22 period that becomes operational from 1st of July. The Plan sets very ambitious milestones and targets that are intended to improve value delivery to members. Among the priority areas highlighted by the Chairman Mr Das is the improvement of internal processes and procedures to

enhance governance within the Association. Consequently, the Secretariat is in the process of developing a CATA 'Administrative Manual' that will guide key operational procedures.

Our partnership strategies are steadily on course. Under the existing partnership with the OECD Korea Policy Centre and the Pacific Islands Tax Administrators Association (PITAA), [a successful tax workshop was held for countries in the Pacific region](#). We acknowledge the support received from the Asia Development Bank, the OECD, and the Inland Revenue of New Zealand towards this event.

As in the previous years, CATA supported the convening of the [IBFD Africa Tax Symposium 2019](#), which took place in South Africa, an event that discussed 'Trends in international taxation - An African perspective'. Another high-level event themed '[Future of Tax](#)' was held in Marlborough House, London in collaboration with the consultancy firm EY in June. We were privileged to receive a keynote address from the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth the Rt. Hon Patricia Scotland QC with the Prime Minister of St Lucia in attendance.

Arrangements for the annual two-week workshop on Taxation of International Transactions (TOIT) at the Malaysia Tax Academy has been finalised and delegates are expected to commence training on the 1st of July. I wish to formally welcome all the participants and urge them to use the opportunity to build networks that may provide a basis for sustainable dialogue among themselves and their respective tax administrations.

The month of June also witnessed the climax of the celebration of the [Commonwealth 70th Anniversary](#) presided over by the Duke of Sussex Prince Harry at the Marlborough House where selected youths from various Commonwealth countries were presented with innovation awards.

On a rather sad note, the recent unfortunate incidents in Sri Lanka has necessitated the cancellation of the 40th CATA Technical Conference that was scheduled to take place in Colombo in November 2019. With the assurance of the Government of Sri Lanka of tight security measures being put in place, we hope that the country will be in a position to host the event next year to give an opportunity to the many CATA delegates who had been looking forward to visiting the beautiful city of Colombo. We will soon be announcing the alternative host country for the 2019 Technical Conference. Therefore, watch this space!

Duncan Onduru

Executive Director

Other news from the Secretariat and our affiliates - please click on the hyperlinks below to access

[Hosts are needed for the Senior Leadership Programme - can your tax administration help?](#)

[OECD releases work programme on digitalisation](#)

[UN Tax Committee of Experts Report](#)

[OECD/IMF Progress Report on Tax Certainty](#)

[G20 Ministers of Finance](#)

News from our members

[Australia - ATO receives cryptocurrency data to assist tax compliance](#)

[Tonga - point of sale registers](#)

[Singapore - new DTA](#)

[Kenya - tax filing campaign](#)

[Jamaica - Stamp Duty reform](#)

[Cyprus - new DTA](#)

[New Zealand - Millions log into new tax system](#)

[Mauritius - companies not in operation](#)

[Canada - enhancements to Knowledge Sharing Platform](#)

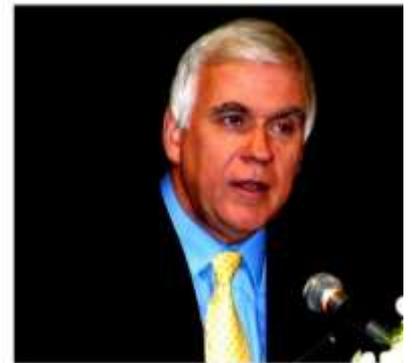
Summer Greetings from a warm United Kingdom



Duncan Onduru



Megan Jones



Gerry Cook