



## 14<sup>th</sup> ATAF COUNTRY CORRESPONDENT CONFERENCE

21 – 23 FEBRUARY 2024

DAVID LIVINGSTONE SAFARI LODGE

LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA

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### AGENDA

DAY 1: 21 FEBRUARY 2024	
08:30 – 09:30	<b>OPENING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• M. Logan Wort – Executive Secretary (ATAF)</li><li>• M. Dingani Banda – Commissioner General (ZRA)</li><li>• Guest of Honour – Chairman of the Board (ZRA)</li></ul>
09:30 – 10:00	<b>TEA BREAK &amp; GROUP PHOTO</b>
10:00 – 11:30	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS: FROM STRATEGY TO ACTION – THE ROLE OF ATAF COUNTRY CORRESPONDENTS</b>  <b>Speaker:</b> Logan Wort – Executive Secretary  <b>SESSION 1: ENHANCING MEMBER ENGAGEMENT</b>

	<p>This session will follow the Executive Secretary's keynote address, "From Strategy to Implementation: The Role of ATAF's Country Correspondents. " The Keynote will set the scene for the discussions that will follow during which Participants will be divided into several groups, and each group tasked with reflecting on a specific area pertaining to Member engagement. The areas will include the following:</p> <p><b>Group 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATAF's Visibility in Member Countries</li> <li>• Country Correspondent Awards 2024</li> </ul> <p><b>Group 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research collaboration</li> <li>• Technical Assistance (including provision of experts/secondments, technical and geographical targeting etc)</li> </ul> <p><b>Group 3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of Country Correspondents vis-à-vis their Principals (CGs and DGs)</li> <li>• Member-Secretariat Communication</li> <li>• Membership fees</li> </ul>
<b>11:30 - 11:50</b>	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
<b>11:50 – 13:30</b>	<p><b>SESSION 2: FEEDBACK AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS</b></p> <p>After the break, participants will reconvene to present and discuss the outcomes of their group discussions. This part of Session 2 will take place in the form of a panel to allow all participants to have inputs into all the topics discussed.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mary Baine – Deputy Executive Secretary (ATAF)</p>

13:30 - 14:30	LUNCH BREAK
14:30 - 17:30	<p><b>SESSION 3: INTRODUCTION TO ATAF@15</b></p> <p>This session will take the form of a panel discussion. A presenter will introduce the ATAF's 15-year celebration project under the theme "Shaping the Future: 15 Years of Transforming Tax Administration in Africa". This initiative will delve into ATAF's 15-year history of building African tax systems, aiming to analyse and document its profound impact on member countries. The aim is to pave the way for more effective mission fulfilment of building efficient and effective tax systems in Africa.</p> <p>The discussion will highlight ATAF's journey, accomplishments, and its crucial role in shaping effective tax systems, with a specific focus on the contributions of country correspondents.</p> <p>Participants will be able to share success stories from specific collaborative areas with ATAF, offer recommendations for improving the working relationship among country correspondents and fostering enhanced collaboration between ATAF and its members, and provide insights into an "ATAF of the future."</p> <p>The ultimate goal of this session is to gather information for crafting a comprehensive reference document. This document will extend beyond the current tenure of ATAF's Council and Executives, serving as a guide based on past experiences to shape a sustainable and effective future, ensuring the organization's sustainability and efficacy.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Lincoln Marais</p> <p>Panellists: <i>Nigeria, Uganda, Morocco, Cameroon, Zambia</i></p>
<b>END OF DAY 1</b>	

**\*A Welcome Cocktail will be organised at 7:00 pm on 21 FEBRUARY 2024.**

09:00 – 12:00

**SESSION 4: ENHANCING MUTUAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE: EVALUATING INFORMATION EXCHANGE MECHANISMS IN ATAF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

The African tax landscape is characterised by diverse economic structures, regulatory frameworks, and administrative capacities across nations. While progress has been made in recent years, challenges persist in ensuring the effective exchange of information for tax purposes. Variations in legal frameworks, technological capabilities, and institutional capacities have resulted in uneven levels of success in implementing and benefiting from information exchange mechanisms.

Against this background and considering the evolving dynamics of the global economy and the imperative for robust tax governance, this session will analyse the current state of the African tax landscape, with a focus on assessing and improving mechanisms for the exchange of tax-related information.

**Objectives:**

More specifically, the session will:

- Explore the challenges faced by tax administrations in implementing effective information exchange and identify opportunities for improvement.
- Showcase successful models and best practices in information exchange for enhanced tax compliance and revenue mobilisation.
- Foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among African tax authorities to collectively enhance the effectiveness of existing mechanisms.

**Format:**

The session will feature case study presentations from ATAF Member countries and an expert panel discussion. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in