

## PROMOTING AFRICA'S LEADERSHIP IN CURBING ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS

### APNIFFT 2024 ROADMAP

We, the Members of Parliament from 34 African countries including Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo Brazzaville, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, gathered for the African Parliamentary Network on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation (APNIFFT) continental conference in Nairobi, Kenya from the 25th to the 26th of October 2023.

In our deliberations, we acknowledged that we are:

**Deeply concerned** by the persistent scourge of illicit financial flows (IFFs) and the pervasiveness of tax inequity across all African nations, with a dire impact on the well-being of our continent's populace

**Cognisant** that Africa will need to mobilise additional resources to respond to global crises and to re-align with the priorities of the African Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

**Aware** that Africa holds large deposits of natural resource endowments such as arable land, fresh water sources, wildlife, forests, and about 30 percent of the world's mineral reserves.

**Recognising** that the pace of poverty reduction in Africa has been slow compared to other regions in the world.

**Acknowledging** that the persistence of illicit financial flows (IFFs) originating from Africa significantly constraints the capacity of African nations to mobilise essential funding for developmental initiatives, the provision of essential public services, and the bolstering of resilience in the context of multiple concurrent crises.

**Concerned** about the multifaceted challenges that exacerbate the issue of illicit financial flows, including insufficient tax transparency, unwarranted tax incentives, the difficulty of taxing the digital sector, the complexities of taxing multinational corporations, and the archaic international financial architecture.

**Commending** the efforts of the Africa Group at the United Nations in pushing for comprehensive reforms of the international financial architecture.

**Hereby** reaffirm our individual and joint commitment to accelerating our role as legislators in curbing illicit financial flows from Africa.

We, therefore, make the commitment to undertake the following actions:

1. Exercise our oversight and legislative responsibilities to ensure that our governments step up domestic resource mobilisation through efficient and innovative means to finance sustainable and inclusive growth.
2. Work with the African Union and other pan-African institutions to create awareness, galvanize support, and engage in strategic interventions at national, regional and continental levels to curb IFFs.
3. Strengthen the work of national and regional APNIFFT caucuses by promoting awareness among MPs about the detrimental effects of IFFs on the economy and the society and encouraging MPs to be advocates for tax transparency and anti-IFF measures.
4. Call for acceleration in the implementation of previous commitments made towards increased transparency and accountability at the global level towards the implementation of beneficial ownership registers with provisions for public access.
5. Systematically challenge our governments' practice of granting unnecessary tax incentives without conducting proper cost benefit analysis thereby affecting domestic resource mobilization.
6. Support the efforts of the African Group at the United Nations in pushing for comprehensive reforms of the international financial architecture, including the push for a comprehensive UN framework convention on tax.
7. Foster collaboration with international organizations and other parliaments to combat cross-border illicit financial flows and harmful tax practices.
8. Contribute to improving tax incentives governance across Africa by enhancing transparency and accountability in the assessment, granting and evaluation of tax incentives at the national and regional level.
9. Strengthen efforts and capacity building efforts to enhance literacy levels on extractive industry contract fiscal terms for improved oversight during contract negotiation.
10. Push for legislative reforms that guarantee extractive industry contract transparency for enhanced scrutiny of new deals in Africa's resource-rich countries.
11. Commit to enacting, reviewing, and strengthening legislations and regulations to curb illicit financial flows, promote transparency, equity, and accountability in our respective countries.



**Chenai Mukumba**  
**Executive Director**  
**Tax Justice Network Africa**



**Dr. Khanyisile Litchfield- Tshabalala (PhD)**  
**Chairperson,**  
**APNIFFT**