



**MALTA/MAURITIUS DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT**

**SIGNED 15 OCTOBER 2014**

**Effective in Malta;**

**the income tax**

**Effective in Mauritius:**

**the income tax**

## **Synthesised text of the MLI and the Agreement between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Malta for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income**

This document was prepared in consultation with the competent authority of Malta and represents our shared understanding of the modifications made to the Agreement by the MLI.

### **General Disclaimer on the Synthesised Text Document**

This document presents the synthesised text for the application of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the Republic of Malta signed on 15 October 2014 (the “Agreement”), as modified by the *Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting* signed by the Republic of Mauritius on 05 July 2017 and by the Republic of Malta signed on 07 June 2017 (the “MLI”).

The document was prepared on the basis of the MLI position of the Republic of Mauritius submitted to the Depository upon *ratification* on 18 October 2019 and of the MLI position of the Republic of Malta submitted to the Depository upon *ratification* on 18 December 2018. These MLI positions are subject to modifications as provided in the MLI. Modifications made to MLI positions could modify the effects of the MLI on the Agreement.

The authentic legal texts of the Agreement and the MLI take precedence and remain the legal texts applicable.

The provisions of the MLI that are applicable with respect to the provisions of the Agreement are included in boxes throughout the text of this document in the context of the relevant provisions of the Agreement. The boxes containing the provisions of the MLI have generally been inserted in accordance with the ordering of the provisions of the 2017 OECD Model Tax Convention.

Changes to the text of the provisions of the MLI have been made to conform the terminology used in the MLI to the terminology used in the Agreement (such as “Covered Tax Agreement” and “Agreement”, “Contracting Jurisdictions” and “Contracting States”), to ease the comprehension of the provisions of the MLI. The changes in terminology are intended to increase the readability of the document and are not intended to change the substance of the provisions of the MLI. Similarly, changes have been made to parts of provisions of the MLI that describe existing provisions of the Agreement: descriptive language has been replaced by legal references of the existing provisions to ease the readability.

In all cases, references made to the provisions of the Agreement must be understood as referring to the Agreement as modified by the provisions of the MLI, provided such provisions of the MLI have taken effect.

## References

The authentic legal texts of the MLI and the Agreement can be found at the following links:

The MLI:

<http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/multilateral-convention-to-implement-tax-treaty-relatedmeasures-to-prevent-BEPS.pdf>

In Mauritius:

<http://www.mra.mu/download/malta.pdf>

In Malta:

<https://legislation.mt/eli/sl/123.161/eng>

The MLI position of the Republic of Mauritius submitted to the Depository upon *ratification* on 18 October 2019 and of the MLI position of the Republic of Malta submitted to the Depository *ratification* on 18 December 2018 can be found [on the MLI Depository \(OECD\) webpage](#).

## **Disclaimer on the entry into effect of the provisions of the MLI**

The provisions of the MLI applicable to the Agreement do not take effect on the same dates as the original provisions of the Agreement. Each of the provisions of the MLI could take effect on different dates, depending on the types of taxes involved (taxes withheld at source or other taxes levied) and on the choices made by the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Malta in their MLI positions.

Dates of the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval: **18 October 2019** for the Republic of Mauritius and 18 December 2018 for the Republic of Malta.

Entry into force of the MLI: **01 February 2020** for the Republic of Mauritius and 01 April 2019 for the Republic of Malta.

Unless it is stated otherwise elsewhere in this document, the provisions of the MLI have effect:

- (a) with respect to the application of the Agreement by Malta, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 35 of the MLI:
- with respect to taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2021;
  - with respect to all other taxes levied by Malta, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021;

and

- b) with respect to the application of the Agreement by Mauritius, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 35 of the MLI:

- with respect to taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 July 2020;
- with respect to all other taxes levied by Mauritius, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 August 2020.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

The Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius,

[Paragraph 1 and paragraph 3 of Article 6 of the MLI are INCLUDED in the preamble of this Agreement] [desiring to conclude an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income,]

*The following paragraph 1 and paragraph 3 of Article 6 of the MLI are included in the preamble of this Agreement:*

ARTICLE 6 OF THE MLI - PURPOSE OF A COVERED TAX AGREEMENT

Desiring to further develop their economic relationship and to enhance their co-operation in tax matters,

