Tax Strategy Group

Tax Administration Issues

1. Introduction

Tax Administration, in the context of this paper, can be broadly categorised as the systems and processes that:

- Ensure effective and efficient tax collection.
- Improve the accuracy and veracity of tax compliance and improve and simplify the administrative experience for taxpayers.
- Counter or deter unacceptable tax avoidance schemes and practices.
- Counter tax evasion, tax fraud, shadow economy activity, smuggling and other organised tax/duty-related criminal activity.

It is important, as the Group will appreciate, that having regard to prevailing economic circumstances, the right balance be struck between ensuring that fully compliant taxpayers can earn an income and enjoy their assets without undue interference from the State and the need for the State to be able to effectively tackle serious tax and duty criminal activity and unacceptable tax avoidance.

In addition, given the need to maximise tax and duty flows into the Exchequer, there is a real need to maximise the efficiency of the tax and duty system in order to ensure that taxes and duty are collected from those who may try and frustrate or delay paying whatever is due.

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