

# NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021

Dear Member,

Isn't it hard to believe that we are already in the fifth month of 2021? For the IOTA Secretariat, time is flying by with hosting not just webinars but also some of our first forums of the year - not to mention our preparations for the 25th General Assembly taking place at the end of next month! For now, we have gathered the most important news, activities, and some of our latest publications for you. Keep on scrolling to find out more!

## IOTA News

### Job Announcement: IOTA Executive Secretary 2021-2024

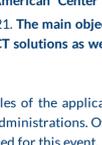
IOTA is seeking candidates for the position of Executive Secretary for the period 2021-2024. The organisation is looking for an outstanding individual who can ensure a high standard management of the Secretariat of the Organisation and contribute to strategic planning and formulation of IOTA policies and strategies, delivering IOTA outputs and consolidating its role in the tax international framework.

The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate clearly her/his career achievements so far, referring to the corresponding qualities, skills and experiences as stipulated in this call for the position of Executive Secretary.

The application deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

[Find out more](#)

### CIAT-IOTA Webinar on Latest ICT Developments in Tax Administration Processes



The Webinar on the Application of Information and Communication Technologies in Tax Administration Processes was jointly organised by the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT) and IOTA and took place on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The main objective of the event was to share best practices in implementing the latest ICT solutions as well as to cover practical aspects of such projects.

Speakers from Brazil, Chile, Norway and Russia presented examples of the application of technologies like Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence in their tax administrations. Over 420 participants from 58 countries on both sides of the Atlantic registered for this event.

[Watch summary video](#)

[Read more](#)

### Webinar on COVID-19 Crisis: Understanding and Addressing New Opportunities for Tax Evasion and Tax Fraud

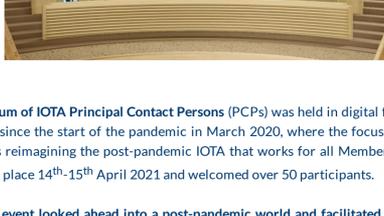
The IOTA Webinar on 'COVID-19 Crisis: Understanding and Addressing New Opportunities for Tax Evasion and Tax Fraud' took place on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021. This webinar explored what new types of evasion/fraud have been identified as stemming from the COVID-19 crisis. Participating IOTA member tax administrations shared their experience of the new tax fraud risks they have seen appearing and the mechanisms they have put in place to effectively handle those risks.



[Watch summary video](#)

[Read more](#)

### 28<sup>th</sup> Forum for IOTA Principal Contact Persons



The 28<sup>th</sup> Forum of IOTA Principal Contact Persons (PCPs) was held in digital format for the second time since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, where the focus of discussion this year was reimagining the post-pandemic IOTA that works for all Members. The Forum meeting took place 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and welcomed over 50 participants.

The two-day event looked ahead into a post-pandemic world and facilitated presentations and discussions that can shape the future of IOTA.

[Find out more](#)

### Updated IOTA Work Programme

The updated Activities Calendar of the IOTA Work Programme for 2021 contains the following changes:

- new dates of Forum on Combating VAT Fraud: 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June 2021
- joint IOTA- IBFD event "Business meets tax authorities. Facilitating tax compliance of the Tourism industry in (post) COVID-19 times" - postponed to 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2021 (new date to be confirmed)
- NTO Technical Conference "Building stronger partnerships to fight tax crime" (18-22 October 2021) - will be conducted in a digital format

Please keep an eye on our Activities Calendar for all upcoming activities of the year! It can be a handy document for planning ahead and saving dates of events that are not listed in the current edition of the newsletter.

[See the full IOTA Activities Calendar 2021](#)

## Activities

**Please note:** Registration for the below events is only possible for Principal Contact Persons of IOTA. If you would like to attend, kindly contact the PCP or Shadow PCP of your Tax Administration to invite you to register online to the IOTA event you are interested in.



