

**SYNTHESISED TEXT**  
**OF THE MLI AND THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**  
**AND**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**  
**FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION**  
**WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL**

This document presents the synthesized text for the application of the Agreement between the Republic of Poland and the Republic of Austria for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital signed in Vienna on 13 January 2004 (the “Agreement”), as amended by the Protocol signed in Warsaw on 4 February 2008 (the “Amending Protocol”), as modified by the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting signed by the Republic of Poland and the Republic of Austria on 7 June 2017 (the “MLI”).

This document was prepared jointly by the competent authorities of Poland and Austria and represents their shared understanding of the modifications made to the Agreement by the MLI.

The document was prepared on the basis of the MLI positions submitted to the Depositary upon the deposit of the ratification instrument:

- by Poland on 23 January 2018; and
- by Austria on 22 September 2017.

The effects of the MLI on the application of the Agreement can change over time as the MLI is a living instrument and Parties can partially modify their MLI positions in the future.

The purpose of this document is to facilitate the application of the MLI. It constitutes an auxiliary tool only, aimed at documenting the impact of the MLI to the Agreement. This document does not constitute a source of law. The authentic legal texts of the Agreement, the Amending Protocol and the MLI, remain the only sources of law.

For legal purposes, the provisions of the MLI must be interpreted alongside the Agreement and the Amending Protocol, in light of the interaction of the MLI positions of the Contracting States.

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

Changes to the text of the provisions of the MLI have been made to conform the terminology used in the MLI to the terminology used in the Agreement (such as “Covered Tax Agreement” and “Agreement”, “Contracting Jurisdictions” and “Contracting States”), to ease the comprehension of the provisions of the MLI.

The changes in terminology are intended to increase the readability of the document and are not intended to change the substance of the provisions of the MLI.

#### Entry into force and entry into effect of the MLI

Entry into force of the MLI:

- for Poland: 1 July 2018; and
- for Austria: 1 July 2018.

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

Pursuant to Article 35(3) of the MLI, solely for the purpose of its own application of Article 35(1)(b) and 5(b), Austria chose to replace the reference to “taxable periods beginning on or after the expiration of a period” with a reference to “taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January of the next year beginning on or after the expiration of a period”.

Hence, unless it is stated otherwise elsewhere in this document, in accordance with Article 35(1) of the MLI, the provisions of Article 5(6), Article 6(1) and Article 7(1) of the MLI have effect with respect to the application of the Agreement by Poland:

- with respect to taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2019; and
- with respect to all other taxes levied by Poland, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019;

and

in accordance with Article 35(1) and Article 35(3) of the MLI, the provisions of Article 5(2), Article 6(1) and Article 7(1) of the MLI have effect with respect to the application of the Agreement by Austria:

- with respect to taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2019; and
- with respect to all other taxes levied by Austria, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

#### References

The authentic legal text of the MLI can be found on the MLI Depositary (OECD) webpage:

- in English: <http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/multilateral-convention-to-implement-tax-treaty-related-measures-to-prevent-BEPS.pdf>; and

- in French: <http://www.oecd.org/fr/fiscalite/conventions/convention-multilaterale-pour-la-mise-en-oeuvre-des-mesures-relatives-aux-conventions-fiscales-pour-prevenir-le-BEPS.pdf>.

The Polish text of the MLI was published in the Journal of Laws from 2018 item 1369 (as amended).

The governmental announcement on the entry into force of the MLI was published in the Journal of Laws from 2018 item 1370 (as amended).

The governmental announcement on the entry into force of the MLI between Poland and Austria was published in the Journal of Laws from 2018 item 1926.

The MLI positions of the Contracting States can be found on the OECD webpage: <http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/beps-mli-signatories-and-parties.pdf>.

The MLI Matching Database is publicly available on the OECD webpage: <http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/mli-matching-database.htm>.

**AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**  
**AND**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**  
**FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION**  
**WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL**

The Republic of Poland and the Republic of Austria,

**[REPLACED by paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI]**

~~[desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital,]~~

*The following preamble text described in paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI replaces the text referring to an intent to eliminate double taxation in the preamble of this Agreement:*

**ARTICLE 6 OF THE MLI – PURPOSE OF A COVERED TAX AGREEMENT**

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

have agreed as follows:

