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INCOME TAX ACT 1947

INCOME TAX (SINGAPORE — BULGARIA) (AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT) (MODIFICATIONS TO IMPLEMENT MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENT) ORDER 2022

ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph

1. Citation and commencement
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-

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 49(7) of the Income Tax Act 1947, the Minister for Finance makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order is the Income Tax (Singapore — Bulgaria) (Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement) (Modifications to Implement Multilateral Instrument) Order 2022 and comes into operation on 1 January 2023.

Purpose

2.—(1) This Order amends the arrangements made between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria as specified in the Schedule to the Income Tax (Singapore — Bulgaria) (Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement) Order 1997 (O 8A) (called in this Order the Agreement).

(2) The purpose of this Order is to amend the Agreement to give effect to Singapore's obligations under the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and

Profit Shifting done at Paris on 24 November 2016 (as amended from time to time).

Amendment of Agreement

3. The provisions of the Agreement are amended in the manner set out in the Schedule.

Entry into effect

4. The amendments mentioned in paragraph 3 have effect —
- (a) with respect to taxes withheld at source — in respect of amounts paid, deemed paid or liable to be paid (whichever is the earliest), on or after 1 January 2023; and
 - (b) with respect to taxes other than those withheld at source — where the income is derived or received in a basis period beginning on or after 1 July 2023.

THE SCHEDULE

Paragraph 3

Replacement of Preamble

1. Replace the Preamble of the Agreement with —

“The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria,

Intending to eliminate double taxation with respect to the taxes covered by this Agreement without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance (including through treaty-shopping arrangements aimed at obtaining reliefs provided in this Agreement for the indirect benefit of residents of third jurisdictions),

Have agreed as follows:”.

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

Amendment of Article 9

2. In Article 9 (Associated Enterprises) of the Agreement, replace paragraph 2 with —

“2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that Contracting State — and taxes accordingly — profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other Contracting State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned Contracting State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other Contracting 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.”.

Amendment of Article 26

3. In Article 26 (Mutual Agreement Procedure) of the Agreement, in paragraph 2, after “not in accordance with the Agreement.”, insert “Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.”.

New Article 28A

4. After Article 28 (Members of Diplomatic or Consular Missions) of the Agreement, insert —

“ARTICLE 28A

PREVENTION OF TREATY ABUSE

Notwithstanding any provisions of this Agreement, a benefit under this Agreement shall not be granted in respect of an item of income or capital if it is reasonable to conclude, having regard to all relevant facts and circumstances, that obtaining that benefit was one of the principal purposes of any arrangement or transaction that resulted directly or indirectly in that benefit, unless it is established that granting that benefit in these circumstances would be in accordance with the object and purpose of the relevant provisions of this Agreement.”.

Made on 18 November 2022.

LAI WEI LIN
*Second Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Finance,
Singapore.*

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