

---

---

First published in the *Government Gazette*, Electronic Edition, on 8 December 2017 at 5 pm.

**No. S 704**

INCOME TAX ACT  
(CHAPTER 134)

INCOME TAX  
(SINGAPORE — ETHIOPIA)  
(AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT)  
ORDER 2017

WHEREAS it is provided by section 49 of the Income Tax Act that if the Minister by order declares that arrangements specified in the order have been made with the government of any country outside Singapore with a view to affording relief from double taxation in relation to tax under the Act and any tax of a similar character imposed by the laws of that country, and that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect, the arrangements have effect in relation to tax under the Act despite anything in any written law:

AND WHEREAS by an Agreement dated 24 August 2016, between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, arrangements were made, amongst other things, for the avoidance of double taxation:

AND WHEREAS by a Protocol dated 24 August 2016, between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the arrangements set out in the said Agreement were modified as prescribed in the said Protocol:

NOW, THEREFORE, it is declared by the Minister for Finance —

- (a) that the arrangements specified in the Schedule to this Order have been made with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; and
- (b) that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect despite anything in any written law.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION  
AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION  
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia,

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 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 on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:
- (a) in the case of Singapore:
    - the income tax
    - (hereinafter referred to as “Singapore tax”);
  - (b) in the case of Ethiopia:
    - (i) the tax on income and profit; and
    - (ii) the tax on income from mining, petroleum and agricultural activities;

(hereinafter referred to as “Ethiopian 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 respective taxation laws.

ARTICLE 3

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean Singapore or Ethiopia, as the context requires; and the term “Contracting States” means Singapore and Ethiopia;
  - (b) 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;
  - (c) the term “Ethiopia” means the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and when used in a geographical sense, it means the national territory and any other area which in accordance with international law and the laws of Ethiopia is or may be designated as an area in which Ethiopia exercises sovereign rights or jurisdiction;
  - (d) the term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (e) the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity that 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 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;
- (h) 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;
- (i) the term “competent authority” means:
  - (i) in the case of Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorised representative;
  - (ii) in the case of Ethiopia, the Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation or his authorised representative.

2. 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 or registration, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated. If its place of effective management cannot be determined, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle 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 sales outlet;
- (f) a workshop;
- (g) a commercial warehouse;

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (h) a farm, plantation or other place where agricultural, forestry, plantation or related activities are carried on; and
  - (i) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.
3. A building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith constitute a permanent establishment only if such site, project or activities last more than six months.
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;
  - (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 on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises, in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for 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.
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

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 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. 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 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 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.

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

## 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 are 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. This provision shall apply subject to limitations under the domestic law.

4. Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits to be taxed by such an apportionment as may be customary; the method of apportionment adopted shall, however, be such that the result shall be in accordance with the principles contained in 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.



---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

ARTICLE 8

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

1. Profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

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

3. If the place of effective management of a shipping enterprise is aboard a ship, then it shall be deemed to be in the Contracting State of which the operator of the ship is a resident.

4. For the purposes of this Article, profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall include:

- (a) profits from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships or aircraft; and
- (b) profits from the use, maintenance or rental of containers (including trailers and related equipment for the transport of containers), used for the transport of goods or merchandise,

where such rental or use, maintenance or rental, as the case may be, is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic.

5. For the purposes of this Article, interest on funds directly connected with the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be regarded as profits derived from the operation of such ships or aircraft, and the provisions of Article 11 shall not apply in relation to such interest.

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

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 5 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 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 5 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

3. 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. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.

4. 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.

5. 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 Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 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 5 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 computer software, cinematograph films and recordings on tape or other media used for radio or television broadcasting or other means of reproduction or transmission, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, 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 14, 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 Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 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 paragraphs 1 to 4, 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 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:

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (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 exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any 12-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 15

## DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16, 18, 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 commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; 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 may be taxable in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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 of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

ARTICLE 17

ENTERTAINERS AND SPORTSPERSONS

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 sportsperson, from his or her 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 in his or her capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson himself or herself 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 sportsperson are exercised.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, income derived from the activities referred to in paragraph 1 within the framework of cultural or sports exchanges agreed to by the Governments of the Contracting States and carried out other than for the purpose of profit, or wholly or mainly supported by public funds of one or both of the Contracting States or political subdivisions, local authorities or statutory bodies thereof, shall be exempt from tax in the Contracting State in which these activities are exercised.

ARTICLE 18

PENSIONS

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19, pensions and other similar remuneration arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State.

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

## ARTICLE 19

## GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1.—(a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision, 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 political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision, 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 15, 16, 17 and 18 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 political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof.

## ARTICLE 20

## STUDENTS AND BUSINESS APPRENTICES

1. Payments which a student or business 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.

2. In respect of grants, scholarships and remuneration from employment not covered by paragraph 1, a student or business apprentice referred to in that paragraph shall, in addition, be entitled during such education or training to the



---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

same exemptions, reliefs, or reductions in respect of taxes available to resident of the Contracting State which he is visiting.

ARTICLE 21

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 14, 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 22

ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

1. In Singapore, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:

Where a resident of Singapore derives income from Ethiopia which in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement may be taxed in Ethiopia, 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 Ethiopian 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 Ethiopia 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 Ethiopian tax paid by that company on the portion of its profits out of which the dividend is paid.

