

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**  
**AND**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION**  
**AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION**  
**WITH RESPECT TO**  
**TAXES ON INCOME**

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, 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 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, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.
3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:
  - (a) in Cambodia:
    - (i) Tax on Profit including Withholding Tax, Additional Profit Tax on Dividend Distribution and Capital Gains Tax; and
    - (ii) Tax on Salary;  
(hereinafter referred to as “Cambodian tax”); and
  - (b) in Viet Nam:
    - (i) the personal income tax;
    - (ii) the business income tax; and
    - (iii) the extra petroleum income tax;

(hereinafter referred to as “Vietnamese 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 respective taxation laws.

### **Article 3 General Definitions**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) The terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean Cambodia or Viet Nam as the context requires;
  - (b) The term “Cambodia” means the territory of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as well as those maritime areas, including the seabed and subsoil adjacent to the outer limits of the territorial sea over which the Kingdom of Cambodia exercises, in accordance with international law, sovereign rights or jurisdiction;
  - (c) The term “Viet Nam” means the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; when used in a geographical sense, it means its land territory, islands, internal waters, territorial sea and airspace above them, the maritime areas beyond territorial sea including seabed and subsoil thereof over which the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam exercises sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with national legislation and international law;
  - (d) The term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
  - (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, or by a rail or road vehicle, or by a boat, operated by an enterprise, that has its place of registration (incorporation) in a Contracting State, except when the ship, aircraft, rail or road vehicle or boat is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;
  - (h) The term “competent authority” means:
    - (i) In the case of Cambodia, the Minister of Economy and Finance or his authorised representative; and
    - (ii) In the case of Viet Nam, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative; and
  - (i) The term “national”, in relation to a Contracting State, means:
    - (i) any individual possessing the nationality 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 any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, place of registration, place of management, principal place of business or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State or any local authorities thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:
  - (a) He shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
  - (b) If the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode;
  - (c) If he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;
  - (d) If he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.
3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of registration (incorporation) is situated.

## **Article 5**

### **Permanent Establishment**

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “permanent establishment” means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.
2. The term “permanent establishment” includes especially:
  - (a) A place of management;
  - (b) A branch;
  - (c) An office;
  - (d) A factory;
  - (e) A workshop;
  - (f) A warehouse;

- (g) A mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and
  - (h) A farm or plantation.
3. The term “permanent establishment” also encompasses:
- (a) A building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities last more than 183 days;
  - (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 activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within a Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days within any 12-month period;
  - (c) The carrying on of activities (including the operation of substantial equipment) in the other Contracting State for the exploration or for exploitation of natural resources for a period or periods exceeding in the aggregate 90 days in any 12-month period; and
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 or display of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
  - (b) The maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage or display;
  - (c) The maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
  - (d) The maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise; and
  - (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.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, where a person other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies-is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, if such a person:
  - (a) Has and habitually exercises in that 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 authority, but habitually maintains in the first-mentioned State a stock of goods or merchandise from which he regularly delivers goods or merchandise on behalf of the enterprise; or
  - (c) Habitually secures orders in the first-mentioned State wholly or almost wholly for the enterprise itself 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 State or insures risks situated therein through a person other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies.
7. 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, 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.

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 Contracting 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, boats, rail or road vehicle, and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.
3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also 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 Contracting State but only so much of them as is attributable to: (a) that permanent establishment; (b) sales in that other Contracting State of goods or merchandise of the same or

similar kind as those sold through that permanent establishment; or (c) other business activities carried on in that other Contracting State of the same or similar kind as those effected through 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 State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere. However, no such deduction shall be allowed in respect of amounts, if any, paid (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses) by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission, for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the permanent establishment. Likewise, no account shall be taken, in the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, for amounts charged (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses), by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices.
4. Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profit of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude such 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. 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.
6. Nothing in this Article shall affect the application of any law of a Contracting State relating to tax imposed on income from insurance, other than re-insurance, with non-resident insurers, provided that the relevant law enforces in either Contracting State in respect of insurance situated in that State.
7. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

## **Article 8**

### **International Transport**

1. Profits derived from the operation of aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of registration (incorporation) of the enterprise is situated.
2. Profits derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation in international traffic of ships, rail or road vehicles, or by boats, 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 apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

## **Article 9**

### **Associated Enterprises**

1. Where:
  - (a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or

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

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

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

## **Article 10** **Dividends**

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends.

