# **STATES OF JERSEY**



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

Lodged au Greffe on 19th October 2018 by the Minister for External Relations

**STATES GREFFE** 

## PROPOSITION

## THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion -

to ratify the Agreement between the Government of Jersey and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income, as set out in Appendix 1 to the attached report of the Minister for External Relations dated 8 October 2018.

MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS

## REPORT

## Background

- 1. In February 2002, Jersey entered into a political commitment to support the OECD tax initiative on transparency and information exchange through the negotiation of tax information exchange agreements to an agreed international standard.
- 2. Successive G20 summits have encouraged jurisdictions to make progress in agreeing, implementing and abiding by the necessary International Agreements for information exchange. In response, Jersey has maintained an active programme of negotiating Agreements with priority being given to EU, OECD and G20 member jurisdictions. This has served to enhance the Island's international personality, and generally has helped to engender a more favourable view of the Island amongst the international community.
- 3. There are occasions when an approach is made to or received from a jurisdiction that is not an EU, OECD or G20 member expressing a wish to enter into the negotiation of a tax information exchange agreement. In accordance with the terms of reference of the peer review process set by the Global Forum, jurisdictions are required to enter into a tax information exchange agreement with any jurisdiction that considers itself to be a relevant partner. The views of the finance industry on the extent to which a tax agreement with the jurisdiction concerned would be supportive of business development are also taken into account when deciding what degree of priority to attach to the negotiations.
- 4. The international tax information exchange standard can be met through a bilateral Tax Information Exchange Agreement ("TIEA") or a Double Tax Agreement ("DTA"). The advantage of a DTA is that it offers benefits to individuals and the business community through the avoidance of double taxation or reduced rates of withholding tax, in addition to providing for exchange of information to the international standard.
- 5. The latest position in respect of the programme of negotiating Tax Agreements is attached as **Appendix 2** to this report. A total of 39 TIEAs and 15 DTAs have now been signed, of which 37 TIEAs and 12 DTAs are in force. In addition, there are 49 jurisdictions with whom Jersey does not have a bilateral TIEA or DTA, but where information exchange can occur through their being a party to the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, of which Jersey became a party in June 2014.

## The Agreement with the Government of the Republic of Mauritius

6. The Double Taxation Agreement entered into with the Government of the Republic of Mauritius ("the Agreement") is a continuation of the ongoing programme of entering into tax agreements to the international standard with relevant partners. Mauritius, like Jersey, is a member of the OECD's Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information and the OECD's Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting ("BEPS").

- 7. The Agreement is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report. The Agreement is in line with the OECD Model DTA and provides for the exchange of information on tax matters. It is consistent with agreements signed previously with other jurisdictions, and which the States have ratified.
- 8. Jersey is fully committed to the OECD's Inclusive Framework on BEPS. Jersey signed the Multilateral Instrument (the "MLI") in June 2017 and was one of the first 3 jurisdictions to ratify the instrument, which is seen as a key element in implementing the OECD's anti-tax avoidance measures. In accordance with this international commitment, Jersey is expected to incorporate the MLI tax treaty provisions into all its Tax Treaties. As this Agreement was concluded before the introduction of the MLI, the Government of Jersey will amend its list of Agreements covered under the MLI to ensure that the Agreement with Mauritius is amended in line with the treaty-related minimum standards of the OECD's Inclusive Framework on BEPS.
- 9. Great importance is attached to developing Jersey's relationships with priority Global Markets (high-growth non-EU markets). The Government of Jersey's <u>Global Markets strategy</u> has a strong focus on Commonwealth nations in Sub-Saharan Africa. As Mauritius is both a member of the African Union and a member of the Commonwealth, this Agreement is seen as a significant indicator of success in Jersey's efforts to build stronger commercial and political ties to Africa.

## Procedure for signing and ratifying the Agreement

- 10. The Jersey signing of the Agreement was undertaken by the then Minister for External Relations in London on 3 March 2017. The signing was in accordance with the provisions of Article 18(2) of the <u>States of Jersey Law 2005</u> and paragraph 1.8.5 of the Strategic Plan 2006 to 2011 (<u>P.40/2006</u>) adopted by the States (as amended) on 27 June 2006.
- 11. The Agreement is now being presented to the States for ratification, following which it will be published and entered into the official record. The Agreement will enter into force when the domestic procedures of both parties have been completed.
- 12. The States, on 15 June 2010, adopted the <u>Taxation (Double Taxation) (Jersey)</u> <u>Regulations 2010</u>. The Schedule to these Regulations lists the countries with whom Double Tax Agreements have been entered into. The necessary Order to provide for the inclusion in the Schedule of the Agreement with the Republic of Mauritius will be made subsequent to the ratification.