Intending to eliminate double taxation with respect to the taxes covered by [*this Agreement*] without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance (including through treaty-shopping arrangements aimed at obtaining reliefs provided in [*the Agreement*] for the indirect benefit of residents of third jurisdictions),

have agreed as follows :

**Article 1**

PERSONS COVERED

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

## Article 2

### TAXES COVERED

1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income, or on elements of income, including taxes, on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property and taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.
3. The existing taxes to which this Agreement shall apply are in particular:
  - (a) in Malta, the income tax,  
(hereinafter referred to as “Malta tax”);
  - (b) in Mauritius, the income tax,  
(hereinafter referred to as “Mauritius 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 taxation laws.

## Article 3

### GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) the term “Malta” means the Republic of Malta and, when used in a geographical sense, means the Island of Malta, the Island of Gozo and the other islands of the Maltese archipelago including the territorial waters thereof, as well as any area of the sea-bed, its sub-soil and the superjacent water column adjacent to the territorial waters, wherein Malta exercises sovereign rights, jurisdiction, or control in accordance with international law and its national law, including its legislation relating to the exploration of the continental shelf and exploitation of its natural resources;

(b) the term “Mauritius” means the Republic of Mauritius and includes:

- (i) all the territories and islands which, in accordance with the laws of Mauritius, constitute the State of Mauritius;
- (ii) the territorial sea of Mauritius; and
- (iii) any area outside the territorial sea of Mauritius which in accordance with international law has been or may hereafter be designated, under the laws of Mauritius, as an area, including the Continental Shelf~ within which the rights of Mauritius with respect to the sea, 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 Malta or Mauritius, as the context requires;

(d) the term “person” includes an individual, a collective investment scheme, a company, a trust and any other body of persons which is treated as an entity for tax purposes;

(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 of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;

(h) the term “business” includes the performance of professional services and of other activities of an independent character;

(i) the term “competent authority” means:

- (i) in Malta, the Minister responsible for finance or his authorised representative;

(ii) in Mauritius, the Minister to whom responsibility for the subject of finance is assigned or his authorised representative;

(j) the term “national”, in relation to a Contracting State, means:

(i) any individual possessing the nationality or citizenship of that Contracting State;

(ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in that Contracting State;

(k) the term “tax” means Malta tax or Mauritius tax, as the context requires.

2. As regards the application of the Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

## **Article 4**

### **RESIDENT**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or local authority 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 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

(a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);

(b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he does not have a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode;

(c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;

(d) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

## Article 5

### PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

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

2. The term “permanent establishment” includes especially:

(a) a place of management;

(b) a branch;

(c) an office;

(d) a factory;

(e) a workshop;

(f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and

(g) an installation or structure used for the exploration of natural resources.

3. The term “permanent establishment” likewise encompasses:

(a) a building site or construction, installation or assembly project, or supervisory activities in connection therewith only if the site, project or activity lasts more than 12 months;

(b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel engaged in the other Contracting State, provided that such activities continue for the same or a connected project 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 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 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 an independent status to whom paragraph 6 applies - is acting 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 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 shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that 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 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 law 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. 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.

## 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 is attributable to that permanent establishment.
2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, 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 which are incurred for the purposes 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. However, no such deduction shall be allowed in respect of amounts, if any, paid (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses) by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission, for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the permanent establishment. Likewise, no account shall be taken, in determining the profits of a permanent establishment, of amounts charged (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses), by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices.
4. Insofar 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 contained 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 Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

## **Article 8**

### SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation or rental of ships or aircraft in international traffic and the rental of containers and related equipment which is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State.
2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

## 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. **[REPLACED by paragraph 1 of Article 17 of the MLI]** [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 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 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.]

*The following paragraph 1 of Article 17 of the MLI replaces paragraph 2 of Article 9 of this Agreement:*

#### ARTICLE 17 OF THE MLI – CORRESPONDING ADJUSTMENTS

Where a [*Contracting State*] includes in the profits of an enterprise of that [*Contracting 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 [*Contracting 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 shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends, be taxable only in that other State.
2. 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 subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.
3. The provisions of paragraph 1 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 and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.
4. 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 insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment situated in that other 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 State.

