

# UN Webinar on the COVID-19 Impact on Transfer Pricing

## Tentative Agenda

<b>DATE: 18 MARCH 2021</b>	
<b>OPENING AND INTRODUCTION</b>	
<b>8:00 – 8:15</b>	<b>Welcoming remarks and introduction</b> Navid Hanif, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (FSDO/DESA) Michael Lennard, FSDO/DESA, Secretary, UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters
<b>TRANSFER PRICING CHALLENGES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC</b> <b>Objective:</b> To discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted businesses' value chains and how the rapid changes and economic downturn have impacted the transfer pricing position of taxpayers and posed a challenge to tax administrations in assessing transfer prices under these circumstances. Transfer pricing challenges related to extraordinary losses (or gains) will also be addressed.	
<b>8:15 – 9:15</b>	<b>Transfer pricing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic</b> <b>Chair/ Facilitator:</b> Michael Lennard, UNDESA <b>Presenter:</b> Marc Levey, Principal, Baker & McKenzie LLP/ Adjunct Professor of Law, New York University Discussants: Yan Xiong, Deputy Director-General of the International Taxation Department, State Taxation Administration (STA), People's Republic of China/ UN Tax Committee; Carlos Perez Gomez Serrano, Transfer Pricing Leading Partner, MAAT Asesores/ Continent Leader of Royalty Range LATAM/ UN Transfer Pricing Subcommittee; Tove Ryding, Policy and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice, Eurodad <b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>Expected outcome:</b> Participants should have a clearer understanding of the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic poses on assessing transfer prices and how to approach the transfer pricing analysis for extraordinary losses (or gains) incurred in the years affected by the pandemic.	
<b>COMPARABILITY ANALYSIS IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC DOWNTURN</b> <b>Objective:</b> Discuss the issue of the lack of local comparables in applying the arm's length principle in times of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is acknowledged that this issue is not exclusive of the COVID-19 pandemic, but has been exacerbated by it. Other issues related to the comparability analysis, such as intercompany contracts, and government assistance programmes and other market conditions should also be addressed.	

<p><b>9:15 – 10:15</b></p>	<p><b>Comparability analysis in times of economic downturn</b>  <b>Chair/ Facilitator:</b> Michael Lennard, UNDESA  <b>Presenter:</b> Emily Muyaa, Managing Principal for Sub-Saharan Africa, IBFD/ UN Transfer Pricing Subcommittee  <b>Discussants:</b> Manuel de los Santos, Advisor, Transfer Pricing Unit, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD; José Troya, Head of Department of Large Taxpayers and International Taxation, Internal Revenue Service (SRI), Ecuador/ UN Tax Committee  <b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>Expected outcome:</b>  Participants should be able to have a better understanding of potential issues related to the comparability analysis for years impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
<p><b>10:15 – 10:25</b></p>	<p><b>Virtual Coffee Break</b></p>
<p><b>DISPUTE AVOIDANCE AND RESOLUTION MECHANISMS</b>  <b>Objective:</b> Discuss the impact of the changing economic circumstances to existing Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs) or those under negotiation, as well as on Mutual Agreement Procedures (MAPs).</p>	
<p><b>10:25 – 11:25</b></p>	<p><b>Dispute avoidance and resolution mechanisms</b>  <b>Chair/ Facilitator:</b> Josephine Muthoni Muchiri, UNDESA  <b>Presenter:</b> Sanya Gbonjubola, Director of Tax Policy of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Nigeria/ UN Transfer Pricing Subcommittee  <b>Discussants:</b> John C. C. Hughes, Director, Advance Pricing and Mutual Agreement (APMA) Program, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), United States; Janine Juggins, EVP Global Tax &amp; Treasury, Unilever  <b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>Expected outcome:</b>  Participants should be better able to identify if, where and how APAs should be renegotiated, and the implications and how the COVID-19 pandemic may affect MAPs (e.g., virtual MAPs, increase in disputes).</p>	
<p><b>GENERAL Q&amp;A SESSION, FEEDBACK AND CLOSE</b>  <b>Objective:</b> Dedicate a full session to Q&amp;A in order to enhance interaction between participants and presenters and to ensure that questions, in particular from developing country representatives, are answered. Moreover, the feedback session aims at collecting inputs on how UNDESA can help developing countries in their efforts to find solutions to tax and transfer pricing challenges in the future.</p>	

<p><b>11:25 – 11:45</b></p>	<p><b>General questions and answers</b>  <b>Chair/ Facilitator:</b> Irving Ojeda/ Gabriela Capristano, UNDESA  <b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>11:45 – 11:55</b></p>	<p><b>Feedback: what can be done better for similar capacity development activities in the future?</b>  <b>Chair/ Facilitator:</b> Caroline Lombardo, Chief, International Tax and Development Cooperation Branch, UNDESA  <b>Feedback from participants</b></p>
<p><b>11:55 – 12:00</b></p>	<p><b>Close of Webinar</b>  Michael Lennard, UNDESA</p>

