

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE AND  
THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY  
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND  
THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION  
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

Date of Conclusion: 17 April 1997.

Entry into Force: 18 December 1998.

Effective Date: 1 January 1999.

The Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary.

Desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

Have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE 1 - PERSONAL SCOPE**

This Agreement shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

**ARTICLE 2 - TAXES COVERED**

1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.

2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, including taxes or gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.

3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:

(a) in Hungary:

(i) the income tax on individuals;

(ii) the corporation tax

(hereinafter referred to as "Hungarian tax");

- (b) in Singapore:  
the income tax

(hereinafter referred to as "Singapore tax").

4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

5. If, by reason of changes made in the taxation law of either Contracting State, it seems desirable to amend any Article of this Agreement without affecting the general principles thereof, the necessary amendments may be made by mutual consent by means of an exchange of diplomatic notes or in any other manner in accordance with their constitutional procedures.

### **ARTICLE 3 - GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) the term "Hungary", when used in a geographical sense means the territory of the Republic of Hungary;
  - (b) the term "Singapore" means the Republic of Singapore;
  - (c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Hungary or Singapore, as the context requires;
  - (d) the term "tax" means Hungarian tax or Singapore tax as the context requires;
  - (e) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons which is treated as an entity for tax purposes;
  - (f) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
  - (g) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;
  - (h) the term "nationals" means:
    - (i) all individuals possessing the nationality or citizenship of a Contracting State;
    - (ii) all legal persons, partnerships and associations and all other entities deriving their status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;
  - (i) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between

places in the other Contracting State or solely between such places and one or more structures used for the exploration or exploitation of natural resources situated in waters adjacent to the territorial waters of that other Contracting State;

- (j) the term "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of Hungary, the Minister of Finance, or his authorised representative;
  - (ii) in the case of Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorised representative.

2. As regards the application of the Agreement by a Contracting State any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the laws of that State concerning the taxes to which the Agreement applies.

#### **ARTICLE 4 - FISCAL DOMICILE**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who is a resident in a Contracting State for tax purposes of that Contracting State.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

- (a) he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
- (b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State in which he has an habitual abode;
- (c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, the competent authorities of the two States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1, a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

#### **ARTICLE 5 - PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.

2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:

- (a) a place of management;
- (b) a branch;

- (c) an office;
- (d) a factory;
- (e) a workshop; and
- (f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.

3. The term "permanent establishment" also includes:

- (a) a building site or construction or installation or assembly project but only if it lasts more than twelve months;
- (b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by a resident of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel in the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than six months within any twelve-month period.

4.

- (a) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:
  - (i) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
  - (ii) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;
  - (iii) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
  - (iv) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;
  - (v) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character for the enterprise;
  - (vi) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in sub-paragraphs (i) to (v), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.
- (b) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii), the term "delivery" means the mere delivery of goods provided that it is not regular and not accompanied with sales.

5. A person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 6 applies, shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment for the enterprise in the first-mentioned Contracting State if:-

- (a) he has, and habitually exercises in the first-mentioned Contracting State, an authority to conclude contracts for or on behalf of the enterprise unless the exercise of such authority is limited to the purchase of goods or merchandise for that enterprise; or
- (b) he habitually maintains in the first-mentioned Contracting State a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise from which he regularly fills orders on behalf of the enterprise.

6. An enterprise shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that State through a broker, general commission agent, or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.

7. The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

## **ARTICLE 6 - INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other state.

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships, boats and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting, or use in any other form of immovable property.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

## **ARTICLE 7 - BUSINESS PROFITS**

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar

conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

3. In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4. If the information available to the competent authority is inadequate to determine the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment of an enterprise, nothing in this Article shall affect the application of any law of that State relating to the determination of the tax liability of a person by the exercise of a discretion in the making of an estimate by the competent authority, provided that the law shall be applied, so far as the information available to the competent authority permits, in accordance with the principles of this Article.

5. No profits shall be attributed to a permanent establishment by reason of the mere purchase by that permanent establishment of goods or merchandise for the enterprise.

6. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.

7. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

## **ARTICLE 8 - SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT**

1. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State derived from the other Contracting State from the operation of aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State.

2. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State derived from the other Contracting State from the operation of ships in international traffic may be taxed in that other State, but the tax chargeable in that other State on such profits shall be reduced by an amount equal to 50 per cent of such tax.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

## **ARTICLE 9 - ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES**

Where:

- (a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or
- (b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of a Contracting State and an enterprise of the other Contracting State,

and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between

independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but, by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

## **ARTICLE 10 - DIVIDENDS**

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends, the tax so charged shall not exceed:

- (a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the recipient is a company which holds directly at least 25 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends;
- (b) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

- 3.
- (a) Under the current Singapore laws, where dividends are paid by a company which is a resident of Singapore to a resident of Hungary who is the beneficial owner of such dividends, there is no tax in Singapore which is chargeable on dividends in addition to the tax chargeable in respect of the profits or income of the company. Nothing in this paragraph shall affect the provisions of the Singapore laws under which the tax in respect of a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Singapore from which Singapore tax has been, or has been deemed to be, deducted, may be adjusted by reference to the rate of tax appropriate to the Singapore year of assessment immediately following that in which the dividend was paid.
  - (b) If Singapore, subsequent to the signing of the Agreement, imposes a tax on dividends paid by a company which is a resident of Singapore which is in addition to the tax chargeable in respect of the profits or income of the company, such tax may be charged but the tax so charged on such dividends derived by a resident of Hungary who is the beneficial owner of such dividends shall be in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2.

4. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, "jouissance" shares or "jouissance" rights, mining shares, founders shares or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

7.

- (a) Dividends shall be deemed to arise in Hungary if they are paid by a company which is a resident of Hungary.
- (b) Dividends shall be deemed to arise in Singapore -
  - (i) if they are paid by a company which is a resident of Singapore; or
  - (ii) if they are paid by a company which is a resident of Malaysia out of profits arising in Singapore and qualifying as dividends arising in Singapore under Article VII of the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation between Singapore and Malaysia signed on 26th December, 1968.

8. The Government of either Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the other Contracting State with respect to dividends on shares in joint stock companies of that other State. However, such exemption shall in no case be given with respect to shares held for other than public purposes and not if the holding constitutes a substantial participation.

9. For the purposes of paragraph 8, the term "Government":

- (a) in the case of Singapore means the Government of Singapore, and shall include:
  - (i) the Monetary Authority of Singapore, the Board of Commissioners of Currency and the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation Pte Ltd;
  - (ii) any company or body established for the purpose of investing the reserves of the Government of Singapore;
  - (iii) a statutory body, a local authority or any institution wholly or mainly owned by the Government of Singapore, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States;
- (b) in the case of Hungary means the Government of Hungary, and shall include:
  - (i) the National Bank of Hungary;
  - (ii) a statutory body, a local authority or any institution wholly or mainly owned by the Government of Hungary, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.



## ARTICLE 11 - INTEREST

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest, the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2:
  - (a) interest derived by the Government of a Contracting State from the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the other Contracting State; and
  - (b) interest derived and beneficially owned by a bank of a Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the other Contracting State if the payer is a bank of the other Contracting State.
4. For the purposes of paragraph 3(a), the term "Government":
  - (a) in the case of Singapore means the Government of Singapore and shall include:
    - (i) the Monetary Authority of Singapore;
    - (ii) the board of Commissioners of Currency;
    - (iii) the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation Pte Ltd; and
    - (iv) any institution wholly or mainly owned by the Government of Singapore, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States;
  - (b) in the case of Hungary means the Government of Hungary and shall include:
    - (i) the National Bank of Hungary;
    - (ii) the Export Guarantee Organisation; and
    - (iii) any institution wholly or mainly owned by the Government of Hungary, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
5. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage, and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures.
6. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected

with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

7. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is the Government of that Contracting State, a political subdivision, a local authority, a statutory body or a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

8. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 12 - ROYALTIES**

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.

3. The term "royalties" as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work (including cinematograph films, and films or tapes for radio or television broadcasting) any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, or secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

4. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority, a statutory body or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

6. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties, having regard to the use, right or information for which they are paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 13 - CAPITAL GAINS**

1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property, referred to in Article 6, and situated in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.

3. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic, or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

4. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

## **ARTICLE 14 - INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES**

1. Income derived by an individual who is a resident of a Contracting State from the performance of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State except in the following circumstances when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State:

- (a) if he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other State; or
- (b) if his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within a twelve-month period; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term "professional services" includes independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities, as well as the independent activities of physicians, surgeons, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

## **ARTICLE 15 - DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES**

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16, 18, 19, 20 and 21, salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if:

- (a) the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve-month period, and
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State, and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in the other State.

3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

## **ARTICLE 16 - DIRECTORS' FEES**

Directors' fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors or any similar organ of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

## **ARTICLE 17 - ARTISTES AND SPORTSMEN**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 and 15, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsman, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised in a Contracting State by an entertainer or a sportsman in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsman himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article income mentioned in this Article shall be exempt from tax in the Contracting State in which the activity of the entertainer or sportsman is exercised provided that this activity is supported, wholly or substantially, from the public funds of the Government of either Contracting State or a local authority or a statutory body thereof, or the activity is exercised under a cultural arrangement between the Contracting States.

