

From the President's Desk



By Mr. Murray Clayson, President IFA

I am delighted to welcome all delegates and Taxsutra readers to the 72nd IFA Congress which opens tonight in Seoul. We expect around 1,600 delegates from 87 different countries.

IFA has grown from its European origins to what is now a global and globally-minded association. We now have over 13,000 members from 114 countries and 70 national branches. We expect to establish two further branches during the Seoul Congress. This is highly appropriate given the globalisation of international tax, notably via the BEPS Inclusive Framework.

In this high-tech city it is apt that the Congress programme will contain significant "digital content". This features expressly in the title of one of our main subjects, "Withholding tax in the era of BEPS, CIVs and digital economy". It is also a thread woven through a number of the Congress seminars. The other main topic is "Seeking anti-avoidance measures of general nature and scope - GAAR and other rules". Ten separate seminars will offer a richness of information and discussion, including the ever-popular IFA/OECD and IFA/EU plenary sessions.

Once the daytime work is over, we will visit the splendid National Museum of Korea, the Islands of Sebitseom, and enjoy dinner at Yeong Bin Gawan. Those with extra stamina (and youth) may choose to risk the YIN Party at Club Made Cheongdam.

With deep thanks to our Korean hosts, and with best wishes to all delegates.

Kind regards,
Murray Clayson