



Ministry of Finance

INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM

**On Common Reporting Standard (CRS)
& Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI)**

"Raising the Bar to Move the Needle"

Wednesday

**22 April
2026**

8:30am – 12:00 noon

BahaMar Convention Center

One Baha Mar Boulevard
West Bay Street, Nassau, The Bahamas



**COMPLIANCE COMMISSION
OF THE BAHAMAS**

“Raising the Bar to Move the Needle”

Legislative Amendments: What’s Changed and Why It Matters.

AEOI Portal Enhancements: New Mandatory Dates and Requirements

Preparing for Emerging International Standards, Including CARF

FI Population, Compliance Trends and Penalties

The Bahamas CRS Risk Assessment - Key Takeaways

Regulators’ Panel: Preparing for CRS Examinations Through 2026

Presentations By Our:

Lawyers, Regulators, Consultants and CRS Coordinator



HON. PHILIP DAVIS, KC, MP
PRIME MINISTER & MINISTER OF FINANCE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the Ministry of Finance's Industry Symposium on Common Reporting Standards (CRS) and the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI). This forum brings together regulators, attorneys, and other industry professionals at a critical moment in the advancement of our financial services sector.

As a country, we have long stood as a respected international financial centre, always remaining among the world's leading financial services jurisdictions. Our standing has not been accidental, but it has been the result of deliberate and sustained efforts.

Over the years, we have worked to strengthen our legislative frameworks to ensure adherence to the highest global standards, particularly in combating tax evasion and advancing transparency within the sector. Following recommendations made in 2018 by the Global Forum Secretariat for the OECD, we undertook targeted reforms to enhance our global compliance framework. Most recently, we introduced amendments to the Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information legislation in 2025, further demonstrating our commitment to full compliance with CRS. Supported by the expertise at symposiums such as this, our AML/CFT/CPF regime remains robust.

The Bahamas' commitment to financial freedom remains fundamental. However, it is equally matched by our responsibility to uphold strong regulatory systems and to operate as a responsible actor within the international community.

As such, The Bahamas has not only complied, but we have advocated.

As an early supporter of a United Nations Convention on International Tax Cooperation, and through our participation on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, we have ensured that our voice contributes meaningfully to shaping global standards. Though we are a small nation, our influence in international financial governance remains significant.

Initiatives such as the Industry Symposium on CRS and AEOI are central to how we continue to strengthen transparency and work to combat tax evasion. Symposiums like this help to keep our country at the forefront of global best practice. Through continued dialogue and our sharing of knowledge, we ensure that the Bahamas remains agile and compliant.

It is my hope that the discussions and expertise shared here today will continue to support our efforts to remain a top financial services jurisdiction.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

A G E N D A

"Raising the Bar to Move the Needle"

SLOT	SESSION	FOCUS	PRESENTER
8:30am – 8:55am	Continental Breakfast Buffet		
9:00am – 9:15am	Welcome	Welcome & Remarks	Hon. Michael Halkitis, Minister of Economic Affairs
9:15am – 9:40am	Where Are We Now?	"Raising the Bar to Move the Needle"	Ms. Sanfra Foster CRS Coordinator, MOF
9:40am – 10:00am	What's Changed and Why It Matters?	Legislative Amendments & AEOI Portal Enhancements	Mrs. Adrianna Knowles-Rahming Senior Counsel, Legal And Regulatory Affairs Unit, MOF
10:00am – 10:30am	Operationalizing CRS – Compliance in Practice & What's Next?	CRS Examinations 2026, Compliance Trends & Penalties, FI Population & Risk Assessment	Tomàs Mochado, Partner, Head of Tax - The Bahamas KPMG Islands Group, Giovanni Canton, Associate Director, Tax, KPMG Islands Group
10:30am -10:45am	Coffee/Tea Break		
10:45am – 11:15am	Getting It Right and Why It Matters?	Supervision, Enforcement and Risk-Based Approach	Mr. John Rolle Governor, Central Bank of The Bahamas
11:15am – 11:40am	Panel Discussion With Regulators & Attorney General	Conversation Re: Trends, Expectations, CRS 2026 & Beyond	Hon. L. Ryan Pinder, K.C., Attorney General & Minister of Legal Affairs, Mr. John Rolle-Gov CBOB, Ms. Christina Rolle-Exec Dir., SCB, Mrs. Dana Munnings-Gray – Supt. ICB
11:40am – 11:55am	Question & Answer Segment		
11:55am - 12noon	Closing		Ms. Philisea Bethel Legal Counsel, LRAU, MOF



COMPETENT AUTHORITY
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS

**KEY
DATES**

AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026

AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2026

The Competent Authority wishes to advise all Financial Institutions (“FIs”) for CRS purposes, of the following key dates under the Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (Amendment) Act, 2026 and Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (Amendment) Regulations, 2026:

- Every Financial Institution shall register with the Competent Authority no later than ninety days (90 days) after the date on which it becomes a Financial Institution.
- An existing unregistered Financial Institution shall register with the Competent Authority no later than the 15th June, 2026.
- An Information Return shall be filed electronically not later than 30th June of the year immediately following the calendar year to which the Information Return relates.
- The AEOI portal will be available for electronic filings and submissions from the 1st October to 31st August in any year.

The Competent Authority will annually exchange the information contained in an Information Return filed in the AEOI portal not later than 30th September in each year or, where an Information Return is filed after that date, within three months of the date on which it is filed.

7th April, 2026
Competent Authority
Ministry of Finance



**AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION
(AMENDMENT) ACT,
2026**

**A BILL FOR ACT TO AMEND THE AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF
FINANCIAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION ACT
ENACTED BY THE PARLIAMENT OF THE BAHAMAS**

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USER GUIDE

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GOT QUESTIONS?

ABOUT THE AEOI PORTAL

What is Mandatory Registration

Every Financial Institution as defined in Section 2 of the AEOI Act 2016 must register with The Competent Authority no later than ninety (90) days after the date on which it became a Financial Institution. Existing unregistered Financial Institutions must also register no later than the 15th day of June, 2026.

What is the reporting period for CRS submissions

The reporting period for CRS submissions is 1st May to 30th June.

When is a CRS Information Return submission considered late

CRS AEOI filings and submissions will be considered late if an information return is submitted on any date after the reporting deadline date, which is the 30th June in any given year.

What if CRS corrections are needed

The Financial Institution must create and submit a “Corrected” CRS filing that references the original filing to correct the errors indicated and submit it via The Bahamas Competent Authority AEOI Portal.

GOT QUESTIONS?

ABOUT THE AEOI PORTAL

When does a Reporting Financial Institution file a CRS Nil Return

A Reporting Financial Institution that maintained no reportable accounts for a relevant reporting period, must file a Nil Return with the Competent Authority.

When does a FI notify The Competent Authority of a change in reporting status

A Financial Institution shall notify The Competent Authority if (a) Reporting FI becomes a Non-Reporting FI or (b) Non-Reporting FI becomes a Reporting FI within 30 days of that change.

Where can I find the AEOI Portal User Guide

The AEOI Portal User Guide can be found on The Competent Authority's international tax information exchange website; taxreporting.finance.gov.bs. It can also be found on the Compliance Commission's website.

Does the Compliance Commission provide user training for the AEOI Portal

Yes. Training sessions for the AEOI Portal are held annually.

Notes

