

**Income Tax (Singapore — Qatar) (Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement)
Order 2007**

Table of Contents

Enacting Formula

THE SCHEDULE

No. S 531

**INCOME TAX ACT
(CHAPTER 134)**

**INCOME TAX (SINGAPORE — QATAR) (AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION
AGREEMENT) ORDER 2007**

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 the 28th day of November 2006, between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the State of Qatar, 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 specified in the Schedule to this Order have been made with the Government of the State of Qatar; and
- (b) that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect notwithstanding anything in any written law.

THE SCHEDULE
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR
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 State of Qatar,
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.
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 the State of Qatar:
 - taxes on income

(hereinafter referred to as “Qatar 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 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;
- (b) the term “Qatar” means the State of Qatar’s lands, internal waters, territorial sea including its bed and subsoil, the air space over them, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf, over which the State of Qatar exercises sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of International law and Qatar’s national laws and regulations;
- (c) the term “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” means Qatar or Singapore, as the context requires;
- (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 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 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;
- (h) the term “competent authority” means:
 - (i) in the case of Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorised representative; and
 - (ii) in the case of the State of Qatar, the Minister of Finance, or his authorized representative;
- (i) the term “national” means:

- (i) any individual possessing the nationality or citizenship 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.

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 Contracting State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Contracting State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Contracting State.

ARTICLE 4

RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means:
 - (a) in the case of Singapore, a person who is a resident for the purpose of Singapore income tax and also includes the State and any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof; and
 - (b) in the case of the State of Qatar, the State of Qatar, its local authorities, any statutory body thereof and any person who under the laws of the State of Qatar is domiciled or resident in, a citizen of, or having its place of incorporation or management within the State of Qatar.
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 Contracting State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both Contracting States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
 - (b) if the Contracting 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 Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State in which he has an habitual abode;
 - (c) if he has an habitual abode in both Contracting States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting 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 Contracting 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;
- (f) premises used as sales outlet;
- (g) a farm or plantation; and
- (h) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of exploration, extraction or exploitation of natural resources.

3. The term “permanent establishment” also includes:

- (a) a building site, a construction, installation or assembly project, or supervisory activities connected therewith, but only where such site, project or activities lasts for more than 6 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 where 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 in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the calendar 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, 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 subparagraphs (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