## **Article 11**

### **INTEREST**

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest, be taxable only in that other State.
2. 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. The term "interest" shall not include any item which is treated as a dividend under the provisions of Article 10 of this Agreement.
3. The provisions of paragraph 1 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, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.
4. 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 a 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 shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, be taxable only in that other State.
2. 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 films, tapes or discs for radio or television broadcasting), any patent, trade mark, design or model, computer programme, plan, secret formula or process, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.
3. The provisions of paragraph 1 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 and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.
4. 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, 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 beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such a 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 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 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 including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise), may be taxed in that other State.
3. Gains derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic, or from movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.
- 4.(a) Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares deriving more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State. However, this paragraph shall not apply to gains derived from the alienation of shares quoted on a recognized stock exchange.  
  
(b) For the purposes of this Article, “recognized stock exchange” means:
  - (i) in the case of Malta, the Malta Stock Exchange;
  - (ii) in the case of Mauritius, the Stock Exchange of Mauritius; and
  - (iii) any other stock exchange that may be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
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

### INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 15, 17, 18 and 19, 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 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 any 12-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 the other State; and
  - (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment which the employer has in the other State.
3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

## **Article 15**

### **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 State.

## **Article 16**

### **ENTERTAINERS AND SPORTSMEN**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7 and 14, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theatre, 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 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 and 14, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, income derived from activities, referred to in paragraph 1, performed under a cultural agreement or arrangement between the Contracting States shall be exempt from tax in the Contracting State in which the activities are exercised if the visit to that State is wholly or substantially supported by funds of either Contracting State, a local authority or public institution thereof.

## **Article 17**

### **PENSIONS**

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 18, pensions and other similar payments arising in a Contracting State and paid in consideration of past employment to a resident of the other Contracting State, shall be taxable only in that other State.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions paid and other payments made under a public scheme which is part of the social security system of a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof shall be taxable only in that State.

## Article 18

### GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1. (a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State, subdivision, authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.

(b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration 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:

(i) is a national of that State; or

(ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.

2.(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State, subdivision, authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.

(b) However, such pensions and other similar remuneration 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 14, 15, 16 and 17 shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions and other similar remuneration, in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State, or a political subdivision, a local authority or statutory body thereof.

## **Article 19**

### **PROFESSORS AND TEACHERS**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 14, a professor or teacher who makes a temporary visit to one of the Contracting States for a period not exceeding two years for the purpose of teaching or carrying out research at a university, college, school or other educational institution in that State and who is, or immediately before such visit was, a resident of the other Contracting State shall, in respect of remuneration for such teaching or research, be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned State, provided that such remuneration is derived by him from outside that State.

2. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to income from research if such research is undertaken not in the public interest but wholly or mainly for the private benefit of a specific person or persons.

## **Article 20**

### **STUDENTS AND BUSINESS APPRENTICES**

Payments which a student or business apprentice who is or was, immediately before visiting a Contracting State, a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned 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 that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

## **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 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 and the right or property in respect of which the income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.

## Article 22

### ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

1. In the case of Malta, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

Subject to the provisions of the law of Malta regarding the allowance of a credit against Malta tax in respect of foreign tax, where, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, there is included in a Malta assessment income from sources within Mauritius, the Mauritius tax on such income shall be allowed as a credit against the relative Malta tax payable thereon.

2. In the case of Mauritius, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

(a) Where a resident of Mauritius derives income from Malta the amount of tax on that income payable in Malta in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement may be credited against the Mauritius tax imposed on that resident.

(b) Where a company which is a resident of Malta pays a dividend to a resident of Mauritius who controls, directly or indirectly, at least 5% of the capital of the company paying the dividend, the credit shall take into account (in addition to any Malta tax for which credit may be allowed under the provisions of subparagraph (a)) the Malta tax payable by the first-mentioned company in respect of the profits out of which such dividend is paid.

Provided that any credit allowed under this paragraph shall not exceed the Mauritius tax (as computed before allowing any such credit), which is appropriate to the profits or income derived from sources within Malta.

## 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 State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, 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. Stateless persons who are residents of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in either 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 the State concerned in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected.
3. 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 taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.
4. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 4 of Article 11, or paragraph 4 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.
5. 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.
6. The provisions of this Article shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, apply to taxes of every kind and description.

