

I submit the following points for the Australian taxation review:

I urge the Australian Government to support international implementation of the Currency Transaction Development Levy (CTDL) that would tax the richest market of all, the trade in foreign exchange.

I urge a reversal of the trend of simply lowering corporate and personal income taxes, a trend that has benefited the rich at the expense of the poor over the past decade. This has not resulted in a more equitable system. An ACOSS report in 2007 found 2,000,000 Australians are living in poverty. Lowering tax rates does not achieve equity without supportive income re-distribution policies.

I urge the taxation review to recommend the Australian Government negotiate a similar arrangement with the States as that of the German Government, who have revamped their motor vehicle tax so that in future the rate depends on the amount of carbon emitted from exhausts.

I urge the Australian Government to do more to stop wealthy Australians from using tax havens to avoid their responsibilities.

I urge the review panel to consider the October 2008 New Internationalist Magazine for further discussion, as well as the special tax justice blog.

Kind regards

Chris Halacas