## Financial and manpower implications

13. There are no implications expected for the financial or manpower resources of the States arising from the adoption of this Proposition and the ratification and implementation of the Agreement.

8 October 2018

### **APPENDIX 1**

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

#### ARTICLE 1 Persons covered

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

#### ARTICLE 2 Taxes covered

1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting Party or its local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.

 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.

3. The existing taxes to which this Agreement shall apply are in particular:

- (a) in Jersey,
  -- income tax;
  (hereinafter referred to as "Jersey tax");
- (b) in Mauritius, — the income tax;

(hereinafter referred to as "Mauritius tax").

 This Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed by either Contracting Party after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes.

5. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other in writing of any significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws and if it seems desirable to amend any Article of this Agreement, without affecting the general principles thereof, the necessary amendments may be made by mutual consent of the Parties by means of an Exchange of Notes.

#### ARTICLE 3 General definitions

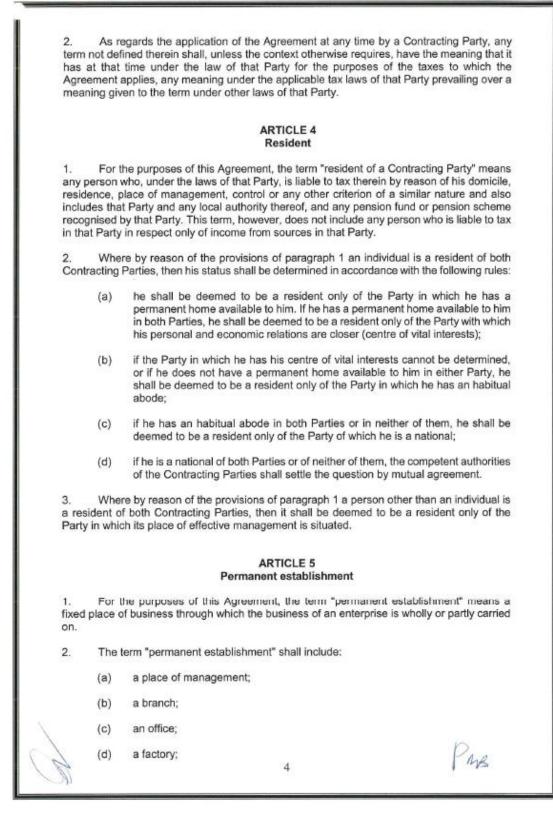
1. In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the term "Jersey" means the Bailiwick of Jersey, including its territorial sea;
- (b) the term "Mauritius" means the Republic of Mauritius and includes:
  - all the territories and islands which, in accordance with the laws of Mauritius, constitute the State of Mauritius;
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- (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;
- the term "business" includes the performance of professional services and of other activities of an independent character;
- the terms "a Contracting Party" and "the other Contracting Party" mean Jersey or Mauritius, as the context requires;
- the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- (f) the term "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of Jersey, the Minister for Treasury and Resources or his authorised representative; and
  - (ii) in the case of Mauritius, the Minister to whom the responsibility for the subject of finance is assigned;
- (g) the term "enterprise" applies to the carrying on of a business;
- (h) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting Party" and "enterprise of the other Contracting Party" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting Party and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting Party;
- the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in a Contracting Party, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting Party;
- (j) the term "national" means:
  - (i) in the case of Jersey, any individual who is resident in Jersey, and any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in Jersey;
  - (ii) in the case of Mauritius, any individual having the citizenship of Mauritius and any legal person, partnership (société) or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in Mauritius;

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- (k) the term "person" includes an individual, a company, a trust and any other body of persons; and
- (I) the term "tax" means Jersey tax or Mauritius tax, as the context requires.
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(e)	a workshop;
(0)	or thousand by

- (f) a warehouse, in relation to a person providing storage facilities for others;
- (g) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and
- (h) 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 Party through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose in the other Contracting Party, provided that such activities continue for the same or a connected project for a period or periods aggregating to more than 9 months within any 12 month period.

4. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:

- the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
- the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;
- the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
- (d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise, or for collecting information, for the enterprise;
- 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; and
- (f) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs (a) to (e), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.

