



DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

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Date: 30th April 2021

Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

MEDIA ADVISORY.

5th High Level Tax Policy Dialogue.

"Post-Covid Taxation: Policy and Administrative Strategies for Mobilising Enhanced Domestic Taxes in Africa."

What: As African countries strive to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, this high-level dialogue aims to deliver outcomes that will help countries shore up domestic tax revenues. These revenues are vital for governments to meet critical expenditure needs and other requirements such as social security nets for poorer households that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

When: 5th and 6th May 2021 | Start time: 10:00 EAT.

Where: A virtual event. To participate register here-
https://ataftax-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkce-prDopHdOn_VKcOD_gV9lr2wkjcBuX

Who Jointly convened by the African Union Commission Department of Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining, and the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), the meeting will bring together African Ministries of Finance (Ministers, Permanent Secretaries/Directors-General); Tax Administrations (Commissioner-Generals/Deputy Commissioner-Generals); senior representatives of International and Continental organisations; legislators; Academia and researchers and Civil Society Organisations.

Background

The African Union reports that since 2006, tax revenues have been steadily growing on the continent, with the most significant contributor being tax on goods and services accounting for 53.7% of average tax revenues in 2017 and VAT representing 29.4%. While this growth has been commendable, it is estimated that the continent could lose between 20-30% of fiscal revenue. Although other revenue sources are crucial for

boosting DRM efforts, domestic taxes are the most significant source of tax revenues in most African countries.

In 2020, as the pandemic worsened, many key sectors such as hospitality, tourism, travel, and extractives were affected, causing huge revenue losses for these businesses and governments. As the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine brings hope of normalcy and the reopening of economies and businesses, 2021 is deemed the starting point for recovery by many countries. In improving the administration of core taxes such as Corporate Income Tax (CIT), Personal Income Tax (PIT), Value Added Tax (VAT), and Pay As You Earn (PAYE), tax policymakers and tax administration officials will have to dig deep in finding innovative solutions that will ensure increased tax compliance.

For more information about the High Level Dialogue, visit-
<https://au.int/en/newsevents/20210505/5th-high-level-tax-policy-dialogue>

For further information please contact:

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