

## Cyprus – Czechoslovakia Tax Treaties

### AGREEMENT OF 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 1980

This is the Convention between the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, being aware of the need to facilitate trade and to encourage economic cooperation in conformity with the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, have decided to conclude the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital. For this purpose they have agreed upon as follows:

#### Article 1

##### Personal Scope

This Agreement shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

#### Article 2

##### Tax Covered

1. This Convention shall apply to taxes on income and on capital imposed on behalf of each 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 and on capital all taxes imposed on total income, on total capital, or on elements of income or of capital, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.
3. The existing taxes to which the Convention shall apply are
  - a. In Czechoslovakia:
    - i. The taxes on profits;
    - ii. The wages tax;
    - iii. The tax on income from literary and artistic activities;
    - iv. The agricultural tax;
    - v. The tax on population income;
    - vi. The house tax; and

vii. The capital tax

(hereinafter referred to as "Czechoslovak tax");

b. In Cyprus:

i. The income tax; and

ii. The special contribution

(Hereinafter referred to as "Cyprus tax").

4. This Convention shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify to each other any significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

## Article 3

### General Definitions

1. In this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - a. The term "Czechoslovakia" means the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic;
  - b. The term "Cyprus" means the Republic of Cyprus, and includes any area adjacent to the territorial waters of Cyprus which, in accordance with international law, has been or may hereafter be designated, under the laws of Cyprus concerning the Continental Shelf, as an area within which the rights of Cyprus with respect to the sea bed and sub-soil and their natural resources may be exercised;
  - c. The terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Czechoslovakia and Cyprus as the context requires;
  - d. The term "person" comprises an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
  - e. The term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which 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 "national" means:
    - i. Any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;
    - ii. Any legal person, partnership and association deriving its status as such from the law in force in a Contracting State;



**Article 5****Permanent Establishment**

1. For the purposes of this Convention the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business in which the business of the enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.
2. The term "permanent establishment" shall include especially:
  - a. A place of management;
  - b. A branch;
  - c. An office;
  - d. A factory;
  - e. A workshop;
  - f. A mine, quarry or other place of extraction of natural resources;
  - g. A building site or construction or installation or assembly project, other than that referred to in paragraph 3(f) of this article, which exists for more than six months.
3. The term "permanent establishment" shall not be deemed 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 for collecting information, for the enterprise;
  - e. The maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character for the enterprise;
  - f. An assembly project carried on by an enterprise of a Contracting State in connection with the delivery of machinery or equipment from that State to the other Contracting State.
4. An enterprise of one of the Contracting States shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if:
  - a. It carries on supervisory activities in that other Contracting State for more than six months in connection with a construction, installation or assembly project which is

- being undertaken in that other Contracting State other than those related to activities referred to in paragraph 3(f) of this article;
- b. It carries on a business which consists of providing the services of public entertainers of the kind referred to in article 17 in that other Contracting State.
5. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 6 of this article, a person acting in one of the Contracting States on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State if:
- a. He has, and habitually exercises in that first-mentioned Contracting State, an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to the purchase of goods or merchandise for the enterprise; or
- b. He maintains in the first-mentioned Contracting State a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise from which he regularly fills orders on behalf of the enterprise.
6. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, where such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.
7. 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 make either company a permanent establishment of the other.

## Article 6

### Income From Immovable Property

1. Income from immovable property including income from agriculture or forestry may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.
- 2.
- a. The term "immovable property" shall, subject to the property sub-paragraphs (b) and (c), be defined in accordance with the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated.
- b. The term "immovable property" 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 immovable 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.

- c. Ships 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 professional services.

## 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. 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 permanent establishment.
3. In the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purpose of the permanent establishment including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.
4. In so far as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of a apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profit 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 laid down 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 Convention, then the provisions of those articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this article.

## **Article 8**

### **Shipping & Air Transport**

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. If the place of effective management of a shipping enterprise is aboard a ship, then it shall be deemed to be situated in the Contracting State in which the home harbour of the ship is situated, or, if there is no such home harbour, in the Contracting State of which the operator of the ship is a resident.
3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also apply to profits derived from the participation in a pool, in a joint business or in an international operations agency.