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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 Party an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that Contracting Party 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 Party merely because it carries on business in that Party 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 Party controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting Party, or which carries on business in that other Party (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

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

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting Party 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, boats and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting or use in any other form of immovable property.

 The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise.

#### ARTICLE 7 Business profits

 The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting Party shall be taxable only in that Party unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting Party 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 Party but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

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2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting Party carries on business in the other Contracting Party through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting Party 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 Party in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4. In so far as it has been customary in a Contracting Party 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 Party 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.

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

 Profits of an enterprise from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in the Contracting Party in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

 If the place of effective management of a shipping enterprise is aboard a ship, then it shall be deemed to be situated in the Contracting Party in which the home harbour of the ship is situated, or, if there is no such home harbour, in the Contracting Party of which the operator of the ship is a resident.

For the purposes of this Article, profits derived from the operation in international traffic of ships and aircraft shall include profits:

- derived from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships and aircraft if operated in international traffic; and
- (b) derived from the use, maintenance or rental of containers (including trailers and related equipment for the transport of containers) used for the transport of goods or merchandise, where such rental profits or profits from such use, maintenance or rental, as the case may be, are incidental to the profits described in paragraph 1.

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 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

Where:

- an enterprise of a Contracting Party participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting Party; or
- (b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of a Contracting Party and an enterprise of the other Contracting Party,

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 Party includes in the profits of an enterprise of that Party - and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting Party has been charged to tax in that other Party and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned Party if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other Party 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 Parties shall if necessary consult each other.

#### ARTICLE 10 Dividends

 Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting Party to a resident of the other Contracting Party shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends, be taxable only in that other Party.

2. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, "jouissance" shares or "jouissance" rights, mining shares, 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 Contracting Party 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 Party, carries on business in the other Contracting Party 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 Party derives profits or income from the other Contracting Party, that other Party 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 8

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Party or in so far as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment situated in that other Party, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other Party.

#### ARTICLE 11 Interest

 Interest arising in a Contracting Party and paid to a resident of the other Contracting Party shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest, be taxable only in that other Party.

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 Party, carries on business in the other Contracting Party in which the interest arises through a permanent establishment situated therein, and the debtclaim 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. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting Party when the payer is a resident of that Party. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Party or not, has in a Party a permanent establishment in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the Party in which the permanent establishment is situated.

5. 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 Party, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 12 Royalties

 Royalties arising in a Contracting Party and paid to a resident of the other Contracting Party shall, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, be taxable only in that other Party.

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 cinematograph films and films, tapes or discs for radio or television broadcasting), any patent, trade mark, design or model, computer programme, plan, secret

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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 Party, carries on business in the other Contracting Party 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. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting Party when the payer is a resident of that Party. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Party or not, has in a Party a permanent establishment in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Party in which the permanent establishment is situated.

5. 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 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 Party, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 13 Capital gains

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

2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting Party has in the other Contracting Party including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise), may be taxed in that other Party.

3. Gains 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 the Contracting Party in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

4. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be taxable only in the Contracting Party of which the alienator is a resident.

#### ARTICLE 14 Dependent personal services

 Subject to the provisions of Articles 15, 17, 18 and 19, salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting Party in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that Party unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting Party. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Party.

 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting Party in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting Party shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned Party if:

- the recipient is present in the other Party 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
- the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of an employer who is not a resident of the other Party; and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment which the employer has in the other Party.

 Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic may be taxed in the Contracting Party in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

#### ARTICLE 15 Directors' fees

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

#### ARTICLE 16 Entertainers and sportsmen

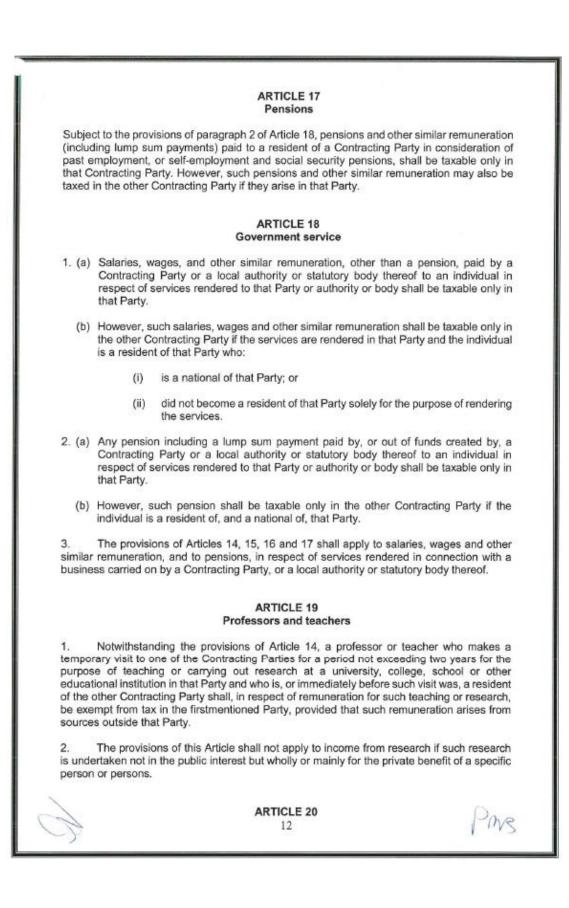
1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7 and 14, income derived by a resident of a Contracting Party as an entertainer such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsman, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting Party, may be taxed in that other Party.