## Article 24

### MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. **[The first sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 24 of this Agreement is REPLACED by the first sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the MLI]** [Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law 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 this Agreement.

*The following first sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the MLI replaces the first sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 24 of this Agreement:*

#### ARTICLE 16 OF THE MLI – MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the [Contracting States] result or will result for that person in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of [this Agreement], that person may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those [Contracting States], present the case to the competent authority of either [Contracting State].

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 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. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.

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 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, including through a joint commission consisting of themselves or their representatives, for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

*The following Part VI of the MLI applies to this Agreement:*<sup>1</sup>

#### PART VI OF THE MLI – ARBITRATION

##### *Article 19 (Mandatory Binding Arbitration) of the MLI*

1. Where:

- a) under *[paragraph 1 of Article 24 of this Agreement]*, a person has presented a case to the competent authority of a *[Contracting State]* on the basis that the actions of one or both of the *[Contracting States]* have resulted for that person in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of *[the Agreement]*; and
- b) the competent authorities are unable to reach an agreement to resolve that case pursuant to *[paragraph 2 of Article 24 of the Agreement]*, within a period of two years beginning on the start date referred to in paragraph 8 or 9 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*, as the case may be (unless, prior to the expiration of that period the competent authorities of the *[Contracting States]* have agreed to a different time period with respect to that case and have notified the person who presented the case of such agreement),

any unresolved issues arising from the case shall, if the person so requests in writing, be submitted to arbitration in the manner described in *[Part VI of the MLI]*, according to any rules or procedures agreed upon by the competent authorities of the *[Contracting States]* pursuant to the provisions *[of paragraph 10 of Article 19 of the MLI]*.

2. Where a competent authority has suspended the mutual agreement procedure referred to in paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* because a case with respect to one or more of the same issues is pending before court or administrative tribunal, the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* will stop running until either a final decision has been rendered by the court or administrative tribunal or the case has been suspended or withdrawn. In addition, where a person who presented a case and a competent authority have agreed to suspend the mutual agreement procedure, the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* will stop running until the suspension has been lifted.

3. Where both competent authorities agree that a person directly affected by the case has failed to provide in a timely manner any additional material information requested by either competent authority after the start of the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of*

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 36 of the MLI, the provisions of Part VI (Arbitration) of the MLI shall have effect with respect to this Agreement:

- a) with respect to cases presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State on or after 1 February 2020; and
- b) with respect to cases presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State prior to 1 February 2020, only to the extent that the competent authorities of both Contracting Jurisdictions agree that it will apply to that specific case, on the date when both Contracting States have notified the Depository that they have reached mutual agreement pursuant to paragraph 10 of Article 19 of the MLI, along with information regarding the date or dates on which such cases shall be considered to have been presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State according to the terms of that mutual agreement.

*the MLI*], the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* shall be extended for an amount of time equal to the period beginning on the date by which the information was requested and ending on the date on which that information was provided.

4. a) The arbitration decision with respect to the issues submitted to arbitration shall be implemented through the mutual agreement concerning the case referred to in paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*. The arbitration decision shall be final.

b) The arbitration decision shall be binding on both *[Contracting States]* except in the following cases:

i) if a person directly affected by the case does not accept the mutual agreement that implements the arbitration decision. In such a case, the case shall not be eligible for any further consideration by the competent authorities. The mutual agreement that implements the arbitration decision on the case shall be considered not to be accepted by a person directly affected by the case if any person directly affected by the case does not, within 60 days after the date on which notification of the mutual agreement is sent to the person, withdraw all issues resolved in the mutual agreement implementing the arbitration decision from consideration by any court or administrative tribunal or otherwise terminate any pending court or administrative proceedings with respect to such issues in a manner consistent with that mutual agreement.

ii) if a final decision of the courts of one of the *[Contracting States]* holds that the arbitration decision is invalid. In such a case, the request for arbitration under paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* shall be considered not to have been made, and the arbitration process shall be considered not to have taken place (except for the purposes of Articles 21 (Confidentiality of Arbitration Proceedings) and 25 (Costs of Arbitration Proceedings) *[of the MLI]*). In such a case, a new request for arbitration may be made unless the competent authorities agree that such a new request should not be permitted.

iii) if a person directly affected by the case pursues litigation on the issues which were resolved in the mutual agreement implementing the arbitration decision in any court or administrative tribunal.