## **Article 9**

### **Associated Enterprises**

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 conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

## **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 be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, and according to the law of that State, but the tax so charged

shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, as long as Cyprus does not impose a tax on dividends in addition to the tax chargeable on the profits or income of a company, dividends paid by a company which is a resident of Cyprus to a resident of Czechoslovakia shall be exempt from any tax in Cyprus which may be chargeable on dividends in addition to the tax chargeable on the profits or income of the company.
4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of paragraphs 2 and 3.
5. The provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.
6. The term "dividends" as used in this article means income from shares, or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subject to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the taxation law of the State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.
7. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall not apply if the recipient 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 professional 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 a case, the provisions of article 7 or article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.
8. 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 dividends paid by the company to residents of the first-mentioned State, or subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid, or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in that 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, interest derived from one of the Contracting States by a resident of the other Contracting State who is the beneficial owner thereof may also be taxed in the first-mentioned Contracting State at a rate not exceeding 10 per cent of the gross amount thereof.
3. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2 of this article interest arising from credits or loans accorded by the Government of a Contracting State or by a Bank or other institution in



the name or on behalf of that Government shall be taxable only in that State.

4. 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 bonds or debentures.
5. Interest shall be deemed to be derived from a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision or a local authority thereof or 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 in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment, then such interest shall be deemed to be derived from the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated.
6. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply if the recipient of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State carries on in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises a business through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State professional 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 a case, the provisions of article 7 or article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.
7. Where, owing to a special relationship between the payer and the recipient or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest paid, 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 recipient in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In that case the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

## **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, royalties of the kind referred to in subparagraph (a) of paragraph 3 may be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the law of that State, but the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.
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,

4. Any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or any industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience;
5. Any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films, and films or tapes for television or radio broadcasting.
6. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the recipient of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise a business through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State professional 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 a case, the provisions of article 7 or article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.
7. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that Contracting State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that Contracting 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 in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated.
8. Where, owing to a special relationship between the payer and the recipient or both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties paid, 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 recipient in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In that case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

## **Article 13**

### **Capital Gains**

1. Gains from alienation of immovable property, as defined in paragraph 2 of article 6, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such immovable property is situated.
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 professional

services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or together with the whole enterprise) or of such a fixed base, may be taxed in the other State. However, gains from the alienation of movable property of the kind referred to paragraph 3 of article 22 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which such movable property is taxable according to the said article.

3. Gains from the alienation of any property other than those mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

## **Article 14**

### **Independent Personal Services**

1. Income derived by a resident of [a] Contracting State in respect of professional services or other independent activities of a similar character shall taxable only in that State unless he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities. If he has such a fixed base, the income may be taxed in the other Contracting State but only so much of it as is attributable to that fixed base.
2. The term "professional services" includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the in pendent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists, accountants.

## **Article 15**

### **Dependent Personal Services**

1. Subject to the provisions of articles 16, 18 and 19, salaries, wages 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 there from 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 the calendar 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 in respect of an

employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft in international traffic may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

## **Article 16**

### **Directors' Fees**

Directors' fees and similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors or another similar organ of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

## **Article 17**

### **Artistes And Athletes**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of articles 14 and 15, income derived by public entertainers, such as theatre, motion picture, radio or television artistes, and musicians, and by athletes from their personal activities as such may be taxed in the Contracting State in which these activities are exercised.
2. Where the services mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article are provided in one of the Contracting States by an enterprise of the other Contracting State, then the income derived from providing those services by such enterprise shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State, if the enterprise is directly or indirectly supported, wholly or substantially, from the public funds of the Government of that other Contracting State in connection with the provision of such services.

## **Article 18**

### **Governmental Functions**

1. Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.
2. However, remuneration referred to in paragraph 1 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:
  - a. Is a national of that State; or
  - b. Did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

**Article 19****Pensions**

Pensions, annuities and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

**Article 20****Students**

1. Payments which a student or business apprentice who is present in a Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training and who is or was immediately before such visit a resident of the other Contracting State received for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments are made to him from sources outside that State.
2. A student at a university or other institution for higher education in a Contracting State, or a business apprentice who is present in the other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding 183 days in the calendar year concerned and who is or was immediately before such visit a resident of the first-mentioned State, shall not be taxed in the other Contracting State in respect of remuneration for services rendered in that other State, provided that the services are in connection with his studies or training and the remuneration constitutes earnings necessary for his maintenance.

**Article 21****Income Not Expressly Mentioned**

Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State which are not expressly mentioned in the foregoing articles of this Convention shall be taxable only in that State.

