



# Joint Statement of the Third Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum

We, Parties of the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism (BRITACOM), met on the occasion of the Third Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum (BRITACOF) in Algiers and online on 19-21 September 2022.

With “Enhancing Tax Administration Capacity Building in the Post-pandemic Era” as the theme of this BRITACOF, we’ve had in-depth discussions and shared our insights on five topics: (i) Strategic Planning of Capacity Building; (ii) Information Technology and Capacity Building; (iii) Life-long Learning of Tax Officials; (iv) Train the Trainer; and (v) Experience Sharing by International Organizations.

With unanimous agreement of all Council members and approval of the Council Chair, we hereby declare the following:

We are fully aware of the great challenges faced by world economy because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, it is of great significance for us to further deepen communication, strengthen cooperation and enhance capabilities in the field of taxation.

We reiterate our commitment in the Nur-Sultan Action Plan (2022-2024) to further the friendly and win-win cooperation and make concerted efforts to facilitate trade and investment and foster economic growth of the countries (regions) participating in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for the vision of inclusive and sustainable development. We will continue to stand united under the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, and enhance communication, experience sharing and cooperation.

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With the vision and goals of the BRITACOM in mind, the BRITACOM Secretariat and the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Capacity Enhancement Group (BRITACEG) have made a lot of explorations in terms of mechanism, curriculum, faculty, training program and the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Academy (BRITA) network, and achieved the following results:

- **We've developed the BRITACEG curriculum system.** With Tax System, Tax Administration and Digitalization, Tax Environment and Taxpayer Services, and Tax Cooperation as its four themes, the curriculum consists of 8 topics and 30 subtopics. We will share knowledge and experience with relevant parties for tax administration capacity building that is more in-depth, more comprehensive, more diversified and of a higher-level.
- **We've built a BRITACEG Expert Group.** We've actively collaborated with renowned universities, research institutions, international organizations as well as the business community and invited experts worldwide to participate in the BRITACEG. 26 experts from over 10 jurisdictions have confirmed participation by far, marking the initial establishment of a professional and international Expert Group.
- **We've established the BRITA network.** English, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese and Arabic BRITAs have been founded in Yangzhou (China), Beijing (China), Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan), Macao (China) and Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) respectively. The number of training languages has been increased to build and improve the BRITA network.
- **We've formulated Rules and Regulations on the BRITACEG,** which set out the responsibility, organizational structure as well as membership and partnership of the BRITACEG, and contain detailed regulations for training courses. The rules and regulations will provide institutional guarantee for the standardization and professionalization of the BRITACEG.
- **We've published the Annual Report of the BRITACOM,** which makes an overall review of the implementation of the Nur-Sultan Action Plan (2022-2024), the operation of the BRITACOM Secretariat, the development of the BRITACEG, as well as the relevant meetings and seminars. This will promote a better understanding of the BRITACOM, increase its influence and widen our circle of friends.

We've had a productive dialogue and shared best practices in capacity building. We will uphold the spirit of solidarity, tackle challenges with united efforts and do our best to realize the following objectives:

- **We encourage the countries (regions) participating in the BRI to list capacity building in their medium and long-term plans of tax administration.** With specified vision, goals, implementation scheme as well as relevant measures, the capacity of tax administrations will be further improved.
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- We are determined to give full play to information technology in the capacity building of tax administrations. We will seek for more flexibility, richer content, broader participation and lower cost through various forms such as live streaming, recorded broadcast and remote interaction.
- We support the development of a life-long learning system for tax officials. We will provide structured training, customized courses and knowledge products to help tax officials renew their knowledge and build a growth mindset.
- We're committed to building a high-level expert group. With professional teachers and quality courses, the training will achieve better results and the capabilities of tax officials will be improved.

We attach great importance to the cooperation with other international organizations, and would be glad to work together with them on providing training programs and technical assistance. We also encourage the countries (regions) participating in the BRI to strengthen engagement with international organizations to meet demand for capacity building, and to strengthen specific project docking and project cooperation with international organizations to build tax administration capacity.

We encourage tax administrations to maintain a good relationship with taxpayers and the business community. This will help tax administrations better understand taxpayers' concerns, optimize tax policies and improve taxpayer service, thereby facilitating their capacity building.

We are grateful to the General Directorate of Taxes, Ministry of Finance of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for hosting this BRITACOF, and to the BRITACOM Secretariat for the preparation work. We look forward to meeting again at the fourth BRITACOF.

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