5. The competent authority that received the initial request for a mutual agreement procedure as described in subparagraph a) of paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* shall, within two calendar months of receiving the request:

a) send a notification to the person who presented the case that it has received the request; and

b) send a notification of that request, along with a copy of the request, to the competent authority of the other *[Contracting State]*.

6. Within three calendar months after a competent authority receives the request for a mutual

agreement procedure (or a copy thereof from the competent authority of the other *[Contracting State]*) it shall either:

- a) notify the person who has presented the case and the other competent authority that it has received the information necessary to undertake substantive consideration of the case; or
- b) request additional information from that person for that purpose.

7. Where pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*, one or both of the competent authorities have requested from the person who presented the case additional information necessary to undertake substantive consideration of the case, the competent authority that requested the additional information shall, within three calendar months of receiving the additional information from that person, notify that person and the other competent authority either:

- a) that it has received the requested information; or
- b) that some of the requested information is still missing.

8. Where neither competent authority has requested additional information pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*, the start date referred to in paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* shall be the earlier of:

- a) the date on which both competent authorities have notified the person who presented the case pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 6 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*; and
- b) the date that is three calendar months after the notification to the competent authority of the other *[Contracting State]* pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 5 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*.

9. Where additional information has been requested pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*, the start date referred to in paragraph 1 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]* shall be the earlier of:

- a) the latest date on which the competent authorities that requested additional information have notified the person who presented the case and the other competent authority pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 7 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*; and
- b) the date that is three calendar months after both competent authorities have received all information requested by either competent authority from the person who presented the case.

If, however, one or both of the competent authorities send the notification referred to in subparagraph b) of paragraph 7 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*, such notification shall be treated as a request for additional information under subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 *[of Article 19 of the MLI]*.

10. The competent authorities of the *[Contracting States]* shall by mutual agreement pursuant to

[Article 24 of the Agreement] settle the mode of application of the provisions contained in this Part, including the minimum information necessary for each competent authority to undertake substantive consideration of the case. Such an agreement shall be concluded before the date on which unresolved issues in a case are first eligible to be submitted to arbitration and may be modified from time to time thereafter.

12. Notwithstanding the other provisions of [Article 19 of the MLI],
  - a) any unresolved issue arising from a mutual agreement procedure case otherwise within the scope of the arbitration process provided for by [the MLI] shall not be submitted to arbitration, if a decision on this issue has already been rendered by a court or administrative tribunal of either [Contracting State];
  - b) if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [Contracting State], a decision concerning the issue is rendered by a court or administrative tribunal of one of the [Contracting States], the arbitration process shall terminate.

#### Article 20 (Appointment of Arbitrators) of the MLI

1. Except to the extent that the competent authorities of the [Contracting States] mutually agree on different rules, paragraphs 2 through 4 [of Article 20 of the MLI] shall apply for the purposes of [Part VI of the MLI].
2. The following rules shall govern the appointment of the members of an arbitration panel:
  - a) The arbitration panel shall consist of three individual members with expertise or experience in international tax matters.
  - b) Each competent authority shall appoint one panel member within 60 days of the date of the request for arbitration under paragraph 1 of Article 19 [of the MLI]. The two panel members so appointed shall, within 60 days of the latter of their appointments, appoint a third member who shall serve as Chair of the arbitration panel. The Chair shall not be a national or resident of either [Contracting State].
  - c) Each member appointed to the arbitration panel must be impartial and independent of the competent authorities, tax administrations, and ministries of finance of the [Contracting States] and of all persons directly affected by the case (as well as their advisors) at the time of accepting an appointment, maintain his or her impartiality and independence throughout the proceedings, and avoid any conduct for a reasonable period of time thereafter which may damage the appearance of impartiality and independence of the arbitrators with respect to the proceedings.
3. In the event that the competent authority of a [Contracting State] fails to appoint a member of the arbitration panel in the manner and within the time periods specified in paragraph 2 [of Article 20 of the MLI] or agreed to by the competent authorities of the [Contracting States], a member shall be appointed on behalf of that competent authority by the highest ranking official of

the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development that is not a national of either [*Contracting State*].

