



IT
for
Change



27th CSTD side event

Building an economic justice playbook for WSIS+ 20 - An expert-led dialogue

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Round 2: Vision quest round

- **Questions:**

- What should our policy visions factor in?
 - Tax Policy to provide a Level Playing Field / Protect domestic tech industries
 - Minimum: Making sure Foreign Tech Companies pay as much as domestic firms
 - Maximum: High taxes to keep them out. **Global South need not be shy about being protectionist when Global North is blatantly so**

Round 2: Vision quest round

- **Questions:**

- What are some concrete, positive agenda for global digital justice?
 - Tax Policy to:
 1. Ensure Big Tech pays its fair share of taxes which can fund digital public infrastructure
 - “My innovative financing solution is called paying your taxes” – Tove Ryding, Eurodad
 - Give power back to the State to create public infrastructure
 2. Stop or even reduce wealth accumulation of Owners of Big Tech (‘Big Tech Barons’ like Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, etc)

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**

- How do we get to a path that is more just?
- ***Ensure Big Tech pays its fair share of taxes which can fund digital public infrastructure***

1. Global South strongly encouraged to immediately commence unilateral digital tax measures, especially given

- Endless extension of OECD Amount A negotiation
- Endless extension of WTO e-commerce moratorium

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**
- How do we get to a path that is more just?
 - ***Ensure Big Tech pays its fair share of taxes which can fund digital public infrastructure***
 - Digital Services Taxes simple to administer and have generated substantial revenues for countries that implemented them (eg half a billion \$\$\$ for India in 2021)
- ✓ Other options – Article 12B of UN Model, Significant Economic Presence

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**
- How do we get to a path that is more just?
 - ***Ensure Big Tech pays its fair share of taxes which can fund digital public infrastructure***
 - ✓ Emerging idea of ‘Multilateral Approach to Digital Services Taxes’ given highly probable failure of Amount A of OECD
- × **Treaty based options unnecessary; double taxation mainly affects the MNC & country of residence**

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**
- How do we get to a path that is more just?
- ***Stop or even reduce wealth accumulation of Owners of Big Tech***
- Introduction of net wealth taxes to tax *stock* of wealth
- Many Big Tech Barons derive little in ‘income’ and borrow against wealth (mainly shares/equities)
- ✓ United Nations Guidance for Taxing Net Wealth now available to governments for designing wealth taxes:
- ✓ <https://financing.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/2024-03/CRP.%20%20Appendix%20A.pdf>
- ✓ **Please disseminate!**

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**

- How do we get to a path that is more just?
 - Fair international tax rules cannot be obtained in the OECD
 - There can never be fair rules as long as the process of rule making remains unfair.
- Historic negotiation on UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation**
- Goal must be to have a robust Convention with a good governance structure brought into effect ASAP**

Round 3 - Brass tacks round

- **Questions:**

- How do we get to a path that is more just?

❑ UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation 2024 Timelines:

➤ **August:** Finalization of Terms of Reference for Drafting Committee

➤ **September:** Consideration by General Assembly and commencement of negotiation if approved

➤ **Please actively support the UN Tax Convention!**

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