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 Party in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, income derived by a resident of a Contracting Party from activities, referred to in paragraph 1 or 2, performed in the other Contracting Party shall be exempt from tax in the Contracting Party in which the activities are exercised if the visit to that Party is wholly or substantially supported by funds of either Contracting Party, a local authority or a public institution thereof.



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#### Students and business apprentices

A student or business apprentice who is present in a Contracting Party solely for the purpose of his education or training and who is, or immediately before being so present was, a resident of the other Contracting Party, shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Party on payments arising from sources outside that first-mentioned Party for the purposes of his maintenance, education or training.

#### ARTICLE 21 Other income

 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article, items of income of a resident of a Contracting Party, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement shall be taxable only in that Party.

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 Party, carries on business in the other Contracting Party 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 a case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.

#### ARTICLE 22 Elimination of double taxation

Double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

- 1. In the case of Jersey:
  - (a) Where a resident of Jersey derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Mauritius, Jersey shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in Mauritius. 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 Mauritius.
  - (b) When imposing tax on its residents Jersey may include in the basis upon which such taxes are imposed the items of income, which, according to the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Mauritius.
- In the case of Mauritius:
  - (a) Where a resident of Mauritius derives income from Jersey the amount of tax on that income payable in Jersey 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 Jersey 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 Jersey tax for which credit may be allowed under the provisions of subparagraph (a)) the Jersey 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 Jersey.

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#### ARTICLE 23 Non-discrimination

1. Nationals of a Contracting Party shall not be subjected in the other Contracting Party 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 Party 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 Parties.

2. The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting Party has in the other Contracting Party shall not be less favourably levied in that other Party than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other Party carrying on the same activities. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting Party to grant to residents of the other Contracting Party any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

3. 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 Party to a resident of the other Contracting Party 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 Party. Similarly, any debts of an enterprise of a Contracting Party to a resident of the other Contracting Party shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable capital of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been contracted to a resident of the first-mentioned Party.

4. Enterprises of a Contracting Party, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting Party, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned Party to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of that first-mentioned Party are or may be subjected.

 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. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting Parties 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 Parties, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting Party of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 23, to that of the Contracting Party 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 endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at an appropriate solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting Party, 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 Parties.

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3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of this 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 Parties 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.

#### ARTICLE 25 Exchange of information

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties 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 Parties, or of their 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 Party shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that Party 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 Party may be used for other purposes when such information may be used for such other purposes under the laws of both Parties and the competent authority of the supplying Party authorises such use. For the avoidance of doubt, information shall not be disclosed to any third jurisdiction for any purpose.

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

- to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting Party;
- (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 Party;
- (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 Party in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting Party shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other Party 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 Party to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.

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5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting Party 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 Diplomatic agents and consular officers

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

 Each of the Contracting Parties shall notify to the other in writing of the completion of the procedures required by its law for the entering into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the later of these notifications.

- 2. The provisions of this Agreement shall have effect:
  - (a) in Jersey:
    - (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on income derived on or after the first day of January next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;
    - (ii) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxes chargeable for any fiscal year beginning on or after the first day of January next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; and
  - (b) in Mauritius, in respect of income for any income year beginning on or after the first day of January next following the date upon which this Agreement enters into force.

#### ARTICLE 28 Termination

1. This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely but either of the Contracting Parties may terminate the Agreement, through appropriate channels, by giving to the other Contracting Party written notice of termination not later than the 30 June of any calendar year eatring five years after the year in which the Agreement ontorod into force.

