

4TH PUNTA DEL ESTE DECLARATION INITIATIVE MEETING
12-13 JULY 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**DAY 1: Monday 12 July 2021, 15:30 – 18:30 CEST**
Launch of “Tax Transparency in Latin America 2021”**15:30-15:40 (CET)****WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Practical information

Welcome remarks by:

- ❖ **Ms Mercedes Marcó del Pont**, Chair of the Punta del Este Declaration, Federal Administrator, Federal Administration of Public Revenues of Argentina

15:40-16:10 (CET)**LAUNCH OF “TAX TRANSPARENCY IN LATIN AMERICA 2021: PUNTA DEL ESTE DECLARATION PROGRESS REPORT”**

The Tax Transparency in Latin America report is a key output of the Punta del Este Declaration. It is the first report of its kind, dedicated to the issue of tax transparency in Latin America. It will be published annually to inform decision makers and citizens on where the region stands, and the concrete progress made by Latin American countries on tax transparency.

This session will revolve around a presentation of the report’s key findings and will offer an overview of the progress made by Latin American countries until 2020.

Presentation:

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

16:10-18:30 (CET)**WHERE DOES LATIN AMERICA STAND ON TAX TRANSPARENCY?**

Latin American countries’ strong support and commitment to the tax transparency agenda is the major focus and priority of the Punta del Este Declaration. Regional collaboration, ownership and engagement have increased since the signing of the Declaration in 2018, strengthening the awareness around exchange of information programmes. However, Latin American countries are not yet exploiting the full

potential of exchange of information in their fight against tax evasion, corruption and other illicit financial flows and with respect to revenue mobilisation. This session will discuss some of the report's key findings in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and existing barriers for the progress of the tax transparency agenda.

Panel 1: Mobilising revenue for development in Latin America

While most Latin American countries consider tax transparency a priority, they are not yet fully benefitting from its vast potential. The region is not using exchange of information to its full potential and countries that already exchange financial account information automatically are not always making the most of the data received in their compliance and tax audit strategies. This panel will highlight progress and look at remaining challenges to translate advances in tax transparency into improved revenue mobilisation.

Panellists:

- ❖ **Mr Ben Dickinson**, Head of the Global Relations and Development Division, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- ❖ **Mr Marcelo Estevão**, Global Director of the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice, World Bank
- ❖ **Ms Maria-José Garde**, Chair of the Global Forum
- ❖ **Mr Marcio Verdi**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Centre of Tax Administrations
- ❖ **Mr Emilio Pineda**, Chief of the Fiscal Management Division, Inter-American Development Bank
- ❖ **Mr Julián Ruiz**, Deputy Director of Fiscalization, Federal Administration of Public Revenues of Argentina
- ❖ **Mr Luis Moreno**, Tax Justice Coordinator, Latin American Network for Economic and Social Justice

Moderator:

- ❖ **Ms Emma Agyemang**, Global Tax Correspondent, Financial Times

Panel 2: Overview of beneficial ownership in Latin America

Beneficial ownership (BO) frameworks are still in very early stages of implementation in the region. Sources of BO information are, for the most part, not very diversified and few countries have implemented dedicated central registers. Further, most

countries have important deficiencies in the monitoring and supervision of BO obligations. This session will discuss the state of play in relation to beneficial ownership and key challenges ahead.

Panellists:

- ❖ **Mr Carlos Vargas**, General Director, General Directorate of Taxation, Costa Rica
- ❖ **Mr Gustavo Vega**, Deputy Executive Secretary, Financial Action Task Force on Latin America
- ❖ **Ms Grace Perez-Navarro**, Deputy Director of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- ❖ **Mr Ubaldo González de Frutos**, Sector Lead Specialist in Tax Administration, Inter-American Development Bank
- ❖ **Mr Andrés Knobel**, Lead Researcher, Tax Justice Network

Moderator:

- ❖ **Mr Juan Argibay Molina**, Deputy Secretary at the Economic Crime and Money Laundering Prosecutor's Office, Argentina