

**AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE**

**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

**AND THE**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF**

**THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

**FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE**

**TAXATION AND FISCAL EVASION WITH**

**RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

hereinafter referred to as the Contracting States;

**Desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and 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 each Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or its 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 income from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises, as well as taxes on capital appreciation.

3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are:

- a) in the case of the Islamic Republic of Iran:
  - the income tax.
- b) in the case of the Republic of Cyprus:
  - (i) the income tax;
  - (ii) the corporate income tax;
  - (iii) special contribution for the defense of the Republic; and
  - (iv) the capital gains 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 within a reasonable period 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, the meanings of the terms are as follows:

- a)
  - (i) the term "Islamic Republic of Iran" means the territory under the sovereignty and/or jurisdiction of the Islamic Republic of Iran;
  - (ii) the term "Cyprus" means the Republic of Cyprus and, when used in a geographical sense, includes the national territory, the territorial sea thereof as well as any area outside the territorial sea, including the contiguous zone, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf, which has been or may hereafter be designated, under the laws of Cyprus and in accordance with international law, as an area within which Cyprus may exercise sovereign rights or jurisdiction;
- b) the term "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean the Islamic Republic of Iran or the Republic of Cyprus, as the context requires;

- c) the term " person " means:
  - (i) an individual,
  - (ii) a company or any other body of persons;
- d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity, which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- e) 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;
- f) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between the places situated in one of the Contracting States;
- g) the term "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance or his authorized representative;
  - (ii) in the case of Cyprus, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative.

2. As regards the application of the Agreement by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the laws of that State concerning 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 residence, domicile, place of registration, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State, any political subdivision or any local authority thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article 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 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 of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (center of vital interests);
- b) if the State in which he has his center 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 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 of the State of which he is a national;
- d) if he is a national of neither of the States, and or if under the previous paragraphs, he may not be deemed a resident of one of the Contracting States, then the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where, a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident 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 an enterprise of a Contracting State wholly or partly carries on the business in the other Contracting State.

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) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of exploration, exploitation and/or extraction of natural resources.

3. A building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, constitutes a "permanent establishment", but only where such site, project or activities continue for a period of more than 12 months.

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 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 or display;
- 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 advertising, and/or scientific research, for that enterprise and/or carrying on 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 sub-paragraphs 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 independent status to whom paragraph 6 applies) is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises, in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, unless the activities of such a person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 4 which, if

exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.

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. However, when the activities of such an agent are devoted wholly or almost wholly on behalf of that enterprise, he shall not be considered an agent of an independent status if the transactions between the agent and the enterprise were not made under arms' length conditions.

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 constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

## **Article 6**

### **INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning, which it has under the laws of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term 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 landed 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 including oil, gas and quarries. Ships and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article 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 of this Article shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to the income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal 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. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article 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 a permanent establishment.
3. In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses including executive and general administrative expenses, in so far as they are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, whether incurred 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 an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits 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 embodied 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. 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 Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.



## **Article 8**

### **INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC**

1. Profits derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
2. Profits from the operation in international traffic of ships or aircraft shall include:
  - a) profits derived from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships or aircraft used in international traffic,
  - b) profits derived from the use or rental of containers if such profits are incidental to the other profits from the operations of ships or aircraft in international traffic.
3. The provisions of this Article shall also apply to income or profits derived from the participations in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency, but only to so much of the profits so derived as is attributable to the participant in proportion to its share in the joint operation.

## **Article 9**

### **ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES**

1. 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.

2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that 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 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.

## **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 Contracting State.

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the resident of the other Contracting State and the beneficial owner of the dividends the tax so charged shall not exceed:

- a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company (other than a partnership) which holds directly at least 25 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends;
- b) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

3. The term "dividends" in this Article means income from shares, "Jouissance" shares or "Jouissance" rights, founders' shares or other rights (not being debt-claims, participating in profits), as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner 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 Contracting State independent personal 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 case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. 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 the dividends paid by the company, (except in so far as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other Contracting State or in so far as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other Contracting State) nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other Contracting 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 Contracting State.

2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the resident of the other Contracting State and the beneficial owner of the interest the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

3. 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 such securities, bonds or debentures. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and derived by the other Contracting State, ministries, other Governmental institutions, municipalities, Central Bank and other banks wholly owned by the other Contracting State, shall be exempted from tax in the first-mentioned State.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal 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 case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision, local authority 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 or a fixed base, in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such a permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, 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 beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **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 Contracting State.

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, the tax so charged shall not exceed 6 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.

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, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematographic films and recordings for radio and television, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other

Contracting State in which the royalties arise through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base, 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 case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that 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 or a fixed base in connection with which the right or property giving rise to the royalties is effectively connected, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

6. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties paid, having regard to the use, right to use or information for which they are paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such a relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, with due regard to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **Article 13**

### **CAPITAL GAINS**

1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property referred to in Article 6 and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

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 independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

3. Gains derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares in a company, deriving more than 50 per cent of their value directly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 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 activities of an independent character shall be 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 independent activities of physicians, engineers, experts, lawyers, architects, dentists, and accountants.

## **Article 15**

### **DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES**

1. Subject to the provisions of Article 16, 18, 19 and 20 of this Agreement, salaries, wages and 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 therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting 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 that other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; and

- b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of that other Contracting 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 paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic, shall be taxed only in that Contracting State.

