



*Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations*

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The Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee and has the honour to refer to the Bureau's Proposal for the Zero Draft Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation, released on 7 June 2024.

The Permanent Mission of Barbados has the further honour to submit the following comments received on the draft:

*"We would like to thank you for the Zero Draft Terms of Reference for United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation.*

*We are fully supportive of the draft and the ambition for a Framework Convention and early Protocols to promote an inclusive, fair, transparent, efficient, equitable and effective international tax system. As a small island state from the South, Barbados believes the UN is uniquely placed to offer a truly inclusive forum to foster tax cooperation, while respecting the sovereignty of member countries.*

*In addition to our general support, we would like to emphasise the need to strengthen the ambition in terms of tax measures contributing to addressing environmental challenges. We note that paragraph 10 of the Zero Draft, which refers to such measures, remains in bracket. Moreover, we note that environment and climate related tax measures are not listed as priority areas to be addressed in early Protocols, but only as additional topics. We believe these topics should be among the top priorities of UN action and leadership in international tax, given the urgency to fight the climate crisis. Barbados has actively promoted changes in international finance governance through our Bridgetown Initiative and we are co-chairing the Task force on*

*Global Solidarity Levies. We believe the UN is the right place to move this agenda forward as a priority.*

*We would appreciate if the next version of the Draft reflect this view and are fully available to discuss further with you and engage in the last round of negotiation of the ad hoc group later in July.”*

The Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 27 June 2024

