Income Tax (Singapore — Morocco) (Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement) Order 2014

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**Enacting Formula** 

THE SCHEDULE Agreement between the Republic of Singapore and the Kingdom of Morocco for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income

No. S 25

# INCOME TAX ACT (CHAPTER 134)

## INCOME TAX (SINGAPORE — MOROCCO) (AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT) ORDER 2014

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 shall have effect in relation to tax under the Act notwithstanding anything in any written law:

AND WHEREAS by an Agreement dated 9th January 2007, between the Republic of Singapore and the Kingdom of Morocco, arrangements were made, amongst other things, for the avoidance of double taxation:

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

- (a) that the arrangements as specified in the Schedule to this Order have been made with the Kingdom of Morocco; and
- (b) that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect notwithstanding anything in any written law.

### THE SCHEDULE

### AGREEMENT

### BETWEEN

#### THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

### AND

### THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

### 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 Kingdom of Morocco,

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.

- 3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are:
  - (*a*) in the case of Singapore:

— the income tax;

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

- (b) in the case of the Kingdom of Morocco:
  - (i) the income tax;
  - (ii) the corporation tax;

(hereinafter referred to as "Moroccan tax").

4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any substantial changes which 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 Morocco as the context requires;
  - (b) the term "Singapore" means the Republic of Singapore and when used in a geographical sense, the term "Singapore" includes the territorial waters of Singapore and any area extending beyond the limits of the territorial waters of Singapore, and the sea-bed and subsoil of any such area, which has been or may hereafter be designated under the laws of Singapore and in accordance with international law as an area over which Singapore has sovereign rights for the purposes of exploring and exploiting the natural resources, whether living or non-living;
  - (c) the term "Morocco" means the Kingdom of Morocco and, when used in a geographical sense the term "Morocco" includes:
    - (i) the territory of the Kingdom of Morocco, the territorial sea thereof; and
    - (ii) the maritime areas beyond the territorial sea, including the seabed and subsoil thereof (continental shelf) and the exclusive economic zone over which Morocco exercises sovereign rights, in accordance with its domestic laws and international law, for the purpose of exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of such areas;
  - (d) the term "tax" means Singapore tax or Moroccan tax, as the context requires;
  - (e) the term "person" includes an individual, a company, and any other body of persons and in the case of Morocco includes a partnership;

- (f) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- (g) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;
- (*h*) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise that 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;
- (*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 the Kingdom of Morocco, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
- (*j*) the term "national" means:
  - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;
  - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;
- (k) the term "statutory body" means a body constituted by any statute of a Contracting State and performing functions which would otherwise be performed by the Government of that Contracting State.

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 management, or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or 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 it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

### ARTICLE 5

### PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

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

- 2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:
  - (*a*) a place of management;
  - (b) a branch;
  - (c) an office;
  - (*d*) a factory;
  - (*e*) a workshop; and
  - (f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.
- 3. The term "permanent establishment" also 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 lasts more than 6 months; and
  - (b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise 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 a Contracting State for a period or periods exceeding in the aggregate 135 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the taxable or fiscal year concerned.

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 or 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