## **Article 16**

### **DIRECTORS' FEES**

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

## **Article 17**

### **ARTISTES AND SPORTSMEN**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 and 15, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theater, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsman from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsman in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsman himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to the income derived by an entertainer or a sportsman from the activities performed within the framework of the cultural agreement concluded between the Contracting States.

## **Article 18**

### **PENSIONS**

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxed only in that Contracting State.

## **Article 19**

### **Government Service**

1. Salaries, wages and other similar 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 Contracting State.

However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other State by an individual who is a resident of that State provided that he is a national of that other Contracting State or did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.

2. Any pension paid by, or out of funds created 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 Contracting State.

However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that State.

3. The provisions of Articles 15, 16, 17 and 18 shall apply to remuneration and pensions 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 20**

### **TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS**

1. Payments which a student or business apprentice who was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and is a national of that other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of



his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

2. Likewise, remuneration received by a teacher or by an instructor who was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and is a national of that other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned Contracting State for the purpose of teaching or engaging in scientific research for a period or periods not exceeding two years shall be exempted from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

This paragraph shall not apply to remuneration and income from research if such research is undertaken for persons and enterprises with business purposes.

## **Article 21**

### **OTHER INCOME**

1. Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6, if the recipient of such income, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein and the right or property in respect of which the income is derived is effectively connected with such a permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

## **Article 22**

### **METHOD FOR THE ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION**

1. Where a resident of a Contracting State derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in the other Contracting State, the first-mentioned State shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in that other State. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the income tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in that other State.

2. Where in accordance with any provision of the Agreement income derived by a resident of the Contracting State is exempted from tax in that State, such State may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

## **Article 23**

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

1. 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 Contracting State in the same circumstances are or may be subjected. This provision shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 1, also apply to persons who are not residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

2. The taxation on a permanent establishment, which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State, shall not be less favorably levied than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other Contracting State carrying on the same activities.

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 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 the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.

4. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 7 of Article 11, or paragraph 6 of Article 12 apply, interest, royalties and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State. Similarly, any debts of an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable capital of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State.

5. These provisions 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 taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

## **Article 24**

### **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 Agreement, he may, irrespective of 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 or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 23, to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.
2. The competent authority shall endeavor, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory 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 which is not in accordance with the Agreement.
3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavor to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.
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. The competent authorities, through consultations, shall develop appropriate procedures, conditions, methods, and techniques for the implementation of the mutual agreement procedure provided for in this Article.

## **Article 25**

### **EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or of the domestic laws concerning taxes covered by the Agreement in so far as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Article 1. Any information received by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities including courts and administrative bodies involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of or the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes covered by the Agreement. Such persons or authorities shall use the

information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:

- a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and the administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- b) to supply information which is 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 26**

### **MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR POSTS**

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the fiscal privileges of members of diplomatic missions or consular posts under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

## **Article 27**

### **ENTRY INTO FORCE**

1. The Contracting States shall notify each other through diplomatic channels that the constitutional requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement have been complied with.

2. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the latter of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect in both Contracting States:

- a) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January (first day of Farvardin for the Islamic Republic of Iran), next following the date upon which this Agreement enters into force; and

- b) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after the first day of January (first day of Farvardin for the Islamic Republic of Iran) next following the date upon which the Agreement enters into force.

## **Article 28**

### **TERMINATION**

1. This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely. Either Contracting States may terminate the Agreement through diplomatic channels, by giving to the other Contracting State written notice of termination not later than 30 June (31<sup>st</sup> of Shahrivar for the Islamic Republic of Iran) of any calendar year starting five years after the year in which the Agreement entered into force.

2. In such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect in both Contracting State:

- (i) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited after the first day of January (first of Farvardin for the Islamic Republic of Iran) next following the date upon which such notice is given; and

(ii) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning after the first day of January (the first day of Farvardin for the Islamic Republic of Iran) next following the date upon which such notice is given.

Done in duplicate at Nicosia this 4th day of August 2015, corresponding to Mordad 13, 1394 Solar Hijra in the Greek, Persian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

**For the Government of  
the Republic of Cyprus**



**Harris Georgiades  
Minister of Finance**

**For the Government of  
the Islamic Republic of  
Iran**



**Ali Askari  
the president of Iranian  
National Tax  
Administration**

## PROTOCOL

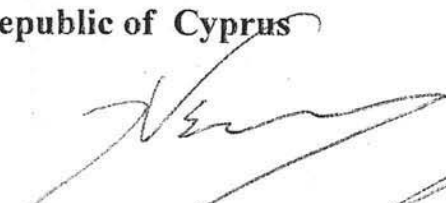
The Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran have agreed at signing at Nicosia on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015, corresponding to Mordad 13, 1394 Solar Hijra of the Agreement between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the said Agreement:

“For the purposes of Article 10, it is understood that Paragraph 2 shall be applicable on the date taxation on dividends received by non-residents is imposed by one or both Contracting States.”

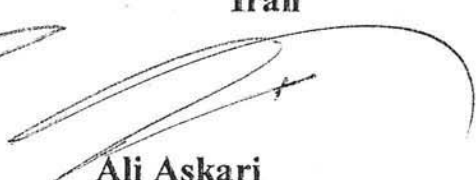
Done in duplicate at Nicosia this 4th day of August 2015, corresponding to Mordad 13, 1394 Solar Hijra in the Greek, Persian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

**For the Government of  
the Republic of Cyprus**

  
**Harris Georgiades  
Minister of Finance**

**For the Government of  
the Islamic Republic of  
Iran**

  
**Ali Askari  
the president of Iranian  
National Tax  
Administration**