



LAC Tax Policy Forum “Addressing tax incentives and informality to support fiscal consolidation”

LAC Fiscal Initiative

Bogota, Colombia, 12-13 July 2012

DAY 1- Thursday 12 July	
8:30-9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00-10:00	<b>Opening remarks</b> Juan Ricardo Ortega, Commissioner, Directorate of National Taxes and Customs, COLOMBIA Marcio Verdi, Executive Secretary, CIAT Juan Alberto Fuentes, Director, Economic Development Division, ECLAC Francesca Castellani, Economist, IDB Grace Perez-Navarro, Deputy Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
10:00-10:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:15-11:45	<b>Session I. Current tax policy debate in Latin America and the Caribbean</b> In this roundtable discussion all LAC country delegates will be invited to report the top tax policy challenges in their countries, and provide views on the challenges posed by the use of tax incentives and by informality regarding fiscal consolidation. <b>Chair:</b> Juan Ricardo Ortega, COLOMBIA <b>Speakers:</b> All participants
<b>PART I: Tax incentives</b>	
11:45-13:15	<b>Session II. Fiscal policy and investment</b> To help set the scene for a discussion on tax incentives, this session will address considerations relevant to the design of fiscal policy to strengthen the business climate thereby fostering investment, such as the determinants for investment, how tax factors in, what kind of cross-border investment and financing structures are being commonly used by firms, and implications for effective tax rates on inbound and outbound investment. <b>Chair:</b> Marcio Verdi, CIAT <b>Speakers:</b> OECD (Steven Clark, Head of Business and International Tax Unit) ECLAC (Juan Alberto Fuentes, Director, Economic Development Division) ICEFI, Guatemala (Maynor Cabrera, Senior Economist) COLOMBIA (Juan Ricardo Ortega, Commissioner, DIAN) <i>Open discussion</i>
13:15-13:30	<b>Official Photograph</b>
13:30-14:30	<b>Lunch</b>
14:30-16:00	<b>Session III. Experience with Corporate Tax Incentives to Stimulate Investment</b> This session will examine how tax incentives may be used to stimulate investment, highlighting the key types of corporate tax incentives and their design and main policy considerations to improve their cost-effectiveness. Delegates will be invited to share their experience with the use of tax incentives for investment (e.g. tax holidays, Free Trade Zones, special tax allowances and credits). <b>Chair:</b> Grace Perez-Navarro, OECD <b>Speakers:</b> OECD (Steven Clark, Head of Business and International Tax Unit) WB (Lars Moller, Senior Country Economist, Colombia Country Office) PERU (Marco Antonio Camacho Sandoval, General Director, DGPIP-MEF) MEXICO (José Luis Trejo Porras, Deputy General Director of Tax Policy) IFC (Rajul Awasthi, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, Global Tax Simplification Program) <i>Open discussion</i>
16:00-16:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
16:30-18:00	<b>Session III (continued)</b> <b>Speakers:</b> ARGENTINA (Luis Maria Capellano, Vice-Minister of Public Revenues) COSTA RICA (Alvaro Ramos-Chavez, General Director of Finance) DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (Edgar Morales, Head of Tax Legislation, Ministry of Finance) IDB (Alberto Barreix, Principal Fiscal Economist) SPAIN (Luis A. Peragon Lorenzo, Senior Tax Analyst, Ministry of Finance) <i>Open discussion</i>



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DAY 2 – Friday 13 July	
9:00-10:30	<p><b>Session IV. Best practices in the use of tax incentives</b></p> <p>This session will provide an overview of best practices in the use of tax incentives from both the OECD and the LAC countries' perspective, with regard to assessment, transparency, and accountability. Participants will be invited to share their proposals/perspectives for addressing these goals (through tax expenditure measurement, tax expenditure reporting, and cost-benefit analysis) in the granting and administration of tax incentives.</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Alberto Barreix, IDB</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>            OECD (Ana Cebreiro, Economist)            CIAT (Miguel Pecho, Tax Studies and Research Director)            WORLD BANK (Raul Junquera, Senior Public Finance Specialist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, PREM)</p> <p><i>Open discussion</i></p>
10:30-11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>
PART II. Informality	
11:00-13:30	<p><b>Session V. Fiscal policy to address the informal economy</b></p> <p>The specific problem of informality, a widely spread practice in Latin America, will be analyzed both from the sides of tax policy and administration and public expenditure.</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> José Luis Trejo Porras, MEXICO</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>            COLOMBIA (Juana Paola Bustamente, Coordinator of Labour and Business Formalisation, Ministry of Finance)            ECLAC (Juan Carlos Gómez Sabaini, Consultant, Economic Development Division)            OECD (Christian Daude, Head of Americas Unit, Development Centre)            FGV, Brazil (Fernando Holanda Barbosa Filho, Ricardo Simonsen Technical Director, Getulio Vargas Foundation)            URUGUAY (Fernando Serra, Deputy Director, Tax Unit, Ministry of Finance)            IFC (Rajul Awasthi, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, Global Tax Simplification Program)</p> <p><i>Open discussion</i></p>
13:30-15:00	<b>Lunch</b>
PART III. Tax Indicators	
15:00-15:45	<p><b>Session VI. Tax indicators</b></p> <p>In this session it will be presented the first edition of the Revenue Statistics in Latin America publication, jointly produced by CIAT, ECLAC and the OECD (and an update of other current statistical work) and its main results/findings discussed.</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Luis Peragón, SPAIN</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>            OECD (Maurice Nettlely, Head of Tax Data, Statistics and Indicators Unit and Steven Clark, Head of Business and International Tax Unit)            CIAT (Miguel Pecho, Tax Studies and Research Director)</p> <p><i>Open discussion</i></p>
15:45-16:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
PART IV. Next steps	
16:15-17:00	<p><b>Next steps</b></p> <p>This last session will help address next steps under the LAC Fiscal Initiative.</p>
17:00-17:30	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p>Ana Fernanda Maiguashca, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, COLOMBIA</p>
19:00	<b>Social event at the National Museum</b>