

Workshop on Domestic Public Resource Mobilization for Sustainable Development

**6-7 December 2017
Bangkok**

Tentative Program

Day 1	6 December 2017
08:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 10:00 Conference room 3	Opening of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policies, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development
10:00 – 11:45 Meeting room G	<p>Interactive panel 1: Enhancing tax revenue through domestic reforms</p> <p>The panel first introduces some key issues of the ESCAP book on “Tax Policy for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”, followed by discussion on domestic public revenue mobilization.</p> <p>Enhancing domestic public revenue mobilization is a primary task for Asia-Pacific developing countries to address the enormous financing needs for infrastructure investment and urbanization, and for an effective pursuit the 2030 Agenda.</p> <p>Targeted reforms to rationalize tax structure, broaden tax base and improve tax administration are among the obvious priorities. These also include the domestic reforms required to address loopholes in international taxation, such as the proposed action points from the OECD/G20 BEPS projects.</p> <p>More fundamentally, a benevolent tax culture based on the broad contract of paying taxes and accountable public spending is increasingly becoming a precondition for effective public resource mobilization and an intrinsic demand of sustainable development.</p> <p>Public revenue enhancement is also crucial at the local government level, especially for densely populated countries with fast expanding cities. Well-designed fiscal governance structure for municipal governments and better leverage of city finance tools would be essential for the urbanization trend to be sustainable and to leave no one behind.</p>

	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hamza Malik, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of ESCAP <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joosung Jun, Professor of economics at Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea ▪ Wayne Swan, Member of Parliament and former Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer of Australia ▪ Eric Zolt, Michael H. Schill Distinguished Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law ▪ Barry Reid, Advisor, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB ▪ Pramod Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Tax Resource Unit, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance of India ▪ Zeya Kyi Nyunt, Deputy Director General, Internal Revenue Department, Ministry of Finance of Myanmar
11:45 – 12:00	Coffee break
<p>12:00 – 13:00</p> <p>Meeting room G</p>	<p>Interactive panel 2: Regional cooperation to address shared challenges in tax base protection</p> <p>Asia-Pacific is highly integrated into the global value chains and is susceptible to the risk of harmful tax competition for investment and export market and susceptible to the tax loopholes in cross-border trade and investment. The recent years have witnessed a chronic downward trend of statutory corporate tax rates and the wide-spread use of tax incentives in countries of the region. Moreover, the expected tax cut in some major economies in the world may put further pressure on taxes in the competition for investment.</p> <p>To address these trans-border challenges, Asia-Pacific countries need broad-based tax cooperation to build consensus and articulate regional voices, as well as strengthened support from regional organizations and development partners to better understand the issues and be better prepared.</p> <p>Targeted and well-coordinated capacity building is an important element of collective effort. At the global level, the IMF, OECD, UN and WBG have joined hands through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax improved the synergy of their work in policy research and capacity support for countries. In Asia and the Pacific, however, a collaboration mechanism among the different stakeholders and a one-stop platform for countries to learn the services available and interact with various service providers are yet emerge.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wayne Swan, Member of Parliament and former Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer of Australia

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Valerio Barbantini, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD ▪ Yuji Miyaki, Public Management Specialist (Taxation), ADB & David Tansey, International Tax Policy and Administration Specialist, ADB ▪ Jan J.P. de Goede, Senior Principal at IBFD and chair of the Asian Tax Authorities Symposiums (ATAS) ▪ James Roldan, Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Philippines
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00 Conference room 3	Committee on Macroeconomic Policies, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development (continued)

Day 2	7 December 2017
9:00 - 12:30 Conference room 3	Committee on Macroeconomic Policies, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development (continued)
12:30 - 14:00 Conference room 4	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Panel on Infrastructure Financing Studies in Selected Countries (12:30 – 13:30)</p> <p>The panel discusses experiences of selected countries with infrastructure finance to improve understanding of financing needs for achieving sustainable infrastructure development and increase knowledge of financing sources and modalities in this area, including mobilizing domestic resources, improving public expenditure efficiency, partnering with the private sector and tapping financial markets for infrastructure development. Findings of sub-regional studies will be disseminated for this purpose as well as country studies on Georgia, Nepal, The Philippines, and Viet Nam.</p>
14:00 – 16:00 Conference room 3	<p>Committee on Macroeconomic Policies, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development (continued)</p> <p>Agenda item 4: Financing Strategies for Sustainable Development</p>