# AGREMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE AND THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

# **NOTE**

Date of conclusion: 20 May 2016

Entry into force: 29 December 2017

Effective date: 1 January 2018

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Royal Government of Cambodia,

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 – Persons Covered

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 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 on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, and 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 Cambodia:
    - (i) Tax on Profit including Withholding Tax, Additional Profit Tax on Dividend Distribution and Capital Gains Tax;
    - (ii) Tax on Salary;

(hereinafter referred to as "Cambodian tax"); and

- (b) In Singapore:
  - (i) the Income Tax

(hereinafter referred to as "Singapore tax").

4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that 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 that have been made in their taxation laws.

# Article 3 - General Definitions

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) The term "Contracting State" means Cambodia or Singapore, as the context requires;
  - (b) The term "Cambodia" means the territory of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as well as those maritime areas, including the seabed and subsoil adjacent to the outer limits of the territorial sea over which the Kingdom of Cambodia exercises, in accordance with international law, sovereign rights or jurisdiction;
  - (c) The term "Singapore" means the Republic of Singapore and, when used in a geographical sense, includes its land territory, internal waters and territorial sea, as well as any maritime area situated beyond the territorial sea which has been or might in the future be designated under its national law, in accordance with international law, as an area within which Singapore may exercise sovereign rights or jurisdiction with regards to the sea, the sea-bed, the subsoil and the natural resources:
  - (d) The term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
  - (e) The term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
  - (f) 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;
  - (g) The term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;
  - (h) The term "competent authority" means:
    - (i) In the case of Cambodia, the Minister for Economy and Finance or his authorised representative; and
    - (ii) In the case of Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorised representative.
  - (i) The term "national", in relation to a Contracting State, means:
    - (i) any individual possessing the nationality or citizenship of that Contracting State; and
    - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in that Contracting State.
- 2. For the purposes of Articles 10, 11 and 12, a trustee liable to tax in a Contracting State in respect of dividends, interest or royalties shall be deemed to be the beneficial owner of that interest or those dividends or royalties.

3. As regards the application of the Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

## Article 4 - Resident

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, place of management, principal place of business or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any local authority or statutory body thereof.
- 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 only 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 only 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 only 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, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;
  - (d) In any other case, the competent authorities of the Contracting 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 the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall resolve the question by mutual agreement.

## **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;
  - (f) A warehouse, in relation to a person providing storage facilities for others;
  - (g) A mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and
  - (h) A farm or plantation.
- 3. The term "permanent establishment" also encompasses:
  - (a) A building site, a construction, assembly or installation project, or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities last more than six months;
  - (b) The furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only if activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days within any twelve-month period; and
  - (c) The carrying on of activities (including the operation of substantial equipment) in the other Contracting State for the exploration or for exploitation of natural resources for a period or periods aggregating more than 90 days in any twelvementh period.
- 4. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:
  - (a) The use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
  - (b) The maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;
  - (c) The maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
  - (d) The maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;
  - (e) The maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of carrying on, for the enterprise, any other activity of a preparatory or auxiliary character; and

- (f) The maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.
- 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, where a person—other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies—is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, if such a person:
  - (a) Has and habitually exercises in that State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 4 which, if exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph; or
  - (b) Has no such authority, but habitually maintains in the first-mentioned State a stock of goods or merchandise from which he regularly delivers goods or merchandise on behalf of the enterprise.
- 6. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to re-insurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums in the territory of that other State or insures risks situated therein through a person other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies.
- 7. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other 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. However, when the activities of such an agent are devoted wholly or almost wholly on behalf of that enterprise, and conditions are made or imposed between that enterprise and the agent in their commercial and financial relations which differ from those which would have been made between independent enterprises, he will not be considered an agent of an independent status within the meaning of this paragraph.
- 8. 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 also 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 all expenses, including executive and general administrative expenses, which would be deductible if the permanent establishment were an independent enterprise, insofar as they are reasonably allocable to the permanent establishment, whether incurred in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.
- 4. 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.
- 5. Nothing in this Article shall affect the application of any law of a Contracting State relating to tax imposed on income from insurance, other than re-insurance, of non-resident insurers with a permanent establishment in the Contracting State.
- 6. 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 – International Transport**

- 1. Profits derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. Profits derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships in international traffic may be taxed in the other Contracting State, but the tax imposed in that other State shall be reduced by an amount equal to 50 per cent thereof.
- 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**

## 1. 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.

2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that State – and taxes accordingly – profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State shall make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall if necessary consult each other.

## 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 beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends. This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.
- 3. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, 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.
- 4. 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 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. 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.

## 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 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 beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to the Government of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State.

