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Canada and Bahamas

Agreement between Canada and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas for the exchange of information on tax matters. Nassau, 17 June 2010

Entry into force: 16 November 2011 by notification, in accordance with article 13

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Canada et Bahamas

Accord entre le Canada et le Commonwealth des Bahamas sur l'échange de renseignements en matière fiscale. Nassau, 17 juin 2010

Entrée en vigueur: 16 novembre 2011 par notification, conformément à l'article 13

Textes authentiques: anglais et français

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

CANADA

AND

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON TAX MATTERS

CANADA and THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS, desiring to facilitate the exchange of information with respect to taxes, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Object and Scope of this Agreement

- 1. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall provide assistance through exchange of information that is foreseeably relevant to the administration and enforcement of the domestic laws of the Contracting Parties concerning taxes covered by this Agreement. Such information shall include information that is foreseeably relevant to the determination, assessment and collection of such taxes, the recovery and enforcement of tax claims, or the investigation or prosecution of tax matters. Information shall be exchanged in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and shall be treated as confidential in the manner provided in Article 8.
- The rights and safeguards secured to persons by the laws or administrative
 practice of the requested Party remain applicable to the extent that they do not unduly
 prevent or delay effective exchange of information.

ARTICLE 2

Jurisdiction

A requested Party is not obligated to provide information which is neither held by its authorities nor in the possession or control of persons who are within its territorial jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 3

Taxes Covered

- The taxes which are the subject of this Agreement are, in the case of Canada, all
 existing taxes imposed or administered by the Government of Canada, and in the case of
 The Bahamas, all existing taxes imposed or administered by the Government of the
 Commonwealth of The Bahamas.
- 2. This Agreement shall apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes imposed after the date of signature of this Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. This Agreement shall also apply to such other taxes as may be agreed in an exchange of letters between the Contracting Parties. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other of any substantial changes to the taxation and related information gathering measures covered by this Agreement within a reasonable time.

ARTICLE 4

Definitions

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless otherwise defined:
 - a) the term "Canada", used in a geographical sense, means:
 - the land territory, air space, internal waters and territorial sea of Canada;
 - (ii) the exclusive economic zone of Canada, as determined by its domestic law, consistent with Part V of the *United Nations* Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (UNCLOS); and
 - the continental shelf of Canada, as determined by its domestic law, consistent with Part VI of UNCLOS:

- b) the term "The Bahamas" means the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, encompassing the land, the territorial waters, and in accordance with international law and the laws of The Bahamas any area outside the territorial waters including the exclusive economic zone and the seabed and subsoil over which The Bahamas exercises jurisdiction and sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring, exploiting and conserving natural resources;
- the term "Contracting Party" means Canada or The Bahamas as the context requires;
- d) the term "competent authority" means:
 - in the case of Canada, the Minister of National Revenue or the Minister's authorised representative;
 - in the case of The Bahamas, the Minister of Finance or the Minister's duly authorised delegate;
- the term "person" includes an individual, a company, a trust, a partnership and any other body of persons;
- the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- g) the term "publicly traded company" means any company whose principal class of shares is listed on a recognised stock exchange provided that its listed shares can be readily purchased and sold by the public. Shares can be purchased or sold "by the public" if the purchase or sale of shares is not implicitly or explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors;
- the term "principal class of shares" means the class or classes of shares
 representing a majority of the voting power and value of the company;