

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

The Government of the Republic of Panama and the Government of the State of Qatar, 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
PERSONS COVERED

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

ARTICLE 2
TAXES COVERED

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

2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income, or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property and taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.

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

a) in the case of Panama:

The income tax provided in the Fiscal Code, Book IV, Title I, and its related decrees and regulations.

(Hereinafter referred to as "Panamanian tax").

b) in the case of Qatar:
Taxes on income

(Hereinafter referred to as "Qatari tax").

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

ARTICLE 3 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

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

a) the term "Panama" means the Republic of Panama and, when used in a geographical sense, means the territory of the Republic of Panama, including inland waters, its airspace, the territorial sea and any area outside the territorial sea upon which, in accordance with International Law and on application of its domestic legislation, the Republic of Panama exercises, or may exercise in the future, jurisdiction or sovereign rights with respect to the seabed, its subsoil and superjacent waters, and their natural resources;

b) the term "Qatar" means the State of Qatar's lands, internal waters, territorial sea including its bed and subsoil, the air space over them, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf, over which the State of Qatar exercises sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of international law and Qatar's national laws and regulations;

c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Panama or Qatar as the context requires;

d) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons which is treated as an entity for tax purposes;

e) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

f) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;

g) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise resident of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;

h) the term "competent authority" means:

(i) in the case of Panama, the Ministry of Economy and Finance or its authorized representative;

(ii) in the case of Qatar, the Ministry of Economy and Finance or its authorized representative;

i) the term "national" in relation to a Contracting State, means:

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

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

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

ARTICLE 4 RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means:

a) in the case of Panama, any person who, under the laws of Panama, is liable to income tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes Panama and any political subdivision or local authority thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in Panama in respect only of income from sources in Panama;

b) in the case of Qatar, any individual who has a permanent home, his centre of vital interest, or habitual abode in Qatar, and a company incorporated or having its place of effective management in Qatar. The term also includes the State of Qatar and any local authority, political subdivision or statutory body thereof.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a

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

b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has no permanent home available to him in either Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State in which he has an habitual abode;

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

d) if the residence status of an individual cannot be determined in accordance with the provisions of subparagraphs a), b) and c) above, then the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

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

ARTICLE 5 PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "Permanent Establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.

2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:

a) a place of management;

b) a branch;

c) an office;

d) a factory;

e) a workshop or a premise used as sales outlet; and

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

3. The term "permanent establishment" also encompasses:

a) a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or any supervisory activity in connection with such

site or project, but only where such site, project or activity continues for period or periods aggregating more than six months within any twelve month period; and

b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only if the activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within a Contracting State for period or periods aggregating more than six months within any twelve month period.

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

a) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;

b) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;

c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;

d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;

e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of carrying on, for the enterprise, any other activity of a preparatory or auxiliary character; or

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.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 where a person, other than an agent of an independent status to whom the provisions of paragraph 6 apply, is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, said enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the first mentioned State with respect to any activities that said person undertakes for the enterprise if said person:

a) has, and habitually exercises, in that Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of 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; or

b) has no such powers, but habitually maintains in the first mentioned State a warehouse for goods or merchandise which is regularly used to deliver goods or merchandise in the name of the enterprise, if the goods or merchandise are sold in the Contracting State where the warehouse is located.

6. An enterprise shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business. However, when the activities of such an agent are devoted wholly or almost wholly on behalf of that enterprise, and conditions are made or imposed between that enterprise and the agent in their commercial and financial relations which differ from those which would have been made between independent enterprises, he will not be considered an agent of an independent status within the meaning of this paragraph.

7. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to reinsurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums in the territory of that State or insures risks situated therein through a person other than an agent of independent status to whom paragraph 6 applies.

8. The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

ARTICLE 6

INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of

general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

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

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise 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 State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

3. In the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere, which are allowed under the provisions of the domestic law of the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated.

4. Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits to be taxed by such an apportionment as may be customary; the method of apportionment

adopted shall, however, be such that the result shall be in accordance with the principles contained in this Article.

5. No profits shall be attributed to a permanent establishment by reason of the mere purchase by that permanent establishment of goods or merchandise for the enterprise.

6. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.

7. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 8 SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 apply as well to the benefits originating from the participation in a "pool", consortium or joint venture or in an international organization or agency engaged in international traffic, but only with regards to the share of the benefits attributable to each participant proportionally to its participation in the joint enterprise.

ARTICLE 9 ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES

1. Where:

a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or

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

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

accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that State - and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State may make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall, if necessary, consult each other.

ARTICLE 10 DIVIDENDS

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

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividend is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 6 percent.

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

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the beneficial owner of the dividends is that other State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority, or the Central Bank thereof, a pension fund, an Investment Authority or any other institution or fund, which is recognized as an integral part of that State, political subdivision or local authority, as shall be agreed by mutual agreement of the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

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

5. 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 or performs in that other 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 shall apply.

6. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State has a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State, the profits taxable under article 7, paragraph 1, may be subject to an additional tax in that other State, in accordance with its laws, but the additional charge shall not exceed 6 per cent of the amount of those profits. This provision shall not apply, however, if the profits of the permanent establishment are beneficially owned by any of the entities provided for in paragraph 3 of this Article.

ARTICLE 11 INTEREST

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

2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 6 percent.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in that other State, if:

- a) the beneficial owner of the interest is:

(i) the Government, a political subdivision or a local authority of the other Contracting State;

(ii) in the case of Panama, the National Bank of Panama (“Banco Nacional de Panamá”), Savings Bank (“Caja de Ahorros”), Agricultural Development Bank (“Banco de Desarrollo Agropecuario”), the National Mortgage Bank (“Banco Hipotecario Nacional”), and the statutory bodies of the Government;

(iii) in the case of Qatar, the Qatar Central Bank, Qatar Investment Authority, General Retirement Authority, the Qatar Development Bank, and the statutory bodies of the Government;

(iv) any other institution or fund, which is recognized as an integral part of the other Contracting State, political subdivision or local authority, in which case it shall be agreed by mutual agreement of the competent authorities of the Contracting States;

b) the interest is paid in relation with the sale on credit of merchandise or equipment to an enterprise of a Contracting State; or

c) the interest is paid to financial institutions and other bodies as a result of financing provided by such institutions or bodies in connection with agreements concluded between the Governments of the Contracting States.

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 public securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums or prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures. Penalty charges for a late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 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 or 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 shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting

State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or 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 of the interest 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 of the interest 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 State.

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 6 percent 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 and films, tapes or discs 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 the other State professional or technical 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 a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the 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 CAPITAL GAINS

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

2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing professional or technical services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such a fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.

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

4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares or comparable interest representing 10 percent or more of the voting rights or capital in a company resident of the other Contracting State, when those shares or comparable interest have been held by the alienator for less than a 12-month period prior to the date of the alienation, may also be taxed in that other State.

5. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares or comparable interests deriving more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State. The provision of this paragraph shall not apply if the immovable property is used in industrial projects for a continuous period of five years.

6. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

ARTICLE 14 INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

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

a) if it has a fixed base regularly available to it in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing its 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 it has been present in the other Contracting State for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 90 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the taxable year concerned; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from its activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term "professional services" includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists 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 State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other State.

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

a) the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned, and

b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State, and

c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment which the employer has in the other State.

3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic, may be taxed in the Contracting State of which the enterprise that operates the ship or aircraft is a resident.

ARTICLE 16 DIRECTORS' FEES

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

ARTICLE 17 ARTISTES AND SPORTSPERSONS

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 a sportsperson, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsperson in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson 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 sportsperson are exercised.

3. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from activities exercised in the other Contracting State as envisaged in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, shall be exempted from tax in that

other State if the visit to that other State is supported in more than 50 percent by funds of either Contracting State, a political subdivision or a local authority thereof, or takes place under a cultural agreement or arrangement between the Governments of the Contracting States.

ARTICLE 18 PENSIONS AND ANNUITIES

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

2. The term “annuity” means a stated sum payable periodically at stated times during life or during a specified or ascertainable period of time under an obligation to make the payments in return for adequate and full consideration in money or money’s worth.

ARTICLE 19 GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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

b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other State and the individual is a resident of that other State who:

(i) is a national of that other State; or

(ii) did not become a resident of that other 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 local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.

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 State.

3. The provisions of Articles 15, 16, 17, and 18 of this Agreement shall apply to salaries, wages and similar remuneration, and to pensions in respect of services rendered in connection with a

business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

ARTICLE 20 TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS

1. An individual who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who, at the invitation of the Government of the first-mentioned Contracting State or of a university, college, school, museum or other cultural institution in that first-mentioned Contracting State or under an official program of cultural exchange, is present in that Contracting State for a period not exceeding three consecutive years solely for the purpose of teaching, giving lectures or carrying out research at such institution shall be exempt from tax in that Contracting State on his remuneration for such activity.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to income from research if such research is undertaken not in the public interest but primarily for the private benefit of a specific person or persons.

ARTICLE 21 STUDENTS AND TRAINEES

1. Payments which a student or business apprentice or trainee who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that Contracting State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that Contracting State.

2. In respect of grants, scholarships and remuneration from employment not covered by paragraph 1, a student, business apprentice or trainee described in paragraph 1 shall, in addition, be entitled during such education or training to the same exemptions, relief or reductions in respect of taxes available to residents of the State which he is visiting.

ARTICLE 22 OTHER INCOME

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

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income derived by a resident of a Contracting State, if the recipient of such

income carries on business in the Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in the other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the income 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.

ARTICLE 23 ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

Double taxation shall be avoided as follows:

1. In the case of Panama,

a) Where a resident of Panama derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Qatar, Panama will exempt such income from taxes.

b) Where in accordance with any provision of the Agreement income derived by a resident of Panama is exempt from tax in Panama, Panama may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

2. In the case of Qatar,

Where a resident of Qatar derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, is taxable in Panama, then Qatar shall allow as a deduction from the tax on income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Panama provided that such deduction shall not exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income derived from Panama.

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

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

levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

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

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

5. The non taxation of a national of a Contracting State under its tax laws shall not be regarded as a discrimination under the provision of this Article.

6. The provisions of this Article shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, apply to taxes of every kind and description.

ARTICLE 25 MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 24, to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

2. The competent authority shall endeavor, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Agreement.

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavor to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly, 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 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 to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.

2. Any information received under paragraph 1 by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1. 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.

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

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

b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;

c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (*ordre public*).

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

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

ARTICLE 27

MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR POSTS

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

ARTICLE 28

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. The Contracting States shall notify each other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of the procedures required by their laws for the bringing into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day from the date of the later of these notifications.

2. The provisions of this Agreement shall have effect:

a) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January of the calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; and

b) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after the first day of January of the calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

ARTICLE 29

TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the

Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving written notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year following the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force.

2. This Agreement shall cease to have effect:

a) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January of the calendar year following the year in which the notice is given; and

b) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after first day of January of the calendar year following the year in which notice is given.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate in New York, 23 day of September of 2010, in Spanish, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
(SIGNED)**

**JUAN CARLOS VARELA R.
Vice President of the Republic
and Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE STATE OF QATAR
(SIGNED)**

**SHEIKH HAMAD BIN JASSIM
BIN JABR AL-THANI
The Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs**

PROTOCOL

At the moment of signing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Panama and the Government of the State of Qatar for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, the undersigned have agreed upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

1. In relation with Article 5 paragraph 3 and Article 14 paragraph 1 (b):

It is understood that for the purposes of determining the duration of activities, the period during which activities are carried on in a Contracting State by an enterprise associated with another enterprise shall be aggregated with the period during which activities are carried on by the enterprise with which it is associated if the first-mentioned activities are connected with the activities carried on in that State by the last-mentioned enterprise, provided that any period during which two or more associated enterprises are carrying on concurrent activities is counted only once. An enterprise shall be deemed to be associated with another enterprise if one is controlled directly or indirectly by the other, or if both are controlled directly or indirectly by a third person or persons.

