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The Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism

BRITACOM Council Meeting Convenes in Beijing to Strengthen Global Tax Cooperation

The BRITACOM Council Meeting was successfully held at the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Academy (BRITA) • Beijing on 24-25 April 2025. Over the two days, senior tax officials from more than 20 jurisdictions, along with representatives from international organizations and academia, engaged in in-depth discussions either onsite or online on strategies for enhancing international tax cooperation and promoting global economic governance.



The meeting was inaugurated with an opening address by Mr. Wang Daoshu, Executive Secretary of the BRITACOM Secretariat and Deputy Commissioner of the State Taxation Administration of China. Mr. Benjamin Chan, Chair of the BRITACOM Council and Commissioner of the Inland Revenue Department of Hong Kong, China delivered the opening remarks highlighting the significance of the BRITACOM in fostering global tax collaboration. Mr. Hu Jinglin, Commissioner of the State Taxation Administration of China, delivered a keynote speech emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in addressing global economic challenges. He proposed three

initiatives to further enhance the BRITACOM: expanding high-quality mutual benefits, promoting higher-level capacity building, and exploring innovative practices in the context of digital transformation.



During the meeting, participants delved into discussions on the progress of BRITACOM and its future work plans. In order to provide a new platform of experience sharing for all parties, it is proposed to design and launch two major product portfolios, namely, the product portfolio of tax administration and of taxpayer service. The BRITACOM Secretariat introduced the two product portfolios at the meeting and several participants shared their own experience in the two areas.

Furthermore, the BRITACOM Council reviewed and approved the German Federation Industries' (BDI) Observership to the BRITACOM. Christian Kaeser, Chair of Tax Commission of the BDI made a brief response and highlighted the influence of BRITACOM in promoting global trade and tax certainty. This move underscores BRITACOM's growing influence and its commitment to expanding its network of partners.

With 37 Member Tax Administrations and 31 Observers, BRITACOM has become a vital platform for international tax cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative. The successful conclusion of this Council Meeting marks another milestone in strengthening global tax governance and fostering a more inclusive and sustainable economic environment.

For more details, please visit:

https://www.britacom.org/xw 7086/jzdt/202504/t20250429 1151432.html.

❖ Multilingual Video Column for the Fifth BRITACOF on BRITACOM Website

Videos of the Fifth Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum (BRITACOF) have been uploaded and each video has six languages including Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Arabic, and Russian. You may choose the language according to your needs. The videos cover the opening ceremony, closing ceremony, business and industry tax dialogue as well as main sessions at the Fifth BRITACOF.

For more details, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/news/5thonLinemeeting/.

❖ Implementation of the Hong Kong Action Plan (2025-2027)

The Hong Kong Action Plan outlines the task schedule for BRITACOM from 2025 to 2027, identifies key areas of work, and establishes an implementation framework. Under the Action Plan, four task forces have been set up, focusing on raising tax certainty, promoting digital transformation of tax administration, improving tax environment, and reinforcing capacity building of tax administration. Regarding chairs of the task forces, Macao, China will take on this role for the task force on raising tax certainty; Kazakhstan will continue to be the chair for the task force on promoting digital transformation of tax administration; Cambodia will chair the task force on improving tax environment and China will continue to chair the task force on reinforcing capacity building.

Update of the Tax Policy Library

To implement the Hong Kong Action Plan (2025-2027) and advance the construction of the tax policy library of BRI jurisdictions, we have invited 37 members to verify, supplement, and update the library. So far, the relevant content from 14 jurisdictions has been published on the website of BRITACOM. This library aims to help all parties quickly understand the tax systems, administration frameworks, taxpayer service initiatives, and preferential policies of BRI jurisdictions, enhance the accuracy of tax policies, and promote trade liberalization and investment facilitation in BRI jurisdictions.

For the latest updates, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/zchj/TaxLawsandPolicies/.

Update of the BRITACOM Website

To better leverage the role of the BRI Tax Journal, a new column entitled *BRI Tax Journal Preview* has been added to the homepage of the BRITACOM website, allowing everyone to read some articles of the journal in advance before it is officially published. The sections of the website have also been regularly renewed and improved to display work progress of the BRITACOM and keep relevant parties updated. In addition, a new column titled *Videos and Photos* has been added

under the section of BRITACEG, which features videos and photos of all training programs and on-site teaching activities in China from 2023 to 2024, showcasing wonderful moments and beautiful memories of the training programs.

For more details, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/lmjl/vidphoto/

The Eighth Theme Day Event

On 6 November 2024, the Eighth Theme Day Event was held online, which was the Hungary Theme Day. More than 150 participants attended the event, including officials from 15 tax authorities, international organizations, embassies and representatives from 35 enterprises. At the event, representatives from the Hungarian General Office of Taxation and Customs introduced the tax administration and taxpayer services in Hungary to enterprises investing there and there was in-depth communication and exchanges between them.