## **ARTICLE 18 - PENSIONS**

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19, pensions and other similar remuneration in consideration of past employment derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the other Contracting State may be taxed in the other State.

## **ARTICLE 19 - GOVERNMENT SERVICE**

1.
  - (a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a statutory body or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or statutory body or authority shall be taxable only in that State.
  - (b) However, such remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that State and the individual is a resident of that State who:
    - (i) is a national of that State; or
    - (ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
2.
  - (a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a statutory body or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or statutory body or authority shall be taxable only in that State.
  - (b) However, such pension may be taxed in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of and a national of, that State.
3. The provisions of Articles 15, 16 and 18 shall apply to remuneration and pensions in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a statutory body or a local authority thereof.

## **ARTICLE 20 - STUDENTS AND TRAINEES**

An individual who is a resident of a Contracting State immediately before making a visit to the other Contracting State and [who] is present in that other Contracting State for a period not exceeding five years solely -

- (a) as a student at a recognised university, college or school in that other Contracting State;
- (b) as a recipient of a grant, allowance or award for the primary purpose of study, research or training from a governmental, religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational organisation; or
- (c) as a business apprentice;

shall be exempt from tax of that other Contracting State in respect of -

- (i) remittances from abroad for the purposes of his maintenance, education, study, research or training;
- (ii) the grant, allowance or award; and
- (iii) remuneration for personal services in that other Contracting State not exceeding the sum of 3,600 Singapore dollars or 150,000 forints during any calendar year, or such amount as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States; provided that any amount in excess of 3,600 Singapore dollars or 150,000 forints shall remain taxable according to the laws of that other State, due regard being had to the other provisions of the Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 21 - TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS**

1. An individual who is a resident of a Contracting State immediately before making a visit to the other Contracting State, and who, at the invitation of any university, college, school or other similar educational institution, visits that other State for a period not exceeding two years solely for the purpose of teaching or research or both at such educational institution shall be exempt from tax in that other State on any remuneration for such teaching or research.

2. This Article shall not apply to income from research if such research is undertaken primarily for the private benefit of a specific person or persons.

## **ARTICLE 22 - OTHER INCOME**

Items of income not expressly mentioned in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement and arising in a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

## **ARTICLE 23 - LIMITATION OF RELIEF**

1. Where this Agreement provides (with or without other conditions) that income from sources in Hungary shall be exempt from tax, or taxed at a reduced rate in Hungary and under the laws in force in Singapore the said income is subject to tax by reference to the amount thereof which is remitted to or received in Singapore and not by reference to the full amount thereof, then the exemption or reduction of tax to be allowed under this Agreement in Hungary shall apply only to so much of the income as is remitted to or received in Singapore.

2. However, this limitation does not apply to income derived by the Government of Singapore or any person approved by the competent authority of Singapore for the purpose of this paragraph. The term "the Government of Singapore" shall include its agencies and statutory bodies.

## **ARTICLE 24 - ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION**

1. The laws of each Contracting State shall continue to govern the taxation of income in that State except where express provision to the contrary is made in this Agreement. Where income is subject to tax in both Contracting States, relief from double taxation shall be given in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.

2.

(a) In Singapore:

Subject to the provisions of the laws of Singapore regarding the allowance as a credit against Singapore tax of tax payable in any country other than Singapore, Hungarian tax payable, whether directly or by deduction, in respect of income from sources within Hungary, shall be allowed as a credit against Singapore tax payable in respect of that income. Where such income is a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Hungary to a company which is a resident of Singapore and which owns not less than 25 per cent of the shares of the company paying the dividend, the credit shall take into account Hungarian tax payable by that company in respect of its income out of which the dividend is paid. The credit shall not, however, exceed that part of the Singapore tax, as computed before the credit is given, which is appropriate to such item of income.

(b) In Hungary:

- (i) Where a resident of Hungary derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement may be taxed in Singapore, Hungary shall, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii), exempt such income from tax.
- (ii) Where a resident of Hungary derives items of income which, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 10, 11 and 12, may be taxed in Singapore, Hungary shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Singapore. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given which is attributable to such items of income derived from Singapore.
- (iii) Where in accordance with any provision of the Agreement income derived by a resident of Hungary is exempt from tax in Hungary, Hungary may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

3. For the purposes of paragraph 2(b), taxes which have been relieved or reduced in Singapore by virtue of special incentive laws for the promotion of the economic development of Singapore or any other provisions which may subsequently be introduced in Singapore in modification of, or in addition to, those laws or by virtue of the provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been paid and shall wherever applicable be allowed as a credit in Hungary. The credit to be allowed shall be an amount equal to the tax which would have been paid if no such relief or reduction had been made.

