



Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement between Thailand and China

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DEZAN SHIRA & ASSOCIATES

Corporate Establishment, Tax, Accounting & Payroll Throughout Asia

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AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION
AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand; and the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1
PERSONAL SCOPE

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

ARTICLE 2
TAXES COVERED

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

2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income, or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, as well as taxes on capital appreciation.

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

a) in the case of Thailand;

- (i) the income tax; and
- (ii) the petroleum income tax;
(hereinafter referred to as “Thai tax”)

“(b) in the case of China;

- (i) the individual income tax;
- (ii) the income tax for enterprises with foreign investment and foreign enterprises; and
- (iii) the local income tax.
(hereinafter referred to as “Chinese tax”)

(As amended by the negotiations on the amendment of the Agreement between Thailand and the People's Republic of China, entered into force on 25 May 2000)

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

ARTICLE 3

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

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

- (a) the term “Thailand” means the Kingdom of Thailand and includes any area adjacent to the territorial waters of the Kingdom of Thailand which by Thai legislation and in accordance with international law, has been or may

hereafter be designated as an area within which the right of the Kingdom of Thailand with respect to the seabed and sub-soil and their natural resources may be exercised;

- (b) the term “China” means the People’s Republic of China, when used in a geographical sense, means all the territories of the People’s Republic of China, including territorial sea, in which the taxation laws of China apply, and any area beyond its territorial sea, within which the People’s Republic of China has sovereign rights of exploration for and exploitation of resources of the seabed and its sub-soil and superjacent water resources in accordance with international law;
- (c) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean Thailand or China, as the context requires;
- (d) the term “person” includes an individual, a company, any other body of persons as well as any entity treated as a taxable unit under the taxation laws in force in either Contracting State;
- (e) the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate under the taxation laws of the respective Contracting States;
- (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 “tax” means Thai tax or Chinese tax, as the context requires;
- (h) the term “national” means:
 - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;

- (ii) any legal person, partnership, association and any other entity deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;
- (i) the term “international traffic” means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except where the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;
- “(j) the term “competent authority” means, in the case of Thailand, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative and in the case of China, the State Administration of Taxation or its authorized representative.”

(As amended by the negotiations on the amendment of the Agreement between Thailand and the People's Republic of China, entered into force on 25 May 2000)

2. As regards the application of the Agreement by a Contracting State any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the laws of that Contracting State concerning the taxes to which the Agreement applies.

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 Contracting State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, head office, place of incorporation or any other criterion of a similar nature.

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 of the Contracting State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both Contracting States, he shall be deemed to be a resident of

the Contracting State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);

- (b) if the Contracting State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the Contracting State in which he has an habitual abode;
- (c) if he has an habitual abode in both Contracting States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the Contracting State of which he is a national;
- (d) if he is a national of both Contracting 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 the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall determine that the person is a resident of a Contracting State for the purposes of this Agreement by mutual agreement.

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 farm or plantation;
- (g) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources;
- (h) a building site, a construction, installation or assembly project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, where such site, project or activity continues for a period of more than 6 months;
- (i) a warehouse, in relation to a person providing storage facilities for others;
- (j) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by a resident of one of the Contracting States through employees or other personnel, provided activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days within any twelve-month period.

3. 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 or display of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
- (b) the maintenance off a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage or display;
- (c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
- (d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;
- (e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the

purpose of advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research, or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character, for the enterprise.

4. A person (other than a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 5 applies) acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State, if:

- (a) he has, and habitually exercises in the first-mentioned Contracting State, an authority to conclude contracts on behalf of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 3 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; or
- (b) he maintains in the first-mentioned Contracting State a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise from which he regularly fills orders or make deliveries on behalf of the enterprise; or
- (c) he habitually secures orders in the first-mentioned Contracting State wholly or almost wholly for the enterprise or for the enterprise and other enterprises which are controlled by it or have a controlling interest in it.

5. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other Contracting State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, where such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business. For this purpose, an agent shall not be considered an agent of an independent status if it carries on in the other Contracting State an activity described in paragraph 4 wholly or almost wholly for the enterprise or for the enterprise and other enterprises which are controlled by it or have a controlling interest in it.

6. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to re-insurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums in the territory of that other Contracting State or insures risks situated therein through an employee or through a representative who is not an agent of an independent status within the meaning of paragraph 5.

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 Contracting 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) may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.

2. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “immovable property” shall have the meaning which it has under the laws of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, right 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 rights 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 and to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

ARTICLE 7
BUSINESS PROFITS

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting 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 Contracting 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 business of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

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 a certain percentage of the gross receipt of the enterprise or of the permanent establishment or 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 a method as may be customary; the method 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. Income derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

2. Income derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships in international traffic may be taxed in the other Contracting State, but the tax imposed in that other Contracting State shall be reduced by an amount equal to 50 per cent thereof.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to profits derived from participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

ARTICLE 9

ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES

Where

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

State,

and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but, by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

ARTICLE 10

DIVIDENDS

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but, if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends and is a company, excluding partnership, the tax so charged shall not exceed:
 - (a) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the recipient holds directly at least 25 per cent of the shares of the company paying the dividends,
 - (b) 20 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in other cases. This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

3. The term “dividends” 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 tax laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

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

ARTICLE 11

INTEREST

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest in case it is received by any financial institution (including an insurance company).

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to the Government of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State.

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "Government"

“(a) in the case of Thailand, means the Royal Government of

Thailand and shall include:

- (i) the Bank of Thailand;
 - (ii) the Export - Import Bank of Thailand;
 - (iii) the Government Saving Bank;
 - (iv) the Government Housing Bank;
 - (v) the local authorities; and
 - (vi) such financial institutions, the capital of which is wholly owned by the Royal Government of Thailand or any local authority as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of both of the Contracting States;
- (b) in the case of China, means the Government of the People's Republic of China and shall include:
- (i) the People's Bank of China and Bank of China to the extent that its activity is carried on within the scope of the normal authority of a central bank;
 - (ii) State Development Bank;
 - (iii) China Import and Export Bank;
 - (iv) the Agriculture Development Bank of China;
 - (v) the local authorities; and
 - (vi) such financial institutions, the capital of which is wholly owned by the Government of the People's Republic of China or any local authority as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of both of the Contracting States."

(As amended by the negotiations on the amendment of the Agreement between Thailand and the People's Republic of China, entered into force on 25 May 2000)

4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage, and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or

debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures, as well as similar income treated as income from money lent by the taxation laws of the Contracting State in which the income arises. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is the Government of that Contracting State, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 12

ROYALTIES

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other contracting State.
2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.
3. The term “royalties” as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films, films or tapes used for radio or television broadcasting, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.
4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.
5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is the Government of that Contracting State, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the obligation to pay the royalties was incurred, and those royalties are borne by that permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

6. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties 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 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

GAINS FROM THE ALIENATION OF PROPERTY

1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property situated in the other Contracting State as defined in Article 6 may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or together with the whole enterprise) or of such a fixed base, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
3. Gains derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
4. Gains from the alienation of any property or assets, other than those referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article, arising in a Contracting State, may be taxed in that Contracting State.

ARTICLE 14

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that Contracting State except in the following circumstances, when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State:

- (a) if he has a fixed base available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other Contracting State; or
- (b) if his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within any twelve-month period; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State; or
- (c) if the remuneration for his activities in the other Contracting State is paid by a resident of that other Contracting State or is borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other Contracting State; in that case, only so much of the remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. The term “professional services” includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, dentists, lawyers, engineers, architects and accountants.

ARTICLE 15

DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16,18,19,20 and 21, 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 Contracting State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, 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 Contracting State if:

- (a) the recipient is present in the other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within any twelve-month period, and
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other Contracting State, and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in the other Contracting 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 shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

ARTICLE 16

DIRECTORS' FEES

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

2. Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as an official in top-level managerial position of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

ARTICLE 17

ARTISTES AND ATHLETES

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 and 15, 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 an athlete, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

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

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply to remuneration or profits, salaries, wages and similar income derived from activities performed in a Contracting State by an entertainer or an athlete if the visit to that Contracting State is substantially supported by public funds of the other Contracting State, including any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 7, where the activities mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article are provided in a Contracting State by an enterprise of the other Contracting State, the profits derived from providing these activities by such an enterprise may be taxed in the first-mentioned Contracting State unless the enterprise is substantially supported from the public funds of the other Contracting State, including any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof, in connection with the provisions of such activities.

ARTICLE 18

PENSIONS

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

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State may be taxed in the other contracting State if such payments are borne by an enterprise of that other Contracting State or by a permanent establishment situated therein.

ARTICLE 19

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1. (a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or political subdivision or local authority shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
(b) However, such remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other Contracting State and individual is a resident of that other contracting State who:
 - (i) is a national of that other Contracting State; or
 - (ii) did not become a resident of that other Contracting State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.

2. (a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or political subdivision or local authority shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
(b) However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that other Contracting State.

