



CATA

43rd Technical Conference

Maldives
2023

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

CATA DEPARTS THE MALDIVES



MALDIVES
INLAND REVENUE
AUTHORITY



What a week it has been! The 43rd CATA annual technical conference held in the Maldives has come to an end. The productive panel discussions on the vast topics of taxation in the hospitality industry and the country experiences shared by so many countries must truly have enlightened the participants on the individual needs of their countries, especially the developing countries. The sessions that opened the opportunity for the delegates to speak candidly of their perspectives and ideas, collectively brought to the table some possible realistic solutions and technological developments that can be employed to tackle the risk factors in the industry and thus mitigate the level of non-compliance by taxpayers. Albert Einstein made an excellent point when he famously said, "The hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax." Even as professionals in the area, this rings very true for every single one of us, and not just in the context of income tax. The deep dives into conversations to exploit the topics of the conference - from the importance of

financial information to the effective usage of financial information and all the data made available through the various data obtaining mechanisms such as the CbCR, CRS and exchange mechanisms such as the EOI - demonstrated the unwavering commitment by CATA members towards strengthening the tax administration of their respective countries, despite the complexity surrounding taxation.

Following high level deliberations comes, of course, the next step - taking the relevant actions. This includes legislative changes, technological changes and for some countries, the adaptation of new technology and establishment of modern-day data management systems (such as data warehouses). We sincerely hope that the experiences and insights shared in the discussions have offered invaluable and meaningful lessons that the participants can take back home as tools to identify and effectively address their individual-country-wise challenges as regards leveraging data for managing tax compliance and the challenges in the hospitality industry.

Islanders for the day

As the hosts of this year's conference, we ensured that the delegates were able to experience the perfect Maldivian life experience. As a memorable end to the three-day conference at the Villa Nautica, delegates of the 43rd CATA Annual Technical Conference had the most delightful islanders experience in K.Huraa - the island well known in the Maldivian history as the last royal dynasty to rule over Maldives.

As any other special day in the Maldives, the guests were yet again welcomed to the beautiful island by the beats of Boduberu and the loving smiles of local men and women in traditional dresses. After spending four days in the Maldives, the CATA delegation had surely got accustomed to the warm Maldivian welcome, which

was reciprocated by the delegates and their families with the most heartfelt joy.

The visit to Huraa included a sightseeing tour of some of the most captivating and scenic natural attractions on the island, including the local mangrove and a banyan tree of more than hundred years of age. The local islanders who extended a warm welcome to the delegates upon their arrival, made the experience more so complete when they showcased some of the most beloved Maldivian art and craftsmanship, such as the intricate art of kuna weaving, and early traditional Maldivian lifestyle. It was heartwarming to see the delegates indulge in some of the showcased activities showing a great fondness and exuberance for the Maldivian culture.



The tour included visit to Fishbone seashine, the area where fish is processed into many forms such as Rihaakuru - a significant part of the Maldivian cuisine which was later enjoyed by the guests at lunch. At this site, the delegates got the opportunity to witness how the Maldivians continue to utilize the surrounding seas for their sustenance and economic growth.

The excursion also included a visit to Dhonbandara Miskiyy, a local mosque that is deeply rooted in the Maldivian history as it was originally built in the 1925 and was restored in 1994. The original mosque was built with coral stones and had timber ceilings, which perfectly represented the Maldivian craftsmanship. This long-standing mosque which was preserved for generations

is symbolic to the spirituality of the Maldivians that is embedded in the culture and heritage of the country.

To add to the experience was an exquisite Maldivian lunch buffet, served under the relaxing shade of the splendid palm trees that were all around, swaying in the gentle winds of the day. As the beats of the Maldivian song and dance, Boduberu, played on, one cannot resist but relish the simpler life of living closer to nature, basking in the sun, away from the stress of big cities - a thought that rest-assuredly brought a perfect end to the experience #CATAmeeetsparadise.



Behind the big picture



The Maldives Inland Revenue Authority has hosted the 43rd Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators (CATA) Annual Technical Conference, setting a new standard of excellence and leaving a lasting impression on attendees. The resounding success of the conference was a result of the collaborative efforts of numerous teams and individuals who contributed their talents, dedication, and expertise to make it a memorable and impactful occasion. From creative marketing to flawless logistics, meticulous technical support to engaging cultural performances, each team played a crucial role in ensuring the event's success. Their seamless execution of their designated roles ensured a smooth and hassle-free conference for all participants. The unwavering dedication and remarkable coordination of MIRA's staff have set a new standard of excellence for future conferences. MIRA is proud to have such a committed and capable team, and this monumental event for MIRA will undoubtedly inspire other countries hosting the CATA annual technical conferences in the upcoming years.