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "Government":

- (a) In the case of Cambodia, shall include:
  - (i) the Royal Government of Cambodia;
  - (ii) the National Bank of Cambodia or any local authority;
  - (iii) Rural Development Bank;
  - (iv) any statutory body; and
  - (v) any institution as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
- (b) In the case of Singapore, shall include:
  - (i) the Government of the Republic of Singapore;
  - (ii) the Monetary Authority of Singapore;
  - (iii) GIC Private Limited;
  - (iv) any statutory body; and
  - (v) any institution as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
- 4. 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, as well as any other amounts treated as income from money lent by the taxation laws of the Contracting State in which the income arises. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.
- 5. 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 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

- 6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that 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 State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.
- 7. 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 beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.
- 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, or films or tapes used for radio or television broadcasting, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, 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 paragraphs 1 and 2 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 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 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 – Fees for Technical Services**

- 1. Fees for technical services arising in a Contracting State which are derived by a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, fees for technical services 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 fees for technical services, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the fees for technical services.
- 3. The term "fees for technical services" means payment of any kind in consideration for the rendering of any managerial, technical or consultancy services, including the provision by the enterprise of the services of technical or other personnel, but does not include payments for services to which Article 15 of this Agreement applies.
- 4. The provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the fees for technical services, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the fees for technical services arise through a permanent establishment situated therein, and the fees for technical services are effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.
- 5. Fees for technical services shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the fees for technical services, 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 obligation to pay the fees for technical services was incurred, and such fees for technical services are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such fees for technical services 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 fees for technical services paid exceeds, for whatever reason, 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 only apply to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **Article 14 – 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 derived by a resident of a Contracting State 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 that State.
- 4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares deriving more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

## **Article 15 – Independent Personal Services**

- 1. Subject to the provisions of Article 13, income derived by an individual who is a resident of a Contracting State in respect 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 Contracting State; or
  - (b) If his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days in any 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 especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

## **Article 16 – Dependent Personal Services**

- 1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 19, and 20, 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 in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

# **Article 17 - 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 of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

## **Article 18 – Artistes and Sportspersons**

- 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, 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 sportsperson, from that resident's personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsperson acting as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 15 and 16, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsperson are exercised.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, income derived from activities referred to in paragraph 1 performed under a cultural agreement or arrangement between the Contracting States shall not be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities are exercised if the visit to that State is wholly or substantially supported by funds of either Contracting State, or a local authority, a statutory body or a public institution thereof.

# **Article 19 – Pensions and Social Security Payments**

- 1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions paid and other payments made under a public scheme or a scheme which is part of the social security system of a Contracting State or a local authority or a statutory body thereof shall be taxable only in that State.

## Article 20 - Government Service

- 1. (a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a local authority or a statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.
  - (b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar 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) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a local authority or a statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.
  - (b) However, such pensions and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that State.
- 3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions, and other similar remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a local authority or a statutory body thereof.

# **Article 21 – Students**

Payments which a student or business trainee or apprentice who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

## Article 22 - Other Income

- 1. Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6, if the recipient of such income, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State 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 income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, items of income of a resident of a Contracting State not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement and arising in the other Contracting State may also be taxed in that other State.

## Article 23 - Methods for Elimination of Double Taxation

Double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

## (a) In Cambodia:

Where a resident of Cambodia derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Singapore, Cambodia 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 Cambodian tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to that income.

## (b) In Singapore:

Where a resident of Singapore derives income from Cambodia which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Cambodia, Singapore shall, subject to its laws regarding the allowance as a credit against Singapore tax of tax payable in any country other than Singapore, allow the Cambodian tax paid, whether directly or by deduction, as a credit against the Singapore tax payable on the income of that resident. Where such income is a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Cambodia to a resident of Singapore which is a company owning directly or indirectly not less than 10 per cent of the share capital of the first-mentioned company, the credit shall take into account the Cambodian tax paid by that company on the portion of its profits out of which the dividend is paid.

## Article 24 - Non-Discrimination

- 1. 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, in particular with respect to residence, 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. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.
- 3. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 7 of Article 11, paragraph 6 of Article 12 or paragraph 6 of Article 13 apply, interest, royalties, fees for technical services and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State.
- 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 or social development in accordance with its national policy and criteria, it shall not be construed as discrimination under this Article.
- 6. The provisions of this Article shall apply to the taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

## **Article 25 – 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 24, 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 this Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.
- 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.

