



**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 157TH MEETING OF
THE JOINT TAX BOARD (JTB) HELD ON THE 26TH AND 27TH MAY
2025 AT THE JAGZ HOTEL, IBADAN, OYO STATE**

The theme of the meeting was **"Taxation of the Informal Sector: Potentials and Challenges."** The Board deliberated on various perspectives around the theme with the following resolutions adopted.

1. The Board recognizes the significant role that the informal sector plays in the nation's overall economic wellbeing and sustainability, particularly in terms of contribution to national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and in providing livelihoods for millions of people.
2. The Board welcomes intensified efforts towards bringing the informal sector into the tax net, leveraging technology, data and analytics to identify high net-worth individuals in the informal sector, promote formalization, and foster innovative approaches to enhance transparent, fair, and equitable tax compliance.
3. The Board reinforces the need for the development of a framework, detailing clear guidelines and manuals for both tax administrators and informal sector operators, to act as a documented guide for managing the transition of taxpayers from the informal to the formal sector.
4. That training and capacity-building programs for tax administrators should be designed and implemented to enhance their capacity and skills in the utilization of digital solutions in identifying and effectively taxing high net-worth informal sector operators.
5. The Board emphasizes the need to simplify tax registration, filing, and payment processes for informal sector operators, via the implementation of online and diverse digital tax filing and payment systems to make it easier for informal sector operators to comply with tax obligations, thereby reducing compliance costs and increasing ease of paying taxes.
6. That engagement with stakeholders, including informal sector representatives and groups, is necessary to raise awareness about tax obligations and benefits, while promoting voluntary compliance.
7. The Board encourages continuous effort towards improving policy and legislation to identify emerging areas for intervention, with a view to sustainably and inclusively address the unique characteristics of the informal sector.
8. The Board calls on governments at all levels to provide necessary support and resources to tax authorities to facilitate effective management of the informal sector, while encouraging enhanced collaboration between revenue authorities, relevant agencies, and stakeholders, to develop tax education programs for informal sector operators.

SIGNED:

Zacch Adedeji, PhD
Chairman, Joint Tax Board

Olusegun Adesokan
Secretary, Joint Tax Board