## **ARTICLE 25 - NON-DISCRIMINATION**

1. The nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances are or may be subjected.

2. The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities.
3. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to -
  - (a) residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for tax purposes which it grants to its own residents; or
  - (b) nationals of the other Contracting State those personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for tax purposes which it grants to its own citizens who are not resident in that Contracting State or to such other individuals as may be specified in the taxation laws of that Contracting State;
  - (c) nationals of the other Contracting State who are resident in that Contracting State any reliefs or reductions in any form including tax rate given to its own nationals on the basis of their obligation as citizens and permanent residents.
4. Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.
5. Where a Contracting State grants tax incentives to its nationals designed to promote economic development in accordance with its national policy and criteria, it shall not be construed as discrimination under this Article.
6. In this Article, the term "taxation" means taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 26 - MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE**

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 25, to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.
2. The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting State.
3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.



4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs. When it seems advisable in order to reach agreement to have an oral exchange of opinions, such exchange may take place through a Commission consisting of representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

#### **ARTICLE 27 - EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Agreement insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. Any information received by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Agreement. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:

- (a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information, the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (ordre public).

#### **ARTICLE 28 - MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR MISSIONS**

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the fiscal privileges of members of diplomatic or consular missions under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

#### **ARTICLE 29 - ENTRY INTO FORCE**

1. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other that the constitutional requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement have been complied with.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the day of the latter of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall apply:

- (a) in Hungary:
  - (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, to amounts of income derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;

- (ii) in respect of other taxes on income, to such taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;
- (b) in Singapore:  
  
in respect of Singapore tax for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1st January in the second calendar year following that in which the Agreement enters into force.

### **ARTICLE 30 - TERMINATION**

This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by one of the Contracting Parties. Either Contracting Party may terminate the Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year following after the period of five years from the date on which the Agreement enters into force. In such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

- (a) in Hungary:
  - (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, to amounts of income derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following the year in which the notice is given;
  - (ii) in respect of other taxes on income, to such taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following the year in which the notice is given;
- (b) in Singapore:  
  
in respect of Singapore tax for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1st January in the second calendar year following that in which the notice of termination has been given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE duplicate at Singapore this 17th day of April 1997, in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

DR RICHARD HU

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

H.E. MR PETER MEDGYESSY

## EXCHANGE OF NOTES (1997)

17 April 1997

H.E. Mr Peter Medgyessy  
Minister of Finance  
Republic of Hungary.

Sir,

In pursuance of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 10 of the Agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income which was signed today, I have the honour to propose that:

- (a) with reference to paragraph 8 of Article 10, it is understood that:
  - (i) the term "joint stock companies" include public companies whether listed on the Stock Exchange or not and private companies; and
  - (ii) a holding of 25% or more of the share capital of a joint stock company constitutes a substantial participation in that company; and
- (b) with reference to sub-paragraph (a)(ii) of paragraph 9 of Article 10, it is understood that, for the purposes of exemption of tax in Hungary in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article 10, any company or body established for the purpose of investing the reserves of the Government of Singapore is required to furnish a certification from the competent authority of Singapore that it is established for such a purpose.

In the event of these proposals being acceptable to you, this Note together with your Note accepting the proposals shall constitute an agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary for the purposes of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 10.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Sir, to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

DR RICHARD HU  
*Minister for Finance,  
Republic of Singapore.*

17 April 1997

Dr Richard Hu  
Minister for Finance  
Republic of Singapore.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of today's date which reads as follow:

"In pursuance of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 10 of the Agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income which was signed today, I have the honour to propose that:

- (a) with reference to paragraph 8 of Article 10, it is understood that:
  - (i) the term "joint stock companies" include public companies whether listed on the Stock Exchange or not and private companies; and
  - (ii) a holding of 25% or more of the share capital of a joint stock company constitutes a substantial participation in that company; and
- (b) with reference to sub-paragraph (a)(ii) of paragraph 9 of Article 10, it is understood that, for the purposes of exemption of tax in Hungary in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article 10, any company or body established for the purpose of investing the reserves of the Government of Singapore is required to furnish a certification from the competent authority of Singapore that it is established for such a purpose.

In the event of these proposals being acceptable to you, this Note together with your Note accepting the proposals shall constitute an agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary for the purposes of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 10."

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to me and that your Note of today's date and this Note shall together constitute an agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Hungary for the purposes of paragraph 8 and 9 of Article 10.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Sir, to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

PETER MEDGYESSY  
*Minister of Finance*  
*Republic of Hungary.*