3. The provisions of Articles 15,16,17 and 18 shall apply to remuneration and pensions in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by the Government of a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

ARTICLE 20

STUDENTS AND TRAINEES

An individual who, immediately before visiting a Contracting State, was a resident of the other Contracting State and whose visit to the first-mentioned Contracting State is solely for the purpose of:

- (a) studying at a university or other recognized educational institution; or
- (b) securing training to qualify him to practise a profession or trade; or
- (c) studying or carrying out research as a recipient of a grant, allowance or award from a governmental, religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational organization; shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State on:
 - (i) remittances from abroad for the purposes of his maintenance, education, study, research or training;
 - (ii) the grant, allowance or award; and
 - (iii) income from personal services rendered in that Contracting State provided the income constitutes earnings reasonably necessary for his maintenance and education.

ARTICLE 21

PROFESSORS, TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS

1. An individual who is a resident of a Contracting State immediately before making a

visit to the other Contracting State, and who, at the invitation of any university, college, school or other similar educational institution which is recognized by the competent authority in that other Contracting State, visits that other Contracting State for a period not exceeding 3 years solely for the purpose of teaching or research or both at such educational institution shall be exempt from tax in that other Contracting State on any remuneration for such teaching or research.

2. This Article shall only apply to income from research if such research is undertaken by the individual for the public interest and not primarily for the benefit of some other private person or persons.

ARTICLE 22

INCOME NOT EXPRESSLY MENTIONED

Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State which are not expressly mentioned in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement may be taxed in the Contracting State where the income arises.

ARTICLE 23

ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

1. The laws in force in either of the Contracting States shall continue to govern the taxation of income in the respective Contracting States except where express provisions to the contrary are made in this Agreement. Where income is subject to tax in both Contracting States, relief from double taxation shall be given in accordance with the following paragraphs of this Article.

2. In the case of Thailand, Chinese tax payable in respect of income derived from China shall be allowed as a credit against Thai tax payable in respect of that income. The credit shall not, however, exceed that part of the Thai tax, as computed before the credit is given, which is appropriate to such item of income. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "Chinese tax

payable” shall be deemed to include the amount of Chinese tax which would have been paid if the Chinese tax had not been exempted or reduced in accordance with the special incentive laws designed to promote economic development in China, effective on the date of signature of this Agreement, or which may be introduced hereafter in modification of, or in addition to, the existing laws.

3. In the case of China, Thai tax payable in respect of income derived from Thailand shall be allowed as a credit against Chinese tax payable in respect of that income. Where such income is a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Thailand to a company which is a resident of China and which owns not less than 10 per cent of the shares of the company paying the dividend, the credit shall take into account Thai tax payable by that company in respect of its income out of which the dividend is paid. The credit shall not, however, exceed that part of the Chinese tax, as computed before the credit is given, which is appropriate to such item of income. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term “Thai tax payable” shall be deemed to include the amount of Thai tax which would have been paid if the Thai tax had not been exempted or reduced in accordance with the special incentive laws designed to promote economic development in Thailand, effective on the date of signature of this Agreement, or which may be introduced hereafter in modification of, or in addition to, the existing laws.

ARTICLE 24

NON-DISCRIMINATION

1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other Contracting State in the same circumstances are or may be subjected.

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

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

4. The provisions of this Article 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.

5. In this Article the term "taxation" means taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 25

MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where a resident of a Contracting State considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with this Agreement, he may, notwithstanding the remedies provided by the domestic laws of those Contracting States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident. 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.

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 not in accordance with the Agreement.

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 this Agreement.

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly for the purposes of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

ARTICLE 26

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

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

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

- (a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or

trade process, or information, the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (ordre public).

ARTICLE 27

DIPLOMATIC AGENTS AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS

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

ARTICLE 28

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date on which diplomatic notes indicating the completion of internal legal procedures necessary in each country for the entry into force of this Agreement have been exchanged.

2. This Agreement shall have effect:
 - (a) in respect of taxes withheld at the source, on amounts paid or remitted on or after the first day of January next following that in which the exchange of diplomatic notes takes place;
 - (b) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxable years or accounting periods beginning on or after the first day of January next following that in which the exchange of diplomatic notes takes place.

ARTICLE 29

TERMINATION

This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely, but either of the Contracting States may, on or before 30th June in any calendar year beginning after the expiration of a period of

five years from the date of its entry into force, give to the other Contracting State, through diplomatic channels, written notice of termination.

In such event the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

- (a) in respect of taxes withheld at the source, on amounts paid or remitted on or after the first day of January next following that in which the notice is given;
- (b) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxable years or accounting periods beginning on or after the first day of January next following that in which the notice is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Bangkok on this 27th day of October, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six Year of the Christian Era, each in the Thai, Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authoritative, except in the case of doubt when the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila

(Siddhi Savetsila)

Minister of Foreign Affairs

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA Tian Ji**

Yun

(Tian Ji Yun)

Deputy Prime Minister