- 2. In such event the Agreement shall cease to have effect:
  - (a) in Jersey:
    - (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on income derived on or after the first day of January next following the year in which the notice is given;
    - (ii) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxes chargeable for any taxation year beginning on or after the first day of January next following the year in which the notice is given; and

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(b) in Mauritius, in respect of income for any income year beginning on or after the first day of January next following the calendar year in which such notice is given.

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For the Government of Jersey

For the Government of the Republic of Mauritius

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## **STATES OF JERSEY**

## A. TAX INFORMATION EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS ("TIEAs")

## **1.** TIEAs signed (Note: dates in brackets are current best estimates)

U.S.A. Netherlands Germany Sweden	Nov. 2002 June 2007 July 2008	Jersey May 2006	other Party Nov. 2002	Force
Netherlands Germany	June 2007		Nov. 2002	
Germany				23 May 2006
	July 2008	Feb. 2008	Dec. 2007	1 March 2008
Sweden		Jan. 2009	July 2009	28 Aug. 2009
	Oct. 2008	March 2009	Nov. 2009	23 Dec. 2009
Norway	Oct. 2008	March 2009	Sep. 2009	7 Oct. 2009
Iceland	Oct. 2008	March 2009	Oct. 2009	3 Dec. 2009
Finland	Oct. 2008	March 2009	Dec. 2008	3 Aug. 2009
Denmark	Oct. 2008	March 2009	March 2009	6 June 2009
Greenland	Oct. 2008	March 2009	March 2009	6 June 2009
Faroes	Oct. 2008	March 2009	June 2009	21 Aug. 2009
U.K.	March 2009	July 2009	Nov. 2009	27 Nov. 2009
France	March 2009	July 2009	July 2010	11 Oct. 2010
Ireland	March 2009	July 2009	April 2010	5 May 2010
Australia	June 2009	Nov. 2009	Jan. 2010	5 Jan. 2010
New Zealand	July 2009	Nov. 2009	Sep. 2010	27 Oct. 2010
Portugal	July 2010	Sep. 2010	March 2011	9 Nov. 2011
People's Republic of China	Oct. 2010	Jan. 2011	Oct. 2011	10 Nov. 2011
Turkey	Nov. 2010	Feb. 2011	August 2013	11 Sep. 2013
Mexico	Nov. 2010	Feb. 2011	Feb. 2012	22 March 2012
Canada	Jan. 2011	March 2011	Dec. 2011	19 Dec. 2011
Indonesia	April 2011	July 2011	Sep. 2014	22 Sep. 2014
Czech Republic	July 2011	Nov. 2011	March 2012	14 March 2012
South Africa	July 2011	Nov. 2011	Jan. 2012	29 Feb. 2012
Argentina	July 2011	Sep. 2011	July 2011	9 Dec. 2011
India	Nov. 2011	April 2012	Jan. 2012	8 May 2012
Japan	Dec. 2011	April 2012	June 2013	30 Aug. 2013
Poland	Dec. 2011	April 2012	August 2012	1 Dec. 2012
Italy	March 2012	May 2012	Jan. 2015	26 Jan. 2015
Austria	Sep. 2012	Nov. 2012	March 2013	1 June 2013
Latvia	Jan. 2013	March 2013	Dec. 2013	1 March 2014
Brazil	Jan. 2013	March 2013	(2nd half 2018)	(2nd half 2018)
Switzerland	Sep. 2013	Dec. 2013	Oct. 2014	14 Oct. 2014
Slovenia	Nov. 2013	Feb. 2014	June 2014	23 June 2014
Hungary	Jan. 2014	March 2014	Oct. 2014	13 Feb. 2015
Belgium	March 2014	June 2014	July 2017	26 July 2017
Romania	Dec. 2014	Feb. 2015	Dec. 2015	5 Feb. 2016
Korea	July 2015	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2016	21 Nov. 2016
Spain +	Nov. 2015	June 2018	(2nd half 2018)	(2nd half 2018)
Chile	July 2016	Oct. 2016	Sep. 2018	3 Oct. 2018

+ Note: the delay in ratification arose because, subsequent to the TIEA being signed with Spain, an amendment was required to insert a missing word. This has now been agreed through an exchange of letters with the Spanish authorities, and ratification is proceeding.