4. If the two initial members of the arbitration panel fail to appoint the Chair in the manner and within the time periods specified in paragraph 2 [*of Article 20 of the MLI*] or agreed to by the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*], the Chair shall be appointed by the highest ranking official of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development that is not a national of either [*Contracting State*].

*Article 21 (Confidentiality of Arbitration Proceedings) of the MLI*

1. Solely for the purposes of the application of the provisions of [*Part VI of the MLI*] and of the provisions of [*the Agreement*] and of the domestic laws of the [*Contracting States*] related to the exchange of information, confidentiality, and administrative assistance, members of the arbitration panel and a maximum of three staff per member (and prospective arbitrators solely to the extent necessary to verify their ability to fulfil the requirements of arbitrators) shall be considered to be persons or authorities to whom information may be disclosed. Information received by the arbitration panel or prospective arbitrators and information that the competent authorities receive from the arbitration panel shall be considered information that is exchanged under the provisions of [*the Agreement*] related to the exchange of information and administrative assistance.

2. The competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] shall ensure that members of the arbitration panel and their staff agree in writing, prior to their acting in an arbitration proceeding, to treat any information relating to the arbitration proceeding consistently with the confidentiality and nondisclosure obligations described in the provisions of [*the Agreement*] related to exchange of information and administrative assistance and under the applicable laws of the [*Contracting States*].

*Article 22 (Resolution of a Case Prior to the Conclusion of the Arbitration) of the MLI*

For the purposes of [*Part VI of the MLI*] and the provisions of [*the Agreement*] that provide for resolution of cases through mutual agreement, the mutual agreement procedure, as well as the arbitration proceeding, with respect to a case shall terminate if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*]:

- a) the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] reach a mutual agreement to resolve the case; or
- b) the person who presented the case withdraws the request for arbitration or the request for a mutual agreement procedure.

*Paragraphs 2 and 5 of the Article 23 (Type of Arbitration Process) of the MLI - Independent opinion arbitration*

2. [E]xcept to the extent that the competent authorities of the Contracting Jurisdictions mutually agree on different rules, the following rules shall apply with respect to an arbitration proceeding:

- a) After a case is submitted to arbitration, the competent authority of each Contracting Jurisdiction shall provide any information that may be necessary for the arbitration decision to all panel members without undue delay. Unless the competent authorities of the Contracting Jurisdictions agree otherwise, any information that was not available to both competent authorities before the request for arbitration was received by both of them shall not be taken into account for purposes of the decision.
- b) The arbitration panel shall decide the issues submitted to arbitration in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Covered Tax Agreement and, subject to these provisions, of those of the domestic laws of the Contracting Jurisdictions. The panel members shall also consider any other sources which the competent authorities of the Contracting Jurisdictions may by mutual agreement expressly identify.
- c) The arbitration decision shall be delivered to the competent authorities of the Contracting Jurisdictions in writing and shall indicate the sources of law relied upon and the reasoning which led to its result. The arbitration decision shall be adopted by a simple majority of the panel members. The arbitration decision shall have no precedential value.

5. Prior to the beginning of arbitration proceedings, the competent authorities of the [Contracting States] shall ensure that each person that presented the case and their advisors agree in writing not to disclose to any other person any information received during the course of the arbitration proceedings from either competent authority or the arbitration panel. The mutual agreement procedure under [the Agreement], as well as the arbitration proceeding under [Part VI of the MLI], with respect to the case shall terminate if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [Contracting States], a person that presented the case or one of that person's advisors materially breaches that agreement.

*Paragraph 2 of Article 24 (Agreement on a Different Resolution) of the MLI*

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 4 of Article 19 [of the MLI], an arbitration decision pursuant to [Part VI of the MLI] shall not be binding on the [Contracting States] and shall not be implemented if the competent authorities of the [Contracting States] agree on a different resolution of all unresolved issues within three calendar months after the arbitration decision has been delivered to them.

*Article 25 (Costs of Arbitration Proceedings) of the MLI*

In an arbitration proceeding under [Part VI of the MLI], the fees and expenses of the members of the arbitration panel, as well as any costs incurred in connection with the arbitration proceedings by the [Contracting States], shall be borne by the [Contracting States] in a manner to be settled by mutual

agreement between the competent authorities of the [Contracting States]. In the absence of such agreement, each [Contracting State] shall bear its own expenses and those of its appointed panel member. The cost of the chair of the arbitration panel and other expenses associated with the conduct of the arbitration proceedings shall be borne by the [Contracting States] in equal shares.

*Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 26 (Compatibility) of the MLI*

2. Any unresolved issue arising from a mutual agreement procedure case otherwise within the scope of the arbitration process provided for in [Part VI of the MLI] shall not be submitted to arbitration if the issue falls within the scope of a case with respect to which an arbitration panel or similar body has previously been set up in accordance with a bilateral or multilateral convention that provides for mandatory binding arbitration of unresolved issues arising from a mutual agreement procedure case.

3. [Nothing] in [Part VI of the MLI] shall affect the fulfilment of wider obligations with respect to the arbitration of unresolved issues arising in the context of a mutual agreement procedure resulting from other conventions to which the [Contracting States] are or will become parties.

*Subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 28 (Reservations) of the MLI*

*Pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 28 of the MLI, the Republic of Mauritius formulates the following reservation with respect to the scope of cases that shall be eligible for arbitration under the provisions of Part VI of the MLI.*

1. Mauritius reserves the right to exclude from the scope of Part VI cases involving the application of Mauritius's domestic anti-avoidance rules contained in Section 90 of the Income Tax Act or case law interpreting same. Any subsequent provisions replacing, amending or updating these anti-avoidance rules would also be comprehended. Mauritius shall notify the Depository of any such subsequent provisions.

2. Mauritius reserves the right to exclude from the scope of Part VI any case involving recourse to Part XII (Offences) of the Income Tax Act. Any subsequent provisions replacing, amending or updating provisions in Part XII (Offences) of the Income Tax Act would also be comprehended. Mauritius shall notify the Depository of any such subsequent provisions.

*Pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 28 of the MLI, the Republic of Malta formulates the following reservations with respect to the scope of cases that shall be eligible for arbitration under the provisions of Part VI of the MLI:*

Where a reservation made by the other Contracting Jurisdiction to a Covered Tax Agreement pursuant to Article 28(2)(a) refers exclusively to its domestic law (including legislative provisions, case law, judicial doctrines and penalties), Malta reserves the right to exclude from the scope of Part VI those cases that would be excluded from the scope of Part VI if the other Contracting Jurisdiction's reservation were formulated with reference to any analogous provisions of Malta's domestic law or any subsequent provisions which replace, amend or update those provisions. The

competent authority of Malta will consult with the competent authority of the other Contracting Jurisdiction in order to specify any such analogous provisions which exist in Malta's domestic law in the agreement concluded pursuant to Article 19(10).

## Article 25

### EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.

2. Any information received under paragraph 1 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) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above, 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, information received by a Contracting State may be used for other purposes when information may be used for such other purposes under the laws of both States provided that the competent authority of the supplying State authorizes such use.

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

(a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and 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).

4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.

5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

## Article 26

### ASSISTANCE IN THE COLLECTION OF TAXES

1. The Contracting States shall lend assistance to each other in the collection of revenue claims. This assistance is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this Article.

2. The term “revenue claim” as used in this Article means an amount owed in respect of taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to this Agreement or any other instrument to which the Contracting States are parties, as well as interest, administrative penalties and costs of collection or conservancy related to such amount.

3. When a revenue claim of a Contracting State is enforceable under the laws of that State and is owed by a person who, at that time, cannot, under the laws of that State, prevent its collection, that revenue claim shall, at the request of the competent authority of that State, be accepted for purposes of collection by the competent authority of the other Contracting State. That revenue claim shall be collected by that other State in accordance with the provisions of its laws applicable to the enforcement and collection of its own taxes as if the revenue claim were a revenue claim of that other State.

4. When a revenue claim of a Contracting State is a claim in respect of which that State may, under its law, take measures of conservancy with a view to ensure its collection, that revenue claim shall, at the request of the competent authority of that State, be accepted for purposes of taking measures of conservancy by the competent authority of the other Contracting State. That other State shall take measures of conservancy in respect of that revenue claim in accordance with the provisions of its laws as if the revenue claim were a revenue claim of that other State even if, at the time when such measures are applied, the revenue claim is not enforceable in the first-mentioned State or is owed by a person who has a right to prevent its collection.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4, a revenue claim accepted by a Contracting State for purposes of paragraphs 3 or 4 shall not, in that State, be subject to the time limits or accorded any priority applicable to a revenue claim under the laws of that State by reason of its nature as such. In addition, a revenue claim accepted by a Contracting State for the purposes of paragraph 3 or 4 shall not, in that State, have any priority applicable to that revenue claim under the laws of the other Contracting State.