For more details of the event, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/zt/ThemeDay/EighthEvent.

The Ninth Theme Day Event

On 15 May 2025, the Ninth Tax Administration Theme Day Event was jointly organized by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) of Nepal, the State Taxation Administration (STA) of China, and the BRITACOM Secretariat in a hybrid format in Nepal. The event brought together nearly 300 participants, with over 60 attendees onsite and more than 200 participants online. At the event,

representatives from IRD Nepal and STA China introduced their tax policies, tax administration practices and taxpayer service measures and engaged in active communication with audience both online and onsite.



For more details of the event, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/zt/ThemeDay/NinthEvent/.

❖ A New Issue of the BRI Tax Journal

The latest issue of the BRI Tax Journal was officially published and distributed in December 2024. This issue focuses on the theme of 'Raising Tax Certainty' and includes contributions from tax departments of more than 10 jurisdictions, including Gabon, Nigeria, Singapore, Australia, Brazil, and Hungary. The journal covers tax policy interpretation and practical experiences in tax administration. So far, we have published a total of 10 issues of the journal, providing references for all parties to improve tax policies and optimize tax administration. The 11th issue will be published in late June 2025.

For more details, please visit: https://www.britacom.org/gkzljxz/dzqk/.

BRITA·Riyadh held Workshops on VAT

From 11 to 15 May, BRITA •Riyadh held workshops on VAT in the financial sector and cross-border tax disputes. The primary objective of the workshops was to equip the participants with a clear understanding of VAT principles, compliance requirements as well as the regulatory and operational landscape of the banking sector in Saudi Arabia. Besides participants from Saudi Arabia, the workshops were also attended by participants from the Gulf Cooperation Council,

including Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Through the workshops, the participants' ability to navigate VAT regulations have been effectively improved.



❖ BRITA·Macao held a Seminar on Transfer Pricing

From 13 to 23 May, BRITA • Macao hosted a seminar on transfer pricing and 18 tax officials from nine Portuguese-speaking countries (including Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Timor-Leste) participated in it. During the seminar, the participants studied knowledge related to transfer pricing and corporate restructuring. Through theoretical learning, case analysis, and classroom discussions, they grasped the latest developments and key points in the field of international taxation. In addition, from 15 to 16 May, the participants visited tax offices as well as the Huawei Base in Shenzhen. According to the the participants, the seminar met practical needs and they benefited a lot from it.



Seminar on "Tax Administration and Digitalization" held by BRITA-Yangzhou

A seminar on "Tax Administration and Digitalization" was successfully held by BRITA • Yangzhou from 18 to 24 May 2025. The seminar was conducted in a hybrid format, with 27 attendees onsite and nearly 200 participants online. The 27 attendees are from 12 jurisdictions including Cambodia, Georgia, Hong Kong China, Hungary, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uzbekistan. With most of the lectures in Chinese, BRITA • Yangzhou arranged English and French interpretation and BRITA • Astana provided Russian interpretation online. Besides lectures, visits to the Jiangsu Smart Taxation Experience Center and the taxpayer service hall of Guangling District, Yangzhou City were also organized. The seminar provided an in-depth understanding of the intersection between tax administration and digital technologies, offering practical insights and strategies for implementation.



Next Steps

The Sixth BRITACOF

The sixth BRITACOF will be held from September 9 to 11, 2025, in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The preparation for the sixth BRITACOF has started and you are all welcome to join us in Kathmandu.

More information will be posted here: https://www.britacom.org/news/6thForumConference/

Official Release of Version 1.0 of the Two Product Portfolios

All parties are encouraged to participate in the development, promotion, and application of the product portfolio of tax administration and of taxpayer service, contributing more cases and

offering suggestions and opinions. An expert virtual roundtable will be held on 26 June 2025 to solicit opinions from business and the academia on the two product portfolios. The registration link for this meeting is https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/uy4L1UDdTbqihvaXf8X3NQ After revision and improvement, Version 1.0 of the two product portfolios and the first batch of products will be officially released at the sixth BRITACOF.

> Theme Day Event

The Theme Day Event has fully played the role of a bridge between tax authorities and enterprises, making a positive contribution to optimizing the regional business environment. In the latter half of 2025, the BRITACOM Secretariat plans to organize the 10th theme day event. Welcome to join us at the event.

Strengthen Capacity Building

In 2025, the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Capacity Enhancement Group (BRITACEG) will continue to enhance the tax administration capacity of BRI jurisdictions by expanding the scope of trainee recruitment and providing more training opportunities. In the year of 2025, 12 in-person training programs will be held in China. All BRI jurisdictions are welcome to participate in these programs.



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