## **Article 26 – Exchange of Information**

- 1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.
- 2. Any information received under paragraph 1 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) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above. 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.
- 3. In no case shall the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 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 27 – Members of Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts**

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

## Article 28 – Entry into Force

- 1. Each of the Contracting States shall notify the other through diplomatic channels the completion of the procedures required by its law or legislation for bringing into force this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the later of these notifications.
- 2. This Agreement shall have effect:
  - (a) In Cambodia:
    - in respect of taxes withheld at source, in relation to taxable amount as derived on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the Agreement enters into force and in subsequent calendar years;
    - (ii) in respect of other taxes, in relation to income arising on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the Agreement enters into force, and in subsequent calendar years; and
    - (iii) in respect of Article 26 (Exchange of Information), for requests made on or after the date of entry into force concerning information for taxes relating to taxable periods beginning on or after the first day of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; or where there is no taxable period, for all charges to tax arising on or after the first day of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

# (b) In Singapore:

- in respect of taxes withheld at source, on amounts liable to be paid, deemed paid or paid (whichever is the earliest) on or after the first day of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;
- (ii) in respect of tax chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source) for any year of assessment beginning on or after the first day of January of the second calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; and
- (iii) in respect of Article 26 (Exchange of Information), for requests made on or after the date of entry into force concerning information for taxes relating to taxable periods beginning on or after the first day of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; or where there is no taxable period, for all charges to tax arising on or after the first day of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

# **Article 29 – Termination**

This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination not later than 30 June of any calendar year after the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force. In such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

## a) In Cambodia:

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, in relation to taxable amount as derived on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the notice of termination is given;
- (ii) in respect of other taxes, in relation to income arising on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the notice of termination is given; and
- (iii) in all other cases, including requests made under Article 26 (Exchange of Information) after the end of that calendar year in which the notice of termination is given.

## b) In Singapore:

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on amounts liable to be paid, deemed paid or paid (whichever is the earliest) after the end of that calendar year in which the notice of termination is given;
- (ii) in respect of tax chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source) for any year of assessment beginning on or after the first day of January of the second calendar year following that calendar year in which the notice of termination is given; and
- (iii) in all other cases, including requests made under Article 26 (Exchange of Information) after the end of that calendar year in which the notice of termination is given.

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

**DONE** in duplicate at Singapore on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016, in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

FOR THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

INDRANEE RAJAH SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND FINANCE Dr. AUN PORNMONIROTH SENIOR MINISTER MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE

## **PROTOCOL**

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Royal Government of Cambodia have agreed at the signing of the Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income that the following provisions shall form an integral part of the said Agreement.

- 1. With reference to the Agreement, it is understood that the term "statutory body" means a body constituted by statute and performing only non-commercial functions which would otherwise be performed by the Government of a Contracting State.
- 2. It is understood that paragraph 2 of Article 19 (Pensions and Social Security Payments) shall be applicable to payments made, in the case of Singapore, under the Central Provident Fund.
- 3. It is understood that notwithstanding paragraph 3 of Article 24 (Non-Discrimination), for the purposes of allowing deduction of an interest payment to a non-resident, nothing in the said paragraph shall prevent a Contracting State from disallowing a deduction of such interest payment if tax is not withheld on the payment.
- 4. With reference to Article 26 (Exchange of Information), it is understood that the following paragraphs are not included in the Article because of their incompatibility with the laws of Cambodia:
  - "4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.
  - 5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person."

It is agreed that should the said paragraphs become compatible with the laws of Cambodia, the competent authority of Cambodia shall notify the competent authority of Singapore and this Article shall be amended in accordance with the internal procedures of both Contracting States.

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

**DONE** in duplicate at Singapore on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016, in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

FOR THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

INDRANEE RAJAH SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND FINANCE Dr. AUN PORNMONIROTH SENIOR MINISTER MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE

# Exchange of letters (2017)

Ms Yong Sing Yuan Tax Director (International Tax Branch) Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore 18 December 2017

Dear Ms Yong Sing Yuan,

I would like to inform Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) that with recent amendment of Cambodia's Taxation law, the General Department of Taxation (GDT) is able to request and exchange information for tax treaties and other international tax obligation purposes. Hence, Paragraph 4 and 5 of Article 26 (Exchange of Information) is now compatible and become an integral part of the DTA.

In this regard, I would like to officially notify you that Cambodia is able to incorporate Paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 26 and implement them

Please accept, Ms Yong Sing Yuan, the assurances of my high appreciation.

Kong Vibol
Delegate of the Royal Government
in charge as Director General of the General Department of Taxation

Dear Mr Vibol,

1. Thank you for your letter dated 18 December 2017, which reads as follow:

"I would like to inform Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) that with recent amendment of Cambodia's Taxation law, the General Department of Taxation (GDT) is able to request and exchange information for tax treaties and other international tax obligation purposes. Hence, Paragraph 4 and 5 of Article 26 (Exchange of Information) is now compatible and become an integral part of the DTA.

In this regard, I would like to officially notify you that Cambodia is able to incorporate Paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 26 and implement them

Please accept, Ms Yong Sing Yuan, the assurances of my high appreciation."

- 2. We confirm that, in accordance with the Protocol to the Agreement between Singapore and Cambodia, Article 26 (Exchange of Information) of the Agreement between Singapore and Cambodia shall be amended to include paragraphs 4 and 5.
- 3. Please accept the expression of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Eng-Tay Geok Lee (Mrs)
Deputy Commissioner (Business)
for Commissioner of Inland Revenue
Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore