

PRESS RELEASE

ATAF Convenes African Tax Administrations in Zimbabwe to Strengthen Tax Cooperation

VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE, 14 October 2026 – The African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) has convened the 2026 Continental Exchange of Information (EOI) Conference and Workshop, hosted by the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA), from 14 to 16 October 2026 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The three-day gathering brings together African tax administration leaders and practitioners to strengthen international tax cooperation, combat illicit financial flows and improve domestic revenue mobilisation.

The conference comes at a time when African countries are increasingly recognising the value of accessing taxpayer information held beyond their borders. Since 2009, African tax administrations have identified more than EUR 4.6 billion in additional revenue through EOI, cross-border audits and investigations supported by EOI, and voluntary disclosure programmes, including EUR 417 million in 2025 alone.

Despite these gains, the benefits remain concentrated in relatively few countries. Many African tax administrations continue to face challenges related to limited legal frameworks, technical capacity and the effective use of exchanged information, highlighting the need for stronger cooperation and practical solutions.

According to Mr Antony Munanda, ATAF Head of International and Cross-Border Taxation, the conference provides an opportunity to help more African countries translate international tax cooperation into tangible results.

“Exchange of Information is an essential instrument for protecting Africa's tax base and strengthening domestic revenue mobilisation. We have seen the results it can deliver, but too many of our members are yet to fully benefit. Through this conference, we want to bridge that gap by strengthening political commitment, building practical capabilities and ensuring that African tax administrations have the tools and expertise to effectively use information held beyond their borders,” said Mr Munanda.

Welcoming the continental gathering, acting ZIMRA Commissioner General, Mr Misheck Govha, highlighted the importance of Zimbabwe hosting discussions aimed at strengthening regional cooperation.

“Zimbabwe is pleased to host this important continental engagement, which brings African tax administrations together to share experiences and identify practical solutions to common challenges. As economic activities increasingly transcend national borders, no tax

administration can address these challenges in isolation. Stronger cooperation and effective exchange of information are essential to protecting public revenue and supporting our countries' development priorities," said Mr Govha.

In his opening remarks, Deputy Minister of Finance for Zimbabwe, Hon. David Mhangagwa, reiterated the importance of the Exchange of Information Conference that has been organised by the African Tax Administration Forum in bringing jurisdictions together to strengthen tax administrators' capacity to mobilise domestic resources through effective international tax cooperation

"African economies operate within an interconnected financial system. Income, assets and business transactions cross borders, while governments remain responsible for financing development at home. International tax cooperation must therefore form part of our national financing strategies. Exchange of information helps establish the facts needed to address concealed taxable income and assets, investigate tax-related illicit financial flows and enforce domestic tax laws," said Hon. Mhangagwa.

The conference opens with high-level discussions on Africa's tax transparency agenda, political leadership and the implementation of Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI). The following two days will focus on practical applications, including effective EOI requests, the use of exchanged information in tax audits, simultaneous tax examinations, beneficial ownership information and international peer review processes.

Beyond the conference, ATAF is advancing several initiatives to strengthen international tax cooperation across Africa. These include the ATAF Agreement on Mutual Assistance in Tax Matters (AMATM), which provides a framework for cooperation among African tax administrations, alongside targeted technical assistance, capacity-building programmes and practical tools to strengthen the implementation and effective use of EOI.

Participants will also explore an African-led AEOI IT solution developed jointly by ATAF and the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), with support from the World Bank, demonstrating how African-developed technological solutions can strengthen international tax cooperation.

Building on the inaugural conference held in 2024, the gathering forms part of ATAF's continued efforts to strengthen African ownership of the EOI agenda and help more member countries translate international cooperation into increased domestic revenue.

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