



**GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS**

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**Statement**

**On the signing of a Tax Information Exchange Agreement  
between The Bahamas and the United Mexican States**

Honourable T. Brent Symonette  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010

This morning, we have witnessed the signing of the Agreement between the Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas for the Exchange of Information Relating to Tax Matters.

This Agreement is the third such arrangement concluded by The Bahamas with a partner Government in this hemisphere. The first was with the United States, the second was signed with the Argentine Republic late last year, and now today we sign with the United Mexican States. The Government of The Bahamas extends its gratitude to the Government of the United Mexican States and its negotiators for the cooperative and collaborative spirit in which the negotiations were conducted. We would also like to express our thanks and appreciation to the Embassy of the United Mexican

States in Jamaica for its role in the process which has led us to executing this Agreement today.

This Agreement is the eleventh concluded by the Government of The Bahamas which incorporates the accepted international standards in respect of transparency and effective information exchange in tax matters. It is the sixth Tax Information Exchange Agreement concluded by the Government of The Bahamas with a member of the G-20; and the seventh such arrangement entered into with an OECD member.

We would especially like to note the important role that Mexico is playing in the area of global tax transparency through its current leadership positions as the Secretary General of the OECD and the Chairman of UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

For the Government of The Bahamas in particular, this Agreement represents another milestone towards broadening economic cooperation between The Bahamas and the United Mexican States.

The Government of The Bahamas looks forward to continuing to strengthen this hemispheric bond between our two countries, as we seek to adjust to changes in the global economic landscape.