

NEWSLETTER – JULY-AUGUST 2022

IOTA NEWS

10.06.2022

IOTA Forum on Combating VAT Fraud

Under the framework of the newly developed hybrid format by IOTA, the Organisation successfully held the Forum on Combating VAT Fraud on 7th-9th June, 2022 in Budapest giving a fresh start and a totally new experience to its technical activities after two years of virtual operation.

The first hybrid technical event of the year attracted more than 55 participants gathering in person at the venue and 130 attendees joining digitally to the three days of the Forum.

The purposes of this year's Forum were the following:

- identify new fraud trends in cross-border VAT fraud;
- share concrete VAT fraud cases involving digital platforms (cryptocurrencies, Non-fungible tokens (NFTs), alternative payment platforms etc...);
- insights about VAT fraud cases where administrative cooperation and the use of data have played a crucial role in the auditing activities.

This Forum meets once per year during its two-year Mandate, it provides delegates with an opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics, problems and issues relating to VAT fraud that are in line with the Forum mandate. Attendees could raise questions during the Q&A at the end of each session. In addition, participants were actively involved in Group Discussions and in a Final Open Debate during the event.



16.06.2022

Webinar on Identifying and Addressing Corruption Risks in Tax Administration

IOTA successfully hosted a Webinar on Identifying and addressing corruption risks in tax administration on 15th June 2022. The first digital event broadcast live from the IOTA studio in

Budapest welcomed more than 60 participants from 22 IOTA member tax administrations, who virtually came together to learn about the systematic approach in the fight against corruption and the practical application of anti-corruption measures.

The main objectives of this Webinar were to share country examples of effective approaches to the efficient management of corruption risks, including internal mechanisms and processes implemented to detect and prevent corruption-related risks in tax administration.

This 90 min. Webinar offered opportunities for IOTA members to share good practices and efforts to prevent corruption and identify measures and methods to address wrongdoing when it occurs as well as work towards improving behaviours, norms, and standards in tax administration needed to sustain anti-corruption efforts. When approaching anti-corruption at the country level, it is important to put in place institutional systems and incentives to prevent corruption from occurring in the first place.



24.06.2022

ISORA Workshop "Survey Completion and Data Usage"

Successful joint IOTA-OECD ISORA workshop on "Survey completion and data usage" took place between 15th-16th June 2022 in Oslo, Norway hosted by the Norwegian Tax Administration. This event marked the end of the IOTA ISORA Chairmanship after 31 months.

The first physical event on ISORA after the pandemic brought together more than 60 participants from 40 countries all over the world, 5 international organizations, which are jointly implementing ISORA and academia.

The two-day workshop provided an opportunity for ISORA country co-ordinators and analysts using ISORA data to meet in person and to discuss their approaches and experience to complete the survey. Furthermore, the ISORA Technical Working Group partners were meeting for their preparations of the periodic survey 2023.

IOTA has been chairing the ISORA group since December 2019 and it came to an end at the event in Oslo. All partners expressed their appreciation to IOTA for the very professional leadership of the ISORA partnership. The chair was handed over at the end of the meeting in Oslo to the IMF.

24.06.2022

Forum on Combating VAT Fraud - A Totally New Experience on the Event Horizon of IOTA

‘Because you really have that feeling something is building up.’ – remarked brilliantly Vanessa Bianchini, one of the tax officials who participated in the IOTA’s recently organized Forum on Combating VAT Fraud in Budapest. This event was the very first technical activity in 2022 where tax professionals from the IOTA member countries could physically come together since the outbreak of the pandemic – what, beyond its fascinating presentations, absolutely made this Forum even more exceptional.