2. In Ethiopia, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:

Where a resident of Ethiopia derives income from Singapore which in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement may be taxed in Singapore,

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

Ethiopia shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the income tax paid in Singapore. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the income tax as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in Singapore.

3. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 2, where the income arising in a Contracting State is exempt or taxed at a reduced rate in that State, for a limited period of time in accordance with the laws and regulations of that State aimed at promoting economic development, then the tax on such income which has been exempt or taxed at a reduced rate in that State shall be credited against the tax on income owing in the State where the beneficial owner of this income is a resident.

## ARTICLE 23

## 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 6 of Article 11, or paragraph 6 of Article 12 apply, interest, royalties 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 Contracting 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.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

5. The provisions of this Article shall apply only to taxes which are covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 24

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 the Contracting 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 23, 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 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 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 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.

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

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

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*).

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.

ARTICLE 26

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.

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

ARTICLE 27

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. The Contracting States shall notify each other in writing through diplomatic channels that their constitutional requirements for entry into force of this Agreement have been fulfilled.

2. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the later of these notifications and shall thereupon have effect:

(a) in the case of Singapore:

- (i) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid, deemed to be paid or liable to be paid (whichever is the earliest) on or after 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;
- (ii) with regard to taxes chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source), in respect of income for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1 January of the second calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; and
- (iii) in respect of Article 25 (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 1 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 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

(b) in the case of Ethiopia:

- (i) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid on or after the eighth day of July next following the date on which this Agreement enters into force;
- (ii) with regard to other taxes, in respect of tax year beginning on or after the eighth day of July next following the date on which this Agreement enters into force; and
- (iii) in respect of Article 25 (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 eighth day of July next following the date on which the Agreement enters into force; or where there is no taxable

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

period, for all charges to tax arising on or after the eighth day of July next following the date on which the Agreement enters into force.

## ARTICLE 28

## TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Agreement, at any time after five years from the date on which the Agreement enters into force provided that at least six months prior written notice of termination has been given through diplomatic channels.

2. In such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

(a) in the case of Singapore:

- (i) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid, deemed to be paid or liable to be paid (whichever is the earliest) from the calendar year beginning after the end of the six month period following the notice of termination;
- (ii) with regard to taxes chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source), in respect of income for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1 January of the second calendar year beginning after the end of the six month period following the notice of termination; and
- (iii) in all other cases, including requests under Article 25 (Exchange of Information) from the calendar year beginning after the end of the six month period following the notice of termination.

(b) in the case of Ethiopia:

- (i) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid on or after the eighth day of July next following the date on which the period specified in the said notice of termination expires;
- (ii) with regard to other taxes, in respect of tax year beginning on or after the eighth day of July next following the date on which the period specified in the said notice of termination expires; and

---

---

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (iii) in all other cases, including requests under Article 25 (Exchange of Information) from the eighth day of July next following the date on which the period specified in the said notice of termination expires.

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

DONE in duplicate at Singapore on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2016 in the English language.

For the Government of  
the Republic of Singapore

For the Government of  
the Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia

S Iswaran  
Minister for Trade and Industry  
(Industry)

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
(PhD)  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

## PROTOCOL

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia 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, the term “statutory body” means a body constituted by statute to perform only government functions of a Contracting State without undertaking any commercial activities.

2. With reference to paragraph 2(g) of Article 5 (Permanent Establishment), a “commercial warehouse” refers to facilities maintained by an enterprise of a Contracting State to provide storage service for others for profit.

3. With reference to Article 8 (International Traffic), it is understood that profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall include profits from the sale of tickets for such transportation on behalf of other enterprises.

4. With reference to Article 12 (Royalties), it is understood that the term “royalties” shall not include payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use computer software where the payments do not constitute payments for the rights to commercially exploit such computer software by reproducing, modifying, adapting the computer software for the purpose of distribution or sale, or by preparing derivative works based on the computer software for the purpose of distribution or sale.

5. With reference to Article 12 (Royalties), it is understood that the term “royalties” shall not include payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use any digital content on any media for reproduction or transmission where the payments do not constitute payments for the rights to commercially exploit such digital content by reproducing, modifying, adapting the digital content for the purpose of distribution or sale, or by preparing derivative works based on the digital content for the purpose of distribution or sale.

6. With reference to Article 15 (Dependent Personal Services), it is understood that the term “fiscal year” means, in the case of Ethiopia, from July 8 to July 7 and in the case of Singapore, from January 1 to December 31.

7. With reference to Article 23 (Non-Discrimination), it is understood that notwithstanding paragraph 3 of that Article, 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.



THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

8. With reference to Article 23 (Non-Discrimination), it is understood that 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 that Article.

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

DONE in duplicate at Singapore on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2016 in the English language.

For the Government of  
the Republic of Singapore

For the Government of  
the Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia

S Iswaran  
Minister for Trade and Industry  
(Industry)

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
(PhD)  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Made on 30 November 2017.

TAN CHING YEE  
*Permanent Secretary,  
Ministry of Finance,  
Singapore.*

[MF(R) R32.002.2903 Vol. 1; AG/LEGIS/SL/134/2015/3 Vol. 2]