



**CIVIL SOCIETY
FINANCING FOR
DEVELOPMENT**
Mechanism

ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development (FfD4)

NY, 20-24 April, 2026

Dereje Alemayehu, Global Alliance for Tax Justice, on behalf of the CS FfD Mechanism.

Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) in the Financing for Development process must not be framed primarily in national terms. National efforts are profoundly shaped—enabled or constrained—by the international context. It is therefore this global dimension that must be placed at the center of DRM discussions. To overemphasize the national dimension is, in effect, to step back from the shared responsibility to reform the international system so that it genuinely supports countries' efforts to mobilize their own resources.

In this regard, DRM as a component of the FfD process means combating tax evasion and avoidance, as well as all forms of illicit financial flows, at the global level. These practices continue to drain critical resources from countries—resources urgently needed to finance development, reduce inequalities, and respond to multiple overlapping crises. Addressing this requires not only technical fixes, but a fundamental shift in the rules, norms, and governance structures that enable such losses. The United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation represents a once-in-a-century opportunity to deliver that transformation.

Importantly, the Sevilla Outcome Document contains strong elements for this work, such as commitments to progressive tax systems, gender-responsive taxation, tackling tax evasion and avoidance by high-net-worth individuals, taxing environmental harm, and advancing transparency through measures such as a central public database for country-by-country reporting. These are concrete building blocks for a fairer and more effective global tax system.

However, a clear gap is observable between the commitments agreed in Sevilla and the positions some countries are taking in the ongoing UN tax convention negotiations. These inconsistencies in translating agreed

principles into binding rules risk undermining both the credibility and effectiveness of the process.

The ambition of the DRM pillar in the Financing for Development agenda will only be realized if we succeed in the UN tax convention process. This is not a parallel track—it is central to the entire agenda. We therefore call on all countries to ensure that the positive elements agreed in Sevilla are fully and consistently reflected in the negotiations.

Only wholehearted support for a strong and transformative UN Framework Convention on Tax Cooperation will give the FfD process's commitments to DRM real credibility and traction.

Thank you.