

**Opening statement by
H.E. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of the
Economic and Social Council**

**ECOSOC special meeting on international cooperation in tax
matters
(ECOSOC Chamber, 9 December 2016)**

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this special meeting of the Economic and Social Council on international cooperation in tax matters with the participation of representatives of national tax authorities.

Today's meeting is held back-to-back with the 12th session of the

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, which, for the first time, was held here in New York. This new arrangement is a result of a consensus reached by Member States last October on the way to operationalize the new mandates related to the

to be enacted to support domestic efforts.

It is pleased to welcome the Coordinators of the three relevant

While strong development-oriented tax policies, modernized tax systems

and efficient tax collection procedures are essential at the national level,

development tax systems and the work international tax cooperation. Tax