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, mining shares, founders’ shares or other rights, not being debt claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights

which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the 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 15, 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 in so far as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other Contracting State or in so far as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other Contracting State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other Contracting State.

## **Article 11**

### **Interest**

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
3. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to the recipient of other Contracting State shall be exempt in the first-mentioned State if the beneficial owner:

- (a) is the Government or the central bank or any local authorities of that other Contracting State, or any entities thereof; or
- (b) is a bank or financial institution of which more than 50 per cent of the capital is held by that Government or any local authorities of that other Contracting State, or any entities thereof.

For the purpose of this paragraph, the term “central bank” means:

- a. In case of Cambodia, the National Bank of Cambodia
- b. In case of Viet Nam, the State Bank of Viet Nam

- 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. 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 (a) such permanent establishment or fixed base, or with (b) business activities referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 7. In such cases the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a local authority or entity thereof, or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.
- 7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is

paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **Article 12** **Royalties**

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 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, or 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 (a) such permanent establishment or fixed base, or with (b) business activities referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 7. In such cases the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a local authority or entity thereof, or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a

permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the 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** **Fees for Technical Services**

1. Fees for technical services 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, fees for technical services may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the fees for technical services, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amounts of the fees for technical services.
3. The term “fees for technical services” as used in this Article means payments of any kind to any person, other than to an employee of the person making the payments, in consideration for any services of a technical, managerial or consultancy nature, but does not include payments for services to which Article 15 of this Agreement applies.
4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the fees for technical services, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the fees for technical services arise through a permanent establishment situated therein, and the fees for technical services are effectively connected with (a) such permanent establishment, or with (b) business activities referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of

Article 7 (Business Profits). In such case, the provisions of Article 7 shall apply.

5. Fees for technical services shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a local authority or entity thereof, or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the fees for technical services, 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 fees for technical services was incurred, and such fees for technical services are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such fees for technical services 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 fees for technical services paid exceeds, for whatever reason, 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 14 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 independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.
3. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic, or rail or road vehicle, or boats engaged in inland waterways transport or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships,

aircraft, or rail or road vehicle, or boats, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of registration (incorporation) of the enterprise is situated.

4. Gains from the alienation of shares of the capital stock of a company, or of an interest in a partnership, trust or estate, the property of which consist directly or indirectly principally of immovable property situated in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State. For the purposes of this paragraph, “principally” in relation to ownership of immovable property means the value of such immovable property exceeding 30 per cent of the aggregate value of all assets owned by the company, partnership, trust or estate.
5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

## **Article 15**

### **Independent Personal Services**

1. Subject to the provisions of Article 13, income derived by an individual who is 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 also be taxed in the other Contracting State:
  - (a) If he has a fixed base regularly 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 in any 12-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; 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.
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 16**  
**Dependent Personal Services**

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 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 Contracting State.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if:
  - (a) The recipient is present in the other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any 12-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; and
  - (b) The remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State; and
  - (c) The remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base 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 or a rail or road vehicle, or aboard a boat, operated in international traffic, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of registration (incorporation) of the enterprise is situated.

**Article 17**  
**Directors' Fees and Remuneration of Top-Level Managerial Officials**

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 a 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 18**  
**Artistes and Sportspersons**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, 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 Contracting 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, 15 and 16, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsperson are exercised.
3. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 1, income derived by entertainers or sportspersons who are residents of a Contracting State from activities in the other Contracting State under a plan of cultural exchange between the Government of both Contracting States, whether funded wholly or partially by either Government, shall be exempt from tax in that other Contracting State.