## **Article 1**

### **Persons covered**

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

## **Article 2**

### **Taxes covered**

1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income and on capital 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 and on capital all taxes imposed on total income, on total capital, or on elements of income or of capital, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises, as well as taxes on capital appreciation.
3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:
  - a) in Poland:
    1. the personal income tax, and
    2. the corporate income tax;
  - b) in Austria:
    1. the income tax;
    2. the corporation tax;
    3. the land tax;
    4. the tax on agricultural and forestry enterprises;
    5. the tax on the value of vacant plots.
4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes which 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 substantial 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 term "Poland" when used in a geographical sense means the territory of the Republic of Poland, including any area beyond its territorial waters, within which under the laws of the Republic of Poland and in accordance with international laws Poland exercises its sovereign rights over the sea-bed, its subsoil and their natural resources;

- b) the term "Austria" means the Republic of Austria;
- c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Poland or Austria, as the context requires;
- 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 which 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 which has its place of effective management in 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 Poland: the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
  - ii. in Austria: the Federal Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
- a) the term "national" means:
  - i. any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;
  - ii. any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a 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 management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State or capital situated therein.

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 endeavour to 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, and
  - f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.
3. A building site or construction or installation project constitutes a permanent establishment only if it lasts more than twelve months.
4. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:

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

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, where a person - other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 6 applies - is acting on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises, in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 4 which, if exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.

6. An enterprise shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.

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

## **Article 6**

### **Income from immovable property**

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



2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships, boats 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 determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

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.

8. The term "profits" as used in this Article includes the profits derived by any partner from his participation in a partnership and in any other body of persons which is treated in the same way for tax purposes, and in the case of Austria, from a participation in a sleeping partnership (Stille Gesellschaft) created under Austrian law.

## **Article 8**

### **Shipping, inland waterways transport and air transport**

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

2. Profits from the operation of boats engaged in inland waterways transport shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

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

4. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

5. For the purpose of this Article, profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic include:

- a) profits from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships or aircraft; and
- b) profits from the use, maintenance or rental of containers (including trailers and related equipment for the transport of containers) used for the transport of goods or merchandise,

where such rental or such use, maintenance or rental, as the case may be, is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic.

## **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 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 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:

- a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company (other than a partnership) which holds directly at least 10 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends;
- b) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

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

3. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, "jouissance" shares or "jouissance" rights, mining shares, founders' shares or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the 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 State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other 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 a 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.

## **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 5 per cent of the gross amount of the interest. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, any such interest referred to in paragraph 1 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the recipient is a resident, if such recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest and if such interest is paid:

- a) to the Government of the Republic of Poland or to the Government of the Republic of Austria;
- b) on a loan of whatever kind granted, insured or guaranteed by a public institution for purposes of promoting exports;

c) in connection with the sale on credit of any industrial, commercial or scientific equipment;

d) on any loan of whatever kind granted by a bank.

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, 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 situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 beneficially owned by a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, the royalties referred to in paragraph 1 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 royalties the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 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, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use any 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 State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 shares or other rights in a company which assets principally, directly or indirectly, consist of immovable property situated in a Contracting State or rights pertaining to such immovable property, may be taxed in that State.

3. 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.

4. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic, boats engaged in inland waterways transport or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships, aircraft or boats, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

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

6. In the case of an individual who was a resident of a Contracting State and has become a resident of the other Contracting State, paragraph 5 shall not affect the right of the first-mentioned State under its national laws to tax the individual on a capital appreciation up to the change of residence in respect of shares. The value of shares which was taken into account by the first-mentioned State in computing the taxable capital appreciation shall be treated as cost of acquisition of such shares by the other Contracting State if a subsequent alienation of such shares entails a capital gain which is taxable in that other State.

#### **Article 14**

##### **Independent personal services**

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State unless he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities. If he has such a fixed base, the income may be taxed in the other State but only so much of it as is attributable to that fixed base.

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, and 20, 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 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 operated in international traffic, or aboard a boat engaged in inland waterways transport, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

### **Article 16**

#### **Directors' fees**

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

### **Article 17**

#### **Artistes and sportsmen**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 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 sportsman, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

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

3. Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to income accruing from the exercise of activities by artists or sportsmen in a Contracting State where the visit to that State is financed entirely or mainly from public funds of one or both of the Contracting States, a political subdivision, a local authority or a government institution thereof or by an organisation recognised as a charitable organisation.



**Article 18**  
**Pensions, annuities and similar payments**

1. Pensions and similar payments or annuities received by a resident of a Contracting State from the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State.
2. The term "annuities" means certain amounts payable periodically at stated times, for life or for 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.
3. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the other Contracting State under a legal claim to maintenance may not be taxed in the first-mentioned State if such income would be exempt from tax according to the laws of the other Contracting State.

