

NEWS



Somalia officially admitted into the East African Community (EAC).

Somalia was admitted as the eighth member of the East African Community on Friday November 24, 2023, just over a year after the latest entrant, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was admitted into the bloc. Mogadishu's admission into the bloc was approved by the region's leaders during the 23rd ordinary summit of the heads of state held in Arusha, Tanzania, after successful negotiations that lasted close to a year. [Read More](#)



Historic tax vote paves the way for a UN Tax Convention.

On 22 November 2023, a historic tax resolution tabled by the Africa Group was adopted at the UN General Assembly. This kickstarts an intergovernmental UN tax process to negotiate a new UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation. While a minority group of mainly OECD countries voted against the resolution, it was adopted by an overwhelming majority. [Why is this important?](#)

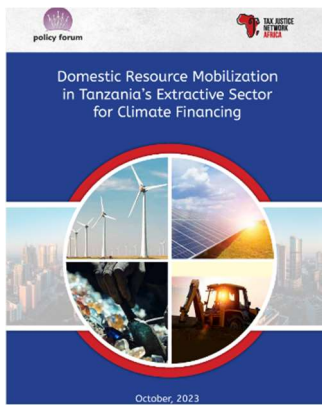
EVENTS

11th Pan-African Conference on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation (PAC 2023).

The 11th PAC centred around the theme "*Making Global Tax Governance Work for Africa.*" During this event, tax justice stakeholders, civil society organizations (CSOs), and policymakers convened to investigate avenues through which African nations could assume a proactive role in international dialogues. These discussions aimed to address the implications that such global conversations have had on African initiatives related to domestic resource mobilization and the prevention of illicit financial flows from the continent. [Learn more about PAC](#)



PUBLICATIONS



Domestic Resource Mobilization in Tanzania's Extractive Sector for Climate Financing.

Tanzania's extractive sector has a significant role in sourcing and supplying minerals required for clean energy technologies and other sustainable solutions. Moreover, with substantial deposits of green minerals and newly discovered natural gas, (re)designing the country's fiscal regime is essential to mobilize domestic resources from the extractive sector to finance Tanzania's NDC. However, discussions around DRM cannot be complete without zeroing in on potential leakages that may exist. To this end, this study addresses issues around illicit financial flows as the potential for ensuring that Tanzania maximizes its DRM potential. [Read more](#)

BLOG

Fighting the Good Fight: An African Journey in Redefining Global Tax Rules.

The UN is actively addressing the challenges of international tax cooperation in the digital era, highlighting the necessity to revamp existing rules. A recent UN report offers three options: a legally binding multilateral convention, a constitutive framework convention defining principles, and a non-binding multinational agenda. The UN seeks to address discontent with current tax treaties and foster inclusive and effective international tax cooperation. [Read more](#)



The Borrower is Slave to the Lender: Debt Bondage and Economic Justice in Kenya.

Sub-Saharan Africa's public debt has surged in the last decade, moving from concessional to commercial loans. Kenya's increased Eurobond issuance exemplifies the challenges posed by private sector debt whose shorter maturities hinder long-term benefits, exacerbate inequality through tax revisions, impact human rights and women's livelihoods, and crowd out local businesses. [Read more](#)



TAX GLOSSARY



Austerity.

Austerity involves cutting government spending and raising taxes to address budget deficits and stabilize the economy. Despite its association with fiscal discipline, it has been criticized for causing social and economic hardships. To counteract these negative perceptions, policymakers often rebrand it as "fiscal consolidation" to emphasize long-term fiscal sustainability, but challenges and criticisms persist, sparking ongoing debates about the balance between fiscal discipline and social development. [Learn more about the cost of austerity in Africa.](#)

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info@eataxgovernance.net

Jaflo Block C | 106 Brookside Drive | Westlands|
Nairobi | P. O. Box 25112-00100