

## **Proposal for a new paragraph to be added to the Terms of Reference for a UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation**

As the International Chamber of Commerce, representing millions of companies of any size and across industries and regions of the world, we strongly support the goal 7a included in the draft TOR aimed to *“ensure the full inclusiveness and effectiveness of the international tax cooperation.”*

To that end, we believe an inclusive international tax framework only comes from building an inclusive approach that involves all stakeholders, including taxpayers (the business community). For this initiative, we recommend including modalities that will ensure a more structured dialogue channel for receiving taxpayers’ input, both in the form of regular meetings and public consultations, allowing sufficient time to receive feedback and comments from our global network, which includes several developing countries and time zones. Resolution 78/230 also recognized the importance of stakeholder’s contribution for an inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations (para. 4)

We thus propose a new paragraph to be added under the “Approaches and Timeline” section:

***“21. Throughout its work, the intergovernmental negotiating committee should host intersessional meetings and consultations to solicit inputs from stakeholders representing taxpayers on the elaboration of the draft convention and potential early protocols;”***

Including such a paragraph will be of great value also to fulfil the objective under 7b which aims at *“responding to existing and future tax and tax-related challenges on an ongoing basis,”* as well as the principle listed in paragraph 9 referring to international tax cooperation be *“sufficiently flexible, resilient and agile to ensure equitable results as societies, technology and business models and the international tax cooperation landscapes evolve”*

The international business community can provide invaluable insights into the practical aspects of the international tax system that are sometimes overlooked and can be easily misunderstood, even by adept tax experts at international organizations or tax authorities, if they lack first-hand knowledge of business models and complex value chains.

To achieve this, it is key to have constructive exchanges with the business community through structured forms of dialogue and participation. As ICC, we would be keen to help the UN intergovernmental committee understand how businesses like those of our members operate and how complex value chains are created in different sectors. We believe this will certainly help inform the international tax policy discussion.