

SUBJECT: INVITATION LETTER FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS 2023 SUMMER SCHOOL

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the WU Global Tax Policy Centre (WU GTPC), the African Tax Institute (ATI), and the Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA), we cordially invite your institution to our 2023 Summer School themed 'Enhancing the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations in Efforts to Curb Illicit Financial Flows' to be held on 21-23 February, 2023 at the University of Pretoria in Pretoria, South Africa.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have become increasingly involved in tax policy reform specifically in the area of curbing illicit financial flows (IFFs). However, these organizations face a number of challenges one which is technical expertise. Indeed, studies indicate that expertise tends to be centered on just one or two people and in many cases the expertise are outsourced. In addition, those with the technical expertise are prone to being poached by international organizations and donor agencies. The summer school intends to provide skills to bridge this expertise gap and build a foundation for African CSOs to come up with a unified narrative as they continue to pursue their tax policy objectives.

During the summer school participants will cover a wide range of topics including: the application of international tax principles within the African context; emerging areas of focus such as the intersection of tax, trade and investment and what the African Continental Free Trade Agreement means for efforts to curb IFFs; and, the role of technology in enhancing access to beneficial ownership information and regional cooperation.

This summer school would be suitable for individuals that have experience in the tax policy sector within Africa. Applicants will be selected based on their tax policy experience and positions within the organization.

Places are limited. To apply please fill in the application form <u>through the link here</u>. All applications must be submitted by **30 June 2022**.

Application fees, lunches and social events will be provided however, participants will be expected to cover their travel and accommodation costs. Limited financing may be available for successful applicants and the details of this will be provided at later date.

Prof. Jeffrey Owens Director WU Global Tax and Policy Center

Alvin Mosioma Executive Director Tax Justice Network Africa

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Prof. Riël Franzsen Director African Tax Institute