**Article 22****Capital**

1. Capital represented by immovable property, as defined in paragraph 2 of article 6, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such immovable property is situated.
2. Capital represented by movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment of an enterprise, or by movable property pertaining to a fixed base used for the performance of professional services, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.
3. Ships and aircraft operated in international traffic and movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships and aircraft shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

All other elements of capital of a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

## **Article 23**

### **Methods for the Elimination Of Double Taxation**

1. In Czechoslovakia, double taxation will be avoided in the following manner:
  - a. Where a resident of Czechoslovakia derives income or owns capital which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in Cyprus Czechoslovakia shall, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, exempt such income or such capital from tax but may, in calculating tax on the remaining income or capital of that person, apply the rate of tax which would have been applicable if the exempted income or capital had not been so exempted.
  - b. Czechoslovakia when imposing taxes on its residents may include in the tax base upon which such taxes are imposed the items of income which according to the provisions of articles 10, 11, 12, 16 and 17 of this Convention may also be taxed in Cyprus but shall allow as a deduction from the amount of tax computed on such a base an amount equal to the tax paid in Cyprus.

Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Czechoslovak tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriate to the income which, in accordance with the provisions of articles 10, 11, 12, 16 and 17 of this Convention may be taxed in Cyprus.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 the term "Cyprus tax payable" in Cyprus by a resident of Czechoslovakia shall be deemed to include:
  - a. The Cyprus tax which would have been payable on any profits or interest granted tax incentive exemption or relief in Cyprus but for such tax incentive exemption or relief;
  - b. The Cyprus tax which would have been deductible from any dividend paid out of profits granted tax incentive exemption or relief in Cyprus but for such tax incentive exemption or relief.
3. In the case of Cyprus, subject to the existing provisions of the law of Cyprus regarding the deduction from tax payable in Cyprus of tax paid in a territory outside Cyprus and to any subsequent modification of those provisions--which shall not affect the general principle hereof--and unless a greater deduction or relief is provided under the laws of Cyprus, tax payable in Czechoslovakia on profits, income or gains arising in Czechoslovakia shall be deducted from any Cyprus tax payable in respect of such profits, income or gains.

## Article 24

### Limitation Of Relief

Where, under any provision of this Convention, income is relieved from tax in one of the Contracting States and, under the law in force in the other Contracting State, a person in respect of the said income is subject to tax by reference to the amount thereof which is remitted to or received in that other Contracting State and not by reference to the full amount thereof, then the relief to be allowed under this Convention in the first-mentioned Contracting State shall apply only to so much of the income as is remitted to or received in the other Contracting State.

## Article 25

### Non-Discrimination

1. The 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 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 tax purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

3. 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 that first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.
4. In this article the term "taxation" means taxes of every kind and description.

## Article 26

### Mutual Agreement Procedure

1. Where a resident of a Contracting State considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with this Convention, he may, notwithstanding the remedies provided by the national laws of those

States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident.

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 an appropriate 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 not in accordance with the Convention.
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 Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Convention.
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. When it seems advisable in order to reach agreement to have an oral exchange of opinions, such exchange may take place through a Commission consisting of representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

## **Article 27**

### **Exchange Of Information**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for the carrying out of this Convention and of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by this Convention in so far as the taxation there under is in accordance with this Convention. Any information so exchanged shall be treated as secret and shall not be disclosed to any persons or authorities, including courts, other than those concerned with the assessment, collection, enforcement or prosecution in respect of taxes which are the subject of the Convention.
2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on one of the Contracting States the obligation:
  - a. To carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws or the administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
  - b. To supply particulars which are 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).



**Article 28****Diplomatic Agents And Consular Officers**

Nothing in this Convention shall affect the fiscal privileges of diplomatic or consular officials under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

**Article 29****Entry Into Force**

1. The Governments of the Contracting States shall notify to each other that the constitutional requirements for the entry into force of this Convention have been complied with.
2. The Convention shall enter into force on the date of the later of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect:
  - a. In respect of taxes withheld at source, to amounts derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force;
  - b. In respect of other taxes on income, and taxes on capital, to taxes which are levied for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force.

**Article 30****Termination**

This Convention shall remain in force until denounced by one of the Contracting States. Either Contracting State may denounce the Convention, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year following after the period of five years from the date on which the Convention enters into force. In such event, the Convention shall cease to have effect:

1. In respect of taxes withheld at source, to amounts derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given;
2. In respect of other taxes on income, and taxes on capital, to taxes which are levied for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given.