

***Global Tax Reform Beyond BEPS***  
**ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**  
**OCTOBER 8, 2015**  
**4:00-5:30PM**  
**NATIONAL MUSEUM**  
**AVENIDA JAVIER PRADO ESTE #2465, SAN BORJA, LIMA, PERU**

**Moderator:**

— Shawn Donnan, Financial Times

**Discussants:**

- Alicia BÁRCENA, Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Winnie BYANYIMA, Executive Director, Oxfam
- Vitor GASPAR, Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF
- José Antonio OCAMPO, ICRICT Chair
- Pascal SAINT-AMANS, Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- Magdalena SEPÚLVEDA, ICRICT Commissioner
- Joseph E. STIGLITZ, ICRICT Commissioner

**Background**

Increasing public revenue through progressive taxation is necessary to finance essential public goods, services and investments in developed and developing countries alike. Fair taxation can help in fighting inequality, realising human rights, and ensuring the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). At the same time, a succession of reports of tax dodging by multinational corporations have cast the spotlight on the need for reform of the international tax system. It has also become evident that international tax avoidance by multinationals makes use of tax havens and the offshore secrecy system, which also facilitates capital flight and money laundering for criminal and terrorist purposes.

Recognizing the need for reform, in 2013, the G20 gave its support to the OECD's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) initiative. The OECD will deliver the final reports from the OECD project to the G20 Finance Ministers and publish them on 8 October 2015. The publication of the final reports should provide a welcome opportunity for a much wider debate, which should evaluate what progress has been made and what remains to be done. While the BEPS project should be welcomed and clearly has made progress that would have been thought of as impossible just five years ago, this process has evoked additional questions on the fitness of the international tax framework.

- Is the current international tax framework fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

- How far do the BEPS project outputs accomplish the goals set by the G20 to ensure that multinationals are taxed ‘where activities take place and value is created’?
- How suitable are these proposals for developing countries?
- What issues are central to building a fairer international corporate tax system in the interest of developing countries too?
- What is the most appropriate institutional framework to bring more inclusive participation?

It is clear that even under an ambitious agenda like BEPS, issues central to the interests and priorities of developing countries, such as the source/residence taxation split and more practical measures like withholding taxes remain to be discussed. It also seems that the need for urgency may have prioritized quick-fix solutions, without a re-examination of the fundamental principles of the system, which many consider outdated. Moreover, the lack of full global representation in the BEPS process has revealed the current insufficiency of global governance on tax matters as was made evident at the recent Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (United Nations).

As the BEPS project outcomes are presented to the G20 Finance Ministers during their meeting on 8 October, and the Annual Meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund take place, reflection on global tax reform beyond BEPS is critical. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are playing an important role in the international tax context and have long-established and demonstrated expertise in advising governments on economic and taxation policy reforms. Collective input from all institutional stakeholders is essential to inclusive and sustainable reform.

This round table presents a unique opportunity to advance the reform discussion toward creation of an international tax system that works for all people.

### **Useful information**

The [\*Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation\*](#) (ICRICT) is a group of public intellectuals from around the world who believe that, at this moment in history, there is both an urgent need and an unprecedented opportunity to bring about significant reform of the international corporate taxation system. The Commission aims to promote the international corporate tax reform debate through a wider and more inclusive discussion of international tax rules than is possible through any other existing forum; to consider reforms from a perspective of global public interest rather than national advantage; and to seek fair, effective and sustainable tax solutions for development.

The Commission is chaired by José Antonio Ocampo and includes Eva Joly, Rev. Suzanne Matalé, Manuel Montes, Léonce Ndikumana, Ifueko Omoigui Okauru, Govinda Rao, Magdalena Sepúlveda, and Joseph Stiglitz.

### **Contact**

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