**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 State and the individual is a resident of that State who:
    - i. is a national of that State; or
    - ii. did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
2.
  - a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that 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 shall apply to salaries, wages and other 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**

### **Professors and researchers**

A professor, teacher or researcher who makes a temporary visit to a Contracting State solely for the purpose of teaching or carrying out research at a university, college or other recognised educational institution in that Contracting State and who is or was immediately before that visit a resident of the other Contracting State, shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years from the date of his first visit for that purpose in respect of remuneration for such teaching or research, provided that he is taxed on such remuneration in the other Contracting State.

## **Article 21**

### **Students**

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

2. Remuneration which a student or business apprentice who is or was formerly a resident of a Contracting State derives from an employment which he exercises in the other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in the fiscal year concerned shall not be taxed in that other State if the employment is directly related to his studies or apprenticeship carried out in the first-mentioned 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 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

## Article 23

### Capital

1. Capital represented by immovable property referred to in Article 6, owned by a resident of a Contracting State and situated in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.
2. Capital represented by 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 by 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, may be taxed in that other State.
3. Capital represented by ships and aircraft operated in international traffic and by boats engaged in inland waterways transport, and by movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships, aircraft and boats, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
4. All other elements of capital of a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

## Article 24

### Methods for elimination of double taxation

1. In the case of a resident of Poland, double taxation shall be avoided as follows<sup>1</sup>:

#### **[REPLACED by paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the MLI]**

~~[a) Where a resident of Poland derives income or owns capital which, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement is taxed in Austria, Poland shall, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (b) of this paragraph, exempt such income or capital from tax;]~~

*The following paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the MLI replaces subparagraph a) of paragraph 1 of Article 24 of this Agreement with respect to the residents of Poland:*

#### ARTICLE 5 OF THE MLI – APPLICATION OF METHODS FOR ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION (Option C)

Where a resident of [Poland] derives income or owns capital which may be taxed in [Austria] in accordance with the provisions of [this Agreement] (except to the extent that these provisions allow taxation by [Austria] solely because the income is also income derived by a resident of [Austria]), [Poland] shall allow:

- i) as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in [Austria];

<sup>1</sup> The wording of paragraph 1 of Article 24 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

ii) as a deduction from the tax on the capital of that resident, an amount equal to the capital tax paid in [Austria].

Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the income tax or capital tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income or the capital which may be taxed in [Austria].

Where in accordance with any provision of this Agreement income derived or capital owned by a resident of [Poland] is exempt from tax in [Poland], [Poland] may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of such resident, take into account the exempted income or capital.

b) Where a resident of Poland derives items of income which, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 10, 11, 12 or 13 of the Agreement, may be taxed in Austria, Poland shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Austria. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such items of income derived from Austria.

2. In the case of a resident of Austria, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:

**[MODIFIED by paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the MLI]**

*[a) Where a resident of Austria derives income or owns capital which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Poland, Austria shall, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) and paragraph 3, exempt such income or capital from tax.]*

*The following paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the MLI applies to subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 24 of this Agreement with respect to the residents of Austria:*

**ARTICLE 5 OF THE MLI – APPLICATION OF METHODS FOR ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION (Option A)**

*[Subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 24 of the Agreement]* shall not apply where [Poland] applies the provisions of *[the Agreement]* to exempt such income or capital from tax or to limit the rate at which such income or capital may be taxed. In the latter case, [Austria] shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income or capital of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in [Poland]. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such items of income or capital which may be taxed in [Poland].

b) Where a resident of Austria derives items of income which, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 10, 11, 12 and paragraph 2 of Article 13, may be taxed in Poland, Austria shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Poland. Such deduction shall not,

however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such items of income derived from Poland.

- c) Dividends in the sense of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 2 of Article 10 paid by a company which is a resident of Poland to a company which is a resident of Austria shall be exempt from tax in Austria, subject to the relevant provisions of the domestic law of Austria, however, notwithstanding any deviating minimum participation requirements provided for by that law.

3. Where in accordance with any provision of the Agreement income derived or capital owned by a resident of a Contracting State is exempt from tax in that State, such State may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of such resident, take into account the exempted income or capital.

## **Article 25**

### **Non-discrimination**

1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith, which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected. This provision shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 1, also apply to persons who are not residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

2. Stateless persons who are residents of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in either Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith, which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of the State concerned in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected.

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

4. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 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. Similarly, any debts of an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable capital of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been contracted to a resident of the first-mentioned State.

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

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

## **Article 26**

### **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 25, 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 the Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.