**Employee Well-Being During Remote Working - Video**  
 Available on the IOTA Website from:  
 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 12.00 pm CEST  
 Length: 33 minutes

In the framework of activities of the IOTA Forum on Human Resource Management, the IOTA Secretariat with the support of the Forum's Steering Group and contributions from 10 IOTA member countries prepared a video on the subject of Employee well-being during the remote working.

10 IOTA member tax administration shared their insights into measures that they took to ensure the safety of employees, improve their physical and mental health, enhance their home ergonomics, provide additional training and tools and talked about other initiatives aiming to improve employee well-being and support their motivation.

[Find out more](#)



**Webinar on Risks of the Digital Economy: Analysis, Control Measures and Development of Methods**  
 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

The objectives of this webinar are to exchange good practices and share experiences among IOTA member tax administrations relating to the latest trends and solutions tax administrations are exploring to keep pace with the digital revolution. Getting knowledge on how to access information now and in the future, new business models and actors, products and services, control measures, and the development of methods.

Experts from IOTA members (Belgium, Sweden, United Kingdom) will share their thoughts and experience in this area.

[Find out more](#)



**IOTA Forum on Implementation of Measures to Counter Base Erosion Profit Shifting (BEPS)**  
 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Digital Event

The purpose of this Forum is to share experiences and best practices on the implementation of measures to counter BEPS. This year's Forum meeting will focus on the following aspects of the BEPS Action Plan:

- Tax challenges arising from digitalisation of the economy (Action 1);
- Effective treatment of information on tax rulings subject to the automatic exchange between tax administrations (Action 5);
- Mandatory Disclosure Rules (Action 12);
- Country-by-Country Reporting (Action 13).

The Forum meeting will also include sessions on transfer pricing and the experiences and expectations of businesses.

[Find out more](#)



**IOTA Forum on Combating VAT Fraud**  
 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Digital Event

The purpose of the Forum meeting is to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on members' strategies for combating VAT fraud. In addition, it will explore also any new VAT fraud trends, in particular VAT frauds facilitated by the use of alternative payment systems and money laundering.

[Find out more](#)

## Member News

### Licensing of Outsourced Accountants in Latvia



As of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, the State Revenue Service (SRS) of Latvia will issue licenses to outsourced accountants and establish the Public Register of Outsourced Accountants.

The introduction of licensing of outsourced accountants will ensure a minimum level of professional qualification, promote competition, and improve the quality of services.

[Read more](#)

### State Tax Service of Azerbaijan awarded the Corporate Registers Forum's Innovation Award

The State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy has been awarded the Innovation Award of the Corporate Registers Forum (CRF). On 31<sup>st</sup> March the award was presented to the Azerbaijani side during the "CRF Innovation Awards Virtual Ceremony".



[Read more](#)

## Publications

### IOTA PAPER: WELCOME TO THE AGENCY



A new full Guide on three-way kit for tax assistance provided to taxpayers by Italy's Revenue Agency

"With this Guide, the Italian Revenue Agency intends to offer not only a complete view of the services that can be accessible remotely and online, or through dedicated Apps, but also explain how, in order to respond quickly to the pandemic challenge, it has been crucial to adopt a new model of integrated e-Agency, basically smart and increasingly capable of intercepting, reshaping and put on the innovations accessible thanks to the current world digital transformation."

[Read more](#)

### IOTA REPORT: HOW TO DETECT, PREVENT AND COMBAT NEW VAT FRAUD SCHEMES FACILITATED BY DIGITAL PLATFORMS SELLING GOODS



This report was published on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021. It was prepared by the Subgroup of the Forum on Combating VAT Fraud and it sheds light on VAT fraud schemes emerging in the digital economy.

The report uses data provided by 32 IOTA member tax administrations participating in a country survey conducted in January-March 2020. The report aims to raise awareness about new types of VAT fraud schemes emerging in the digital economy as well as to identify examples of the effective and appropriate use of available databases, along with the international cooperation in action.

[Read more](#)

Would you like to see your IOTA Paper published? Do you have any relevant issues you wish to share? Apply NOW!

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