- 2. TIEAs where negotiations are well advanced with a draft Agreement exchanged:
  - Bulgaria
  - Kenya
  - Lithuania
  - Slovakia.
- Note: Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia have signed and entered into force the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters. Kenya is a signatory to the Convention and it should enter into force shortly. As the Convention provides for the equivalent exchange of information on request with immediate effect, it is expected that all the jurisdictions mentioned will rely on the Convention and will not proceed further with the negotiation of a TIEA.
- **3.** Jurisdiction with which there has been some contact, but on which no further action has been taken to-date:
  - Russia.
- Note: Russia has signed and entered into force the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters and therefore does not need a TIEA to make requests for information.

## **B. DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENTS ("DTAs")**<sup>1</sup>

## 1. DTAs signed:

•	Malta –	signed January 2010 ratified by Malta February 2010 ratified by Jersey June 2010 in force – 19 July 2010
•	Estonia –	signed December 2010 ratified by Jersey March 2011 ratified by Estonia December 2011 in force – 30 December 2011
•	Hong Kong China –	signed February 2012 ratified by Jersey May 2012 ratified by Hong Kong June 2013 in force – July 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The DTAs listed are those that are to the standard of the OECD Model Convention. In addition, there is a DTA with the United Kingdom which was entered into in 1952, and a number of partial DTAs, details of which can be found on the Taxes Office website – <u>http://www.gov.je/TaxesMoney/InternationalTaxAgreements/DoubleTaxation/Pages/PartialDoubleTaxation.aspx</u> A new DTA is in the process of being negotiated with the United Kingdom which will meet the standard of the OECD Model Convention.

- Qatar signed March 2012 ratified by Jersey May 2012 ratified by Qatar November 2012 in force – 22 November 2012
- Singapore signed October 2012 ratified by Jersey January 2013 ratified by Singapore May 2013 in force – 2 May 2013
- Guernsey signed January 2013 ratified by Jersey June 2013 ratified by Guernsey May 2013 in force – 9 July 2013
- Isle of Man signed January 2013 ratified by Jersey June 2013 ratified by the Isle of Man May 2013 in force – 10 July 2013
- Luxembourg signed April 2013 ratified by Jersey July 2013 ratified by Luxembourg July 2014 in force – 5 August 2014
- Rwanda signed June 2015 ratified by Jersey October 2015 ratified by Rwanda April 2016 in force – 27 June 2016
- Seychelles signed July 2015 ratified by Jersey October 2015 ratified by Seychelles December 2016 in force – 5 January 2017
- United Arab Emirates
   (UAE) –
   in force – 15 February 2017
- Cyprus signed July 2016 ratified by Cyprus August 2016 ratified by Jersey October 2016 in force – 17 February 2017
- Mauritius signed March 2017 ratified by Mauritius February 2018
- United signed July 2018 Kingdom –
- Liechtenstein signed August 2018

## 2. DTAs ready for signing:

None.

# **3.** Jurisdictions where DTA negotiations have been requested/initiated/draft agreements have been exchanged:

- Bahrain
- Botswana
- China (People's Republic)
- Ghana
- India
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Nigeria
- Saudi Arabia
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Uganda
- Zambia.
- 4. Jurisdictions with whom Jersey does not have a bilateral TIEA or DTA, but who are party to (i.e. have signed and entered into force) the OECD/ Council of Europe Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, which provides for the exchange of information on request, on the same basis as the bilateral TIEAs:
  - Albania
  - Andorra
  - Azerbaijan
  - Bahamas
  - Bahrain
  - Barbados
  - Belize
  - Bulgaria
  - Cameroon
  - Colombia
  - Cook Islands
  - Costa Rica
  - Croatia
  - Georgia
  - Ghana
  - Greece
  - Grenada
  - Guatemala
  - Israel

- Kazakhstan
- Kuwait (01-12-18)
- Lebanon
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Marshall Islands
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Nauru
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Peru
- Russia
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- San Marino
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Slovak Republic
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Uruguay
- Vanuatu (01-12-18).

Jersey became a party to the Convention on 1 June 2014. Some jurisdictions with whom TIEA negotiations have been engaged may decide not to progress the latter and rely on the Multilateral Convention.

5. Jurisdictions with whom Jersey has signed a TIEA or DTA who are also party to the Multilateral Convention (i.e. it is signed and in force):

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- China (People's Republic)
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark

- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Italy
- Republic of Korea
- Japan
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom.

Enquiries concerning the above should be directed in the first instance to – Mr. C. Powell, Adviser – International Affairs, Chief Minister's Department, telephone: 44(0)1534 440414; e-mail: <u>c.powell@gov.je</u>.

Colin Powell Adviser – International Affairs

10 October 2018