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

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly, including through a joint commission consisting of themselves or their representatives, for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

## **Article 27**

### **Exchange of information**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or of the domestic laws 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. Any information received by a Contracting State shall

be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that 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 covered by the Agreement. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

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

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

## **Article 28**

### **Members of diplomatic missions and consular posts**

1. 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.

2. Insofar as, due to fiscal privileges granted to diplomatic missions and consular posts under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special international agreements, items of income or capital are not subject to tax in the receiving State, the sending State shall have the right to tax such items of income or capital.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4, an individual who is a member of a diplomatic mission, a consular post or a permanent mission of a Contracting State which is situated in the other Contracting State or in a third State shall be deemed for the purposes of this Agreement to be a resident of the sending State if:

- a) in accordance with international law he is not liable to tax in the receiving State in respect of items of income from sources outside that State, and
- b) he is liable in the sending State to the same obligations in relation to tax on his total income or on capital as are residents of that State.

*The following paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement<sup>2</sup>:*

**ARTICLE 7 OF THE MLI – PREVENTION OF TREATY ABUSE**  
*(Principal purposes test provision)*

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

**Article 29**  
**Entry into force**

1. The Contracting States shall notify to each other that the constitutional requirements for entry into force of this Agreement have been complied with.
2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date of the latter of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall apply:
  - a) in respect of taxes withheld at source to amounts of income derived on or after first January in the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force;
  - b) in respect of other taxes on income and taxes on capital to such taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after first January in the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.
3. The provisions of the Agreement between the Polish People's Republic and the Republic of Austria for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital signed in Warsaw, on October 2, 1974, shall cease to be effective on the date preceding the day on which the present Agreement shall become applicable.

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<sup>2</sup> Article 7(1) of the MLI applies to all the provisions of the Agreement (as in practice it is added to the Agreement).



### **Article 30 Termination**

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

- a) in respect of the taxes withheld at source to amounts of income derived on or after first January in the calendar year next following the year in which such notice has been given;
- b) in respect of other taxes on income and taxes on capital to such taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after first January in the calendar year next following the year in which such notice has been given.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the two Contracting States, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate in Vienna on the 13th day of January 2004, in the German, Polish and English languages, each text being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation the English text shall prevail.

### **Protocol**

At the moment of signing the Agreement between the Republic of Poland and the Republic of Austria for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital the undersigned have agreed that the following provisions shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

#### **I. Re Interpretation of the Convention**

It is understood that provisions of the Agreement which are drafted according to the corresponding provisions of the OECD-Model Convention on Income and on Capital shall generally be expected to have the same meaning as expressed in the OECD Commentary thereon. The understanding in the preceding sentence will not apply with respect to the following:

- a) any reservations or observations to the OECD Model or its Commentary by either Contracting State;

- b) any contrary interpretation in a published explanation by one of the Contracting States that has been provided to the competent authority of the other Contracting State prior to the entry into force of the Agreement; and
- c) any contrary interpretation agreed to by the competent authorities after the entry into force of the Agreement.

The Commentary -- as it may be revised from time to time -- constitutes a means of interpretation in the sense of the Articles on interpretation of the Vienna Convention of 23 May 1969 on the Law of Treaties.

## **II. Re Article 5**

If a resident of a Contracting State had in the other Contracting State a building site or construction or installation project on the date on which this Agreement became applicable, and this project continues after the date on which this Agreement became applicable, then the twelve-month period shall be calculated from the date mentioned here, but this benefit shall in no case exceed twenty-four months from the date when the building site or construction or installation project started to exist.

## **III. Re Article 11**

1. It is understood that

- a) on behalf of Poland the Korporacja Ubezpieczeń Kredytów Exportowych, and
- b) on behalf of Austria the Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG
- c) have to be treated as public institutions in the sense of sub-paragraph b) of paragraph 3 of Article 11.

2. Sub-paragraphs c) and d) of paragraph 3 do not apply in the case of debt-claim created or assigned mainly for purposes of taking advantage of those sub-paragraphs and not for bona fide commercial reasons, as well as in the context of thin capitalisation.

## **IV. Re Article 19**

It is understood that the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 19 shall likewise apply in respect of remuneration paid to:

- a) to the members of the staff of the Polish Institute in Vienna and of the Vienna Branch of the Polish Academy of Science, and
- b) the Austrian Foreign Trade Commissioner in Warsaw and to the members of the staff of that Austrian Foreign Trade Commissioner, and to the members of the staff of the Austrian Cultural Forum in Warsaw.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the two Contracting States, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Protocol.

Done in duplicate in Vienna on the 13th day of January 2004, in the Polish, German and English languages, each text being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation the English text shall prevail.