

"STATEMENT BY BELGIUM, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, IRELAND, THE NETHERLANDS, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SPAIN, THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, THE UNITED KINGDOM, DENMARK, SWEDEN, FINLAND AND SLOVENIA

on the Pilot Multilateral Automatic Information Exchange Facility

Automatic information exchange between tax authorities is a powerful tool in tackling and deterring tax evasion. Tax evasion is a global problem and we should look for a global solution, otherwise the problem is simply displaced.

In this regard we strongly support the development of a single global standard for automatic exchange of information covering a wide scope of income and entities. The alternative of competing standards would lead to fragmentation, gaps and significantly greater costs for industry and businesses and tax authorities.

The agreements being signed with the US with a large number of jurisdictions and the EU's leading experience regarding automatic exchange of information provide us with a unique opportunity to move from a series of bilateral agreements to a multilateral system. We therefore strongly support the initiative for a pilot of multilateral automatic information exchange based on agreements with the US. We invite all EU Member States and other countries to commit to join this initiative with the aim of rapidly creating a truly global system of automatic information exchange which would mark a step change in our ability to tackle tax evasion. We also request the Commission to support and promote the work of the OECD, G8, and G20 in developing a single global standard for automatic exchange of information, with a view to its quick implementation at EU level also.

"STATEMENT BY DENMARK, FINLAND AND SWEDEN

on the Pilot Multilateral Automatic Information Exchange Facility

We fully support all efforts, including the G5 initiative, to extend the international automatic exchange of information covering a wide scope of income and entities. We are also positive to developing a single global standard for automatic exchange of information.

At the same time, an extension of the exchange of information will have to be coordinated with other provisions on automatic exchange within the EU, in an efficient manner. In order to secure such efficient coordination, we believe that such an extension should be handled within an EU context."