CATA
43rd Technical Conference
Maldives
2023



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



CATA
43rd Technical Conference
Maldives
2023



**MALDIVES
INLAND REVENUE
AUTHORITY**



CATA
43rd Technical Conference
Maldives
2023



**MALDIVES
INLAND REVENUE
AUTHORITY**

PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY

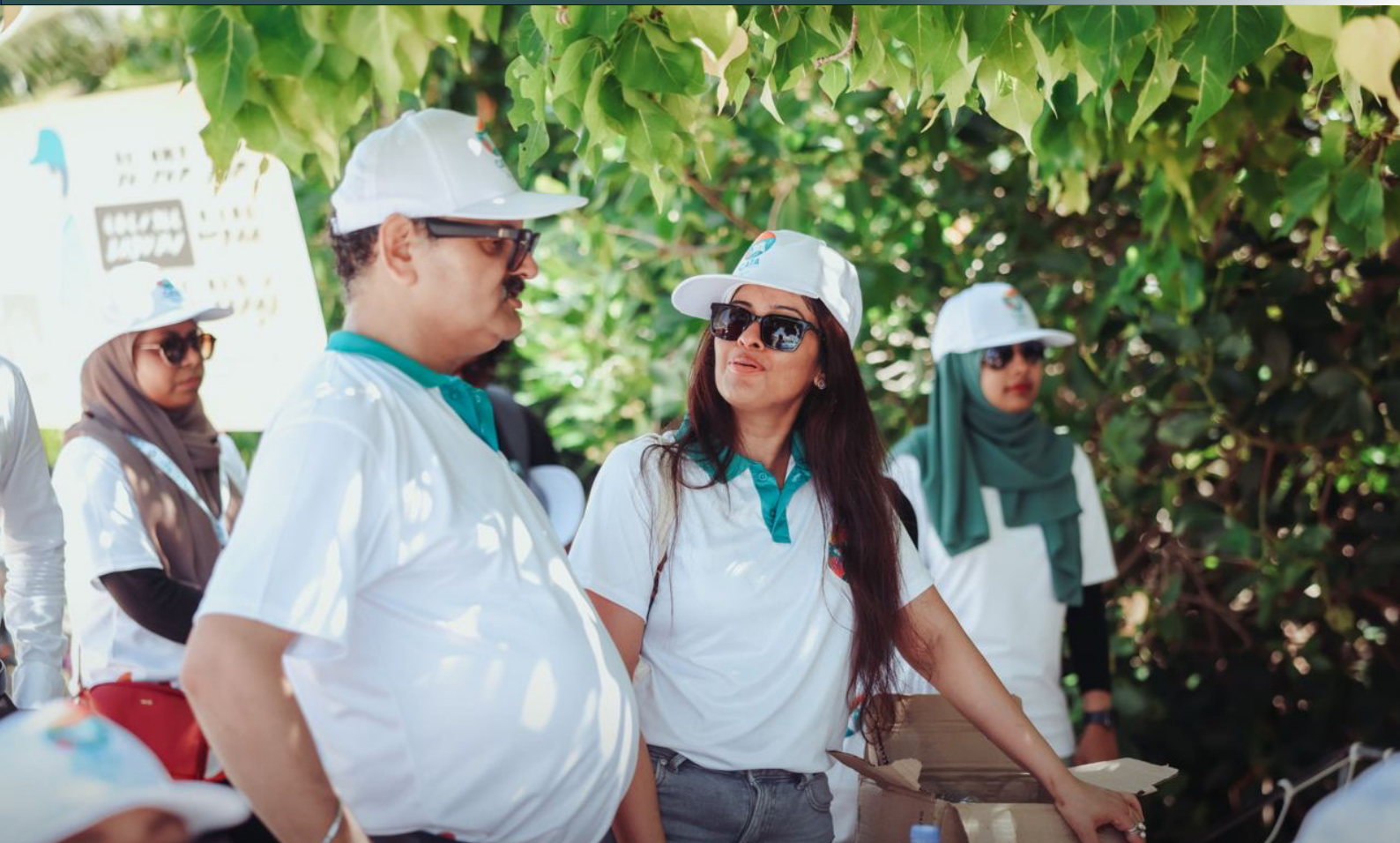


PHOTO GALLERY



CATA
43rd Technical Conference
Maldives
2023



MALDIVES
INLAND REVENUE
AUTHORITY

PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



Editorial Team:
Fathimath Amaanee Khalid
Mariyam Adam
Ahmed Shaheen
Maryam Shaliya
Mariyam Waheed



Maldives Inland Revenue Authority



MIRAmaldives



miramaldives



MIRA Maldives



CATA
43rd Technical Conference
Maldives
2023



cata.mira.gov.mv