

## Draft Conference Agenda

### Medium Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS)—Building More Effective Tax Systems

#### Day 1: October 29, 2019

10.00 to 12.00	<i>On request in advance of the conference, bilateral meetings can be arranged between senior officials from countries and IMF-World Bank representatives.</i>
12.00 to 13.30	<i>Registration</i>
12.00 to 13.30	<i>Light lunch for delegates who arrive early</i>
13.45 to 14.00	<b>Day 1—Welcoming Remarks</b>
14.00 to 14.20	<b>Keynote Address: MTRS—An Approach to Effective Tax System Reform</b> Vitor Gaspar – Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF  What is the MTRS approach? Why is it different? What problems is it designed to solve for achieving a more effective tax system? How does it drive a more integrated approach to tax system reform to increase the likelihood of success? How does it empower ministers of finance in leading tax system reforms? What are the four MTRS interdependent components? How to build broad national consensus, make the tax system more efficient, including by undertaking a holistic reform, develop and ensure whole-of-government commitment and secure aligned external support?
14.20 to 15.15	<b>Session One: Transition Ongoing Tax System Reform into an MTRS—The Need for a Well-Articulated MTRS Formulation; and Subsequent Implementation.</b>  What are the steps to MTRS formulation? How are ongoing tax system reform efforts mapped? How are ongoing tax system reform efforts and MTRS components compared? How are identified “MTRS gaps” addressed to transition ongoing reform efforts into an MTRS? What are the key contents of an action plan for MTRS formulation? How can fiscal tools help address identified gaps? What are the experiential lessons and emerging challenges in formulating and implementing an MTRS? <b>Panel Discussion</b>
15.15 to 16.10	<b>Session Two: Setting Revenue and Efficiency Goals to meet Expenditure Needs and Social and Economic Development—Building Country Ownership</b>  What are the challenges in base-lining expenditure and revenue goals? What investment is needed to support economic growth and meet sustainable development goals? What are the challenges in determining medium-term expenditure needs? How can Government reach out to a broad range of stakeholders in the country to ensure their support? How to secure broad commitment to defining and achieving revenue goals across Government and within the country? How to discuss changes that will modify the policy setting? <b>Panel Discussion</b>

16.30 to 17.30

**Session Three: Achieving an Effective Tax System through a Comprehensive Reform Plan—Policy, Administration and Tax Legal Framework**

What are the current trends in tax system reform in countries covered by JVI—Policy, Administration and Tax Legal Framework? What are the main different and common features among countries? What are the key elements to support investment, enhance fairness, and meet sustainable development present in “JVI countries”? Are there differences between EU member countries and non-EU member in this regard? How globalization, international cooperation and technology developments are being leveraged in the region? How are tax system reforms communicated and behavioral changes in different areas managed?

**Panel Discussion**

17.30 to 17.45

**Recap of key points**

18:30

*Bus transfer*

19.30

*Reception and Dinner at a typical Viennese Restaurant*

**Day 2: October 30, 2019**

09.15 to 09.45

**Day 2—Keynote Address: Building an Efficient Tax System—A Prerequisite for Effective and Sustained Revenue Mobilization and Social and Economic Development**

09.50 to 10.45

**Session Four: Developing Government-led effort to Tax System Reform; and Sustained Political Commitment and Whole-of-Government Support**

How to secure a compelling MTRS that achieves broad consensus? How to achieve whole-of-government support including recognizing the political, social and economic effects of tax system reform? What are the challenges in achieving steady and sustained political support, including the need for coordinated reform governance? What are the opportunities for securing domestic resources?

**Panel Discussion**

11.00 to 12.00

**Session Five: Securing and Aligning External Support to Government-led Tax System Reform**

What would attract external support to countries tax system reform efforts? How can countries best coordinate such external support to provide a coherent and orderly implementation of the reform plan? How to sequence support with MTRS timescales? What do external support providers (financial and TA) need to do to ensure this outcome? Could a formalized agreement under the government-led tax system reform strategy be pursued to secure alignment of support?

**Panel Discussion**

12.00 to 12.30

**Closing Summary**

12.45

*Lunch*