

## Mauritius Hosts Benchmarking Exercise on Common Reporting Standard (CRS)

### • Peer Learning Exchange Workshop on AEOI

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) hosted a Peer Learning Exchange Workshop on the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI), early June 2025, at the Integrated Customs Clearance Centre (ICCC), Le Chaland Road, Plaine Magnien. Under the aegis of the World Bank and the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), the workshop brought together seventeen representatives from tax administrations in Cameroon and Zambia to share experiences, build capacity and reinforce collaboration on the implementation of the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) under the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) framework. The resource persons comprised seasoned MRA experts with in-depth knowledge and practical experience in the field of Automatic Exchange of Information.



In his address during the launching ceremony, the Acting Director-General of MRA, Mr. Mahmad Oozeer, emphasized the significance of international cooperation in today's tax landscape. *"The Automatic Exchange Of Information is one of the most powerful tools to combat tax evasion,"* he said. *"When taxpayers are aware of the global exchange of data, they are more likely to comply,"* he pursued. Mr. Oozeer stressed the commitment of Mauritius to building awareness and capacity. *"Our aim is to promote voluntary compliance through education and in upholding transparency. Mauritius is proud to be part of the global effort towards a fairer tax system,"* he underscored.



Mr. Faisal Oozeerally, Director of the Large Taxpayer Department at MRA, emphasized the pioneering leadership of Mauritius in the region. *"Since completing our first CRS exchange in 2018, we have built a robust compliance framework with a dedicated FATCA/CRS team carrying-out regular audits of financial institutions."*

*Looking ahead, Mauritius is among the 59 jurisdictions committed to implementing the Crypto Asset Reporting Framework (CARF) by 2027, with legal and technical preparations already underway,” he highlighted.*

Value created through peer-learning opportunities was echoed by the representatives of the World Bank, namely Ms. Nana Akua Achiaa Amoako Mensa and Mr. Alfredo Revilak, both serving as Senior Consultants on International Tax, as well as Ms. Reem Abudzeid, EOI Specialist at ATAF. Similar appreciation was expressed by Mr. John Kinyuy, Head of the IT Department at Cameroon’s Direction Générale des Impôts (DGI) and Ms. Mutinta Chumba, Senior Tax Inspector at the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA).

Ms. Nana Akua Achiaa Amoako Mensa highlighted the importance of planning throughout the AEOI implementation process. *“As a consultant, seeing the process in action and interacting with people who work on it on a day-to-day basis provides insights I wouldn’t get because I’m on the outside,”* she remarked.



**[Statement by Ms. Nana Akua Achiaa Amoako Mensah, Senior Consultant, International Tax, World Bank](#)**

On his part, Mr. Alfredo Revilak, emphasized the workshop’s role in advancing international tax cooperation. *“Workshops like these are essential to close loopholes exploited by bad actors. When jurisdictions work on the same page, we strengthen the global tax system,”* he noted.



**[Statement by Mr. Alfredo Revilak, Senior Consultant, International Tax, World Bank](#)**

As for Ms. Reem Abudzeid, she stressed the significance of information exchange as a vital tool against tax evasion and illicit financial flows. *“ATAF is very interested in the exchange of information. Cooperation is key to raising awareness and combating tax avoidance, tax evasion and illicit financial flow across Africa,”* she said, praising MRA’s well-trained officers while expressing eagerness to repeat such collaborative experiences.



**[Statement by Mrs. Reem Abudzeid, EOI Specialist, ATAF](#)**

Mr. John Kinyuy, described AEOI as a new frontier crossed by his administration. *“The key takeaway from MRA is: do it one step at a time, layer it — and that’s what we’re taking home,”* he noted. He highlighted the importance of stakeholder engagement and building in-house capacity despite the high initial costs, citing long-term benefits.



**[Statement by Mr. John Kinyuy, Head of IT Department, DGI - Cameroon](#)**

Furthermore, Ms. Mutinta Chumba praised Mauritius's progress in AEOI, stating, *"I was marvelled at the progress Mauritius has made — it's one of the few countries in Africa to have implemented AEOI."* She emphasised practical insights from the workshop that ZRA will apply, especially in enhancing security and combating illicit financial flows. *"It has given us confidence to move forward and inspired other African countries,"* she added.



**[Statement by Mrs. Mutinta Chumba, Senior Tax Inspector \(EOI Unit\), Zambia Revenue Authority](#)**

Mauritius pursues its engagement to drive knowledge-sharing across the continent through the ATAF Agreement on Mutual Assistance in Tax Matters (AMATM). Having previously hosted delegations from Uganda, Rwanda and Cameroon, MRA remains committed to supporting regional transparency and professional development. *"The Mauritius Revenue Authority is honoured to share its experience and expertise,"* the Acting Director-General concluded. *"Together, we can build a stronger, more transparent tax environment across Africa."*



The experts from MRA who intervened during the workshop were Mr. Soobash Sonah, Director of the Information Systems Department, who was accompanied by Mr. Ashvin Luckoo and Mr. Sachin Moti, both serving as Section Heads within the same department. Their contributions were complemented by Mr. Rajeev Gobin from the Internal Affairs Department, and Mrs. Sumita Moorooogen, Director of the Internal Audit Division. Also sharing their expertise were Mr. Faisal Oozeerally, Director of the Large Taxpayer Department; Mr. Rabi Djapermal, Team Leader; and Mr. Krishna Rambaksh, Section Head. Representing the Medium and Small Taxpayers Department, Mr. Leo Ferre, Director in Charge and also Director of the Fiscal Investigations Department, intervened alongside Mr. Shivshekur Ramphul, Section Head of the Tax Risk Management Unit. They were accompanied by Mr. Luvraj Pandoo and Miss Deeveya Thakoor, both Data Analysts, serving the same department. From the Operational Services Department, the Acting Director-General, Mr. Mahmad Oozeer, also shared his expertise during the sessions.