

Economic and Social Council
Special Meeting on International Cooperation in Tax Matters
Statement by Jill Derderian, Counselor for Economic and Social Affairs
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Thank you. We would like to acknowledge and express appreciation to the President of ECOSOC for convening this meeting, and thank all the panelists for their contributions. Reflecting on the presentations and discussions we would like to speak on two issues.

First, the United States views the exchange of tax information as an important tool in facilitating the full and fair enforcement of our domestic tax laws. The U.S. understands that capacity to undertake those exchanges is developing, as noted in recent OECD and IMF documents, and will continue to strive to assist countries in need. By working together we can help to build a stronger, more stable, and more accountable global financial system.

Second, the United States is not in favor of the establishment of an intergovernmental body at the United Nations for international cooperation in tax matters, including through upgrading the existing Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

From the U.S. perspective, the work proposed for such a body would substantially overlap with work that is already taking place in other contexts, such as the IMF, World Bank, African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), Inter-American Association of Tax Administrators (CIAT) and the OECD.

The work undertaken in these other contexts already takes into account the policy positions of both developed and developing countries.

The existing Committee of Experts has made significant accomplishments, working from its current structure and resources. For instance, a revised U.N. Model Income Tax Convention as well as last year's practical manual for developing countries on transfer pricing have put effective tools in the hands of all governments.

Thank you.