06.07.2022

26th General Assembly of IOTA



The Swiss Presidency of the Intra-European Organisation of Tax Administrations (IOTA) together with the IOTA Secretariat successfully organised the 26th General Assembly of IOTA on 29th-30th June 2022 in Zurich, Switzerland. This 26th General Assembly was the first-ever hybrid General Assembly in the history of IOTA and took the Organisation’s activities to the next level. The most important event of the year welcomed more than 150 high-ranking officials from partner organisations (European Commission, IMF, OECD), the business community and academia along with representatives of IOTA member tax administrations gathering personally at the foot of the

Swiss Alps, and over 80 prominent attendees and tax practitioners joining digitally to the entirely new experience after two years of virtual operation.

The Administrative Session of the 26th General Assembly took place on 29th June and was followed by the Technical Session on 30th June 2022. The professional theme of the Technical Session revolved around “*Compliance and Trust: affecting tax behaviour while redefining the relationship between taxpayers and tax administrations*”.



06.07.2022

New Function Added to the Spanish Tax Agency's App

The Spanish Tax Agency launched a new service in the AEAT's mobile application. The new function is available from 4 July 2022 and allows the clients to pay debts, ask for instalments, query on the status of the pending debts or obtain a certificate of being up to date with tax liabilities and paying almost instantaneously.

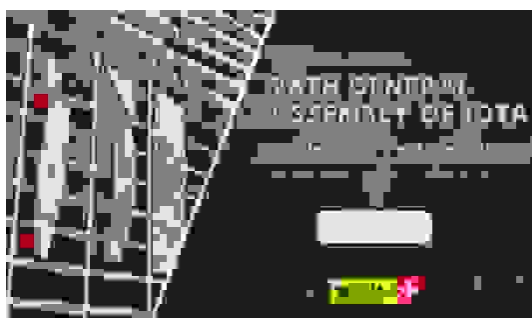


06.07.2022

The Latest Edition of the IOTA Tax Tribune Magazine is Now Available Online

We gladly announce that the 43rd edition of the IOTA's Tax Tribune Magazine is now available online. Taxation of incomes from cryptocurrency transactions in Armenia, new video call service for taxpayers in Italy and a high-level floorball referee at

the Swiss FTA just to mention a few topics that are discussed in the latest edition of the Tax Tribune Magazine. Vol.43 features 8 articles from 6 member countries including Armenia, Bulgaria, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, and Switzerland.



27.07.2022

26th General Assembly of IOTA - Interview

'It ran like a Swiss watch' – noted precisely Hans D'Hondt from Belgium, one of the high-ranking tax officials who attended the 26th General Assembly of IOTA which took place in an important economic and financial hub at the foot of the Swiss Alps. Under the framework of the newly developed hybrid format, the Organisation together with the Swiss Presidency of IOTA successfully held its 26th General Assembly on 29th-30th June 2022 in Zurich, Switzerland giving a fresh start and a totally new experience to its most important activity after two years of virtual operation. Most of the attendees highlighted the importance of the face-to-face meetings particularly in an international network like IOTA. We asked Director Generals and representatives to share their first impressions of the event with us. In the following interview they reveal their experience from the first hybrid General Assembly in the history of IOTA and more.

IOTA MEMBER NEWS



Appointment of New Director General of the Spanish Tax Agency

On 10 June 2022 Ms. Soledad Fernández has been appointed Director General of the Spanish Tax Agency in substitution of the current DG, Mr. Jesús Gascón, who has been appointed Secretary of State for Finance. Ms. Fernández had previously occupied several high ranking positions in the Ministry of Finance and the Spanish Tax Agency, such as Head of the Regional Office of Madrid, Head of the Tax Management Directorate, Chair of the Central Economic-Administrative Court or Director of the School of Finance, among others.



New Director General of the Slovenian Financial Administration Appointed

The Slovenian Financial Administration has appointed a new Director General, Mr. Peter Grum, he took the office 10 June 2022. Mr. Grum worked at the Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia and its predecessor, the Tax Administration of the Republic of Slovenia, for 14 years, from 2006 to 2020. In 2012, he became Head of the Director-General's Office at the General Tax Office and in 2014 Deputy Director-General of the Tax Administration. He held this post until 10 June 2022, when he became Acting Director-General of the Financial Administration.