2. In relation to Article 8:

It is understood that the provisions of this Agreement shall not apply with regards to the tolls, duties or similar payments that might be applicable upon crossing the Panama Canal.

3. In relation to Article 13 paragraph 5:

It is understood that the term “industrial project” means the process by which raw materials are transformed into products.

4. In relation to Article 14:

It is understood that this article shall apply with respect to any person rendering “independent personal services”, including individuals and legal entities. A legal entity shall be deemed to meet the test under paragraph (1)(b), if its representatives, agents or employees stay in the other Contracting State for a period or periods amounting to, or exceeding, in the aggregate 90 days in any twelve-month period.

It is also understood that Article 14 shall apply to the extent that the services being rendered qualify as “independent personal services”.

5. In relation to Article 23 paragraph 1:

It is understood that paragraph 1 (a) of Article 23 shall apply regardless of whether or not Qatar has effectively taxed the income.

It is also understood that a resident of Qatar may consider as a tax credit the taxes that would have been paid in Panama should an exemption or reduction not be granted under the following regimes:

- (i) The Colon Free Zone and other free trade zones;
- (ii) Petroleum Free Zones;
- (iii) City of Knowledge;
- (iv) Panama-Pacific Special Economic Area;
- (v) Regional Headquarters;
- (vi) Export Processing zones; and
- (vii) Any other income tax exemption of a similar nature that is granted under an incentive regime in Panama.

6. In relation with Article 26:

a) It is understood that exchange of information will only be requested once the requesting Contracting State has exhausted all regular sources of information available under the internal taxation procedure.

b) It is understood that the administrative assistance provided for in Article 26 does not include (i) measures aimed only at the simple collection of pieces of evidence, or (ii) when it is improbable that the requested information will be relevant for controlling or administering tax matters of a given taxpayer in a Contracting State ("fishing expeditions").

c) It is understood that the tax authorities of the requesting State shall provide the following information to the tax authorities of the requested State when making a request for information under Article 26 of the Agreement:

- (i) the name and address of the person(s) under examination or investigation and, if available, other particulars facilitating that person's identification, such as date of birth, marital status, tax identification number;
- (ii) the period of time for which the information is requested;

(iii) a statement of the information sought including its nature and the form in which the requesting State wishes to receive the information from the requested State;

(iv) the tax purpose for which the information is sought;

(v) the name and address of any person believed to be in possession of the requested information.

d) It is further understood that Article 26 of the Agreement shall not commit the Contracting States to exchange information on an automatic or a spontaneous basis.

e) It is understood that in case of an exchange of information, the administrative procedural rules regarding taxpayers' rights provided for in the requested Contracting State remain applicable before the information is transmitted to the requesting Contracting State.

These procedures include notifying the person in regards with the request of information from the other Contracting State, and granting the possibility for that person to file and present a stance with the tax administration before it issues a response to the requesting State. It is further understood that this provision aims at guaranteeing the taxpayer a fair procedure and not at preventing or unduly delaying the exchange of information process.

7. In relation with Article 28 paragraph 2:

With respect to the applicability of the exchange of information, the requests may be performed with regards to tax evasion and criminal tax offenses committed on or after January first of the calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, has signed this Protocol.

Done in duplicate in New York at the 23 day of September of 2010, in Spanish, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
(SIGNED)**

**JUAN CARLOS VARELA R.
Vice President of the Republic
and Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
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