PROTOCOL

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

NOTE

This Protocol was signed on 9th April 2013. However, the Protocol is not yet ratified and therefore **does not have the force of law**.

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan,

Desiring to conclude a Protocol to amend the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income, signed at Singapore on September 19, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement"),

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The term "local authorities" as used in paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Agreement will be replaced by the term "central or local authorities" wherever the term is used in the Agreement.

Article 2

Article 25 of the Agreement shall be modified as follows:

"Article 25 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 political subdivisions, central or 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 of the Agreement.

- 2. Any information received under paragraph 1 of this Article by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that Contracting 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 of this Article, 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 of this Article 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).
- 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 Contracting 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 of this Article 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 of this Article 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."

Article 3

Each of the Contracting States shall notify to the other, through the diplomatic channels, the completion of the procedures required by its domestic law for the bringing into force of this Protocol. The Protocol, which shall form an integral part of the Agreement, shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the latter of these notifications and shall have effect in both Contracting States for taxable periods beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Protocol enters into force.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

Done in duplicate at Singapore this 9th day of April 2013 in the Kazakh, Russian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation of this Protocol Contracting States refer to the text in English.

For the Government of the Republic of Singapore

For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan