

DECLARATION OF CARTAGENA DE INDIAS
REGIONAL PLATFORM FOR TAX COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

We, Ministers responsible for public finances, hereby sign this joint declaration convened in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on July 27, 2023, within the framework of the First Latin America and Caribbean Summit for Global, Inclusive, Sustainable, and Equitable Taxation.

Recognizing that joint action by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in tax matters facilitates agility in the exchange of information and reduces tax competition to achieve greater total revenue in the region, enabling us to adequately address the multiple crises facing our countries.

Affirm our commitment to generate knowledge, share experiences, contribute to the development of common positions, and propose concrete non-binding solutions to guide ministerial decision-making in addressing the challenges in tax policy in the region.

Seek to build, in a participatory and consensus-based manner, an integration space for Ministers of Finance, Economy, and Public Finances to foster dialogue and guide international and regional tax policies towards inclusivity, equity, sustainability, and growth while contributing to the reduction of inequalities among member countries. This entails building common positions and exchanging information that is useful for the development and improvement of tax policies.

Convinced that the Latin America and Caribbean region has much to contribute to the construction, articulation, and development of regional positions for a better, inclusive, equitable, and sustainable international tax system that contributes to the fight against inequality, aiming to contribute to global agendas or spaces in this matter.

Commit to contribute through analysis, exchanges, and technical guidance that inform the decision-making process of inclusive, sustainable, equitable, and growth-enhancing tax policies for member countries, based on international experiences and the specific needs of the region and each country.

Value the voice and contributions of academia, civil society, and the business sector to share their knowledge, provide ideas, and identify unresolved issues and potential solutions in taxation matters.

Encourage countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region to intensify their efforts towards national, inclusive, sustainable, and equitable taxation.

Approve the instrument establishing the governance of the Regional Platform for Tax Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, attached to this Declaration.

Support Colombia's assumption of the Pro Tempore Presidency of the Regional Platform for Tax Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean for the next twelve (12) months.

Express our gratitude to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for assuming the role of the Technical Secretariat.

Request the Pro Tempore Presidency, in conjunction with the Technical Secretariat of the Regional Platform (ECLAC), to prepare an Annual Work Plan prioritizing the most pressing thematic areas of inclusive, equitable, and sustainable taxation within six (6) months from the signing of the Cartagena Declaration.

Entrust the Technical Secretariat, in coordination with the Pro Tempore Presidency, to guide the work of Platform members in accordance with the priorities defined in the Annual Work Plan.

Done in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on July 27, 2023.

ADHERING COUNTRIES

ANNEX: GOVERNANCE INSTRUMENT