



MAURITIUS

Country Correspondent

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Article 1

Head of MRA elected Vice-Chairman of ATAF

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) participated in the 4th ATAF General Assembly which was held in Durban from 3-7 October 2016. A rejoicing news for the MRA coming out of the Meeting was the election of its Director-General, Mr Sudhamo Lal, as the Vice-Chairman of the ATAF (African Tax Administration Forum). For the period 2016-2018, Nigeria will be chairing the ATAF Council with Mauritius as the Vice-Chair.

ATAF was established in 2009 and is a Forum regrouping specifically tax administrations from the African continent. It is a platform which provides a voice for African Tax Administrations. The Forum allows them to develop their capacity in both tax policies and administration issues for achieving revenue objectives efficiently. Mauritius is confident of its commitment to contribute in the development of efficient and effective tax administration in African countries.

Article 2

E-filing rate of tax returns reached 99%

When the MRA started its operation in July 2006, electronic filing of tax returns by taxpayers was not a common feature. As an indication in 2007, only a meager 1,500 individual tax returns were received electronically at the MRA, i.e. an e-filing rate of 1.2%. For the current filing season which ended in mid-October, the percentage of returns received electronically from individuals has reached 99%. This is a major milestone for the MRA and it has been possible through a number of e-facilities provided to taxpayers. The MRA has also introduced additional payment methods for taxpayers over the years. Tax payments may now be effected to the MRA through cash, cheque, credit cards, direct debit, internet banking, ATM and SMS (Orange money). This year every taxpayer was provided with a password so as to file their returns electronically through the secured MRA Taxpayer Portal. Today, it can safely be said that submission of paper tax forms at the MRA is something of the past.