**Article 19**  
**Pensions and Social Security Payments**

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions paid and other payments made under a public scheme which is part of the social security system of a Contracting State or any local authorities thereof shall be taxable only in that State.

**Article 20**  
**Government Service**

1. (a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or a local 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 Contracting State and the individual is a resident of that State who:
    - (i) is a national of that Contracting State; or
    - (ii) did not become a resident of that 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 local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or a local 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 other Contracting State.
- 3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions, and other similar remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a local authority thereof.

## **Article 21**

### **Students and Apprentices**

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

## **Article 22**

### **Other Income**

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

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6, if the recipient of such income, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that 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 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, items of income of a resident of a Contracting State not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement and arising in the other Contracting State may also be taxed in that other Contracting State.

**Article 23**  
**Methods for Elimination of Double Taxation**

1. In Cambodia, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
  - (a) Where a resident of Cambodia derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Viet Nam, Cambodia shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in Viet Nam. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax on income, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in Viet Nam.
  - (b) Where in accordance with any provisions of the Agreement income derived by a resident of Cambodia is exempt from tax in Cambodia, Cambodia may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.
  - (c) For the purposes of subparagraph 1(a) above, the term "income tax paid in Viet Nam" shall be deemed to include the amount of Vietnamese tax which, under the laws of Viet Nam and in accordance with this Agreement, would have been paid had the Vietnamese tax not been exempted or reduced in accordance with the Law on Foreign Investment in Viet Nam and connected regulations or any other special incentive measures designed to promote economic development in Viet Nam.

2. In Viet Nam, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
  - (a) Where a resident of Viet Nam derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Cambodia, Viet Nam shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in Cambodia. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax on income, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in Cambodia.
  - (b) Where in accordance with any provisions of the Agreement income derived by a resident of Viet Nam is exempt from tax in Viet Nam, Viet Nam may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.
  - (c) For the purposes of subparagraph 2(a) above, the term "income tax paid in Cambodia" shall be deemed to include the tax which is otherwise payable in Cambodia but has been reduced or waived in accordance with the Law on Investment and other special incentive measures designed to promote economic development in Cambodia.
3. For the purposes of paragraph 2(a) of this Article, the term "tax paid in Cambodia" does not include Additional Profit Tax on Dividend Distribution payable in respect of income to which the provisions of paragraph 2(b) of this Article applies.

#### **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, 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 favourably levied in that other Contracting State than the taxation levied

on enterprises of that other Contracting 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, paragraph 6 of Article 12 or paragraph 6 of Article 13 apply, interest, royalties, fees for technical services 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 provisions of this Article shall apply to the taxes covered in this Agreement.

## **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 endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which

is not in accordance with this Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.
4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly 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 foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or any local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement, in particular for the prevention of fraud or evasion of such taxes.
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, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.
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.
4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.
  5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

**Article 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. Each of the Contracting State shall notify to the other in writing through the diplomatic channels the completion of the procedures required by its legislation for the entry into force of this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the later of these notifications.
2. This Agreement shall have effect:

- (a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, in relation to taxable amount as derived on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the Agreement enters into force and in subsequent calendar years; and
- (b) in respect of other taxes, in relation to income arising on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the Agreement enters into force, and in subsequent calendar years.

## **Article 29 Termination**

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

- (a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, in relation to taxable amounts as derived on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the notice of termination has been received, and in subsequent calendar years; and
- (b) in respect of other taxes, in relation to income, profits, or gains arising on or after the first day of January following the calendar year in which the notice of termination has been received, and in subsequent calendar years.

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

**DONE** in duplicate at Hanoi this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2018, in the English language.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
VIET NAM**

*(undersigned)*

**Tran Xuan Ha**  
*Deputy Minister of  
the Ministry of Finance*

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE KINGDOM OF  
CAMBODIA**

*(undersigned)*

**Dr. Chou Vichith**  
*Secretary of State of  
the Ministry of Economy and Finance*