6. Proceedings with respect to the existence, validity or the amount of a revenue claim of a Contracting State shall not be brought before the courts or administrative bodies of the other Contracting State.

7. Where, at any time after a request has been made by a Contracting State under paragraph 3 or 4 and before the other Contracting State has collected and remitted the relevant revenue claim to the first-mentioned State, the relevant revenue claim ceases to be:

(a) in the case of a request under paragraph 3, a revenue claim of the first-mentioned State that is enforceable under the laws of that State and is owed by a person who at that time, cannot under the laws of that State, prevent its collection, or

(b) in the case of a request under paragraph 4, a revenue claim of the first-mentioned State in respect of which that State may, under its laws, take measures of conservancy with a view to ensure its collection

the competent authority of the first-mentioned State shall promptly notify the competent authority of the other State of that fact and at the option of the other State, the first-mentioned State shall either suspend or withdraw its request.

8. In no case shall the provisions of this Article be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:

(a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;

(b) to carry out measures which would be contrary to public policy (*ordre public*);

(c) to provide assistance if the other Contracting State has not pursued all reasonable measures of collection or conservancy, as the case may be, available under its laws or administrative practice;

(d) to provide assistance in those cases where the administrative burden for that State is clearly disproportionate to the benefit to be derived by the other Contracting State.

## **Article 27**

### **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.

*The following paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement:*

ARTICLE 7 OF THE MLI –PREVENTION OF TREATY ABUSE

*(Principal purposes test provision)*

Notwithstanding any provisions of *[this Agreement]*, a benefit under *[this Agreement]* shall not be granted in respect of an item of income *or capital* if it is reasonable to conclude, having regard to all relevant facts and circumstances, that obtaining that benefit was one of the principal purposes of any arrangement or transaction that resulted directly or indirectly in that benefit, unless it is established that granting that benefit in these circumstances would be in accordance with the object and purpose of the relevant provisions of *[this Agreement]*.

*The following paragraph 4 of Article 7 of the MLI applies to paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI:*

Where a benefit under *[this Agreement]* is denied to a person under *[paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI]*, the competent authority of the *[Contracting State]* that would otherwise have granted this benefit shall nevertheless treat that person as being entitled to this benefit, or to different benefits with respect to a specific item of income *or capital*, if such competent authority, upon request from that person and after consideration of the relevant facts and circumstances, determines that such benefits would have been granted to that person in the absence of the transaction or arrangement referred to in *[paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI]*. The competent authority of the *[Contracting State]* to which a request has been made under this paragraph by a resident of the other *[Contracting State]* shall consult with the competent authority of that other *[Contracting State]* before rejecting the request.

## **Article 28**

### **ENTRY INTO FORCE**

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

2. This Agreement shall enter into force thirty days after the date of the later of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect:

(a) in Malta, in respect of taxes on income derived during any calendar year or accounting period, as the case may be, beginning on or after the first day of January immediately following the date on which the Agreement enters into force.

(b) in Mauritius, in respect of income derived during any calendar year or accounting period, as the case may be, beginning on or after the first day of January immediately following the date on which the Agreement enters into force.

## Article 29

### TERMINATION

This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year beginning after the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force. In such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

(a) in Malta, in respect of taxes on income derived during any calendar year or accounting period, as the case may be, beginning on or after the first day of January immediately following the date on which the notice of termination is given;

(b) in Mauritius, in respect of income derived during any calendar year or accounting period, as the case may be, beginning on or after the first day of January immediately following the date on which the notice of termination is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done at New York this 15th day of October, 2014 in two originals in the English language.

H.E. Dr. Milan Jaya Nyamrajsingh  
MEETARBHAN

Ambassador

For the Government of the Republic  
of Mauritius

H. E. Christopher GRIMA

Ambassador

For the Government of the Republic  
of Malta