

SYNTHESISED TEXT
OF THE MLI AND THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
AND
THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
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 Slovak Republic for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital signed in Warsaw on 18 August 1994 (the “Agreement”), as amended by the Protocol signed in Bratislava on 1 August 2013 (the “Amending Protocol”), as modified by the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting signed by Poland and by Slovakia on 7 June 2017 (the “MLI”).

This document was prepared in consultation with the competent authority of Slovakia and represents the 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 Slovakia on 20 September 2018.

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 Slovakia: 1 January 2019.

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 or other taxes levied) and on the choices made by the Contracting States in their MLI positions.

Hence, unless it is stated otherwise elsewhere in this document, in accordance with Article 35(1) of the MLI, the provisions of Article 3(1), Article 3(2), Article 4(1), Article 5(6), Article 6(1), Article 7(1), Article 9(4) and Article 11(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 July 2019;

and

in accordance with Article 35(1) of the MLI, the provisions of Article 3(1), Article 3(2), Article 4(1), Article 5(6), Article 6(1), Article 7(1), Article 9(4) and Article 11(1) of the MLI have effect with respect to the application of the Agreement by Slovakia:

- 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 Slovakia, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 July 2019.

However, in accordance with Article 35(4) of the MLI, Article 16 of the MLI has effect with respect to the Agreement for a case presented to the competent authority on or after 1 January 2019 (except for cases that were not eligible to be presented as of that date under the Agreement prior to its modification by the MLI, without regard to the taxable period to which the case relates).

References

The authentic legal text of the MLI can be found on the MLI Depository (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: <http://www.dziennikustaw.gov.pl/du/2018/1369/1>.

The governmental announcement on the entry into force of the MLI was published in the Journal of Laws from 2018 item 1370: <http://www.dziennikustaw.gov.pl/du/2018/1370/1>.

The governmental announcement on the entry into force of the MLI between Poland and Slovakia was published in the Journal of Laws from [•] item [•]: *[to be provided once published]*.

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 SLOVAK REPUBLIC
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL

THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

DESIRING to promote their mutual economic relations by removing fiscal obstacles and

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

~~[having decided 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

Personal scope

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

The following paragraph 1 of Article 3 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement:

ARTICLE 3 OF THE MLI – TRANSPARENT ENTITIES

For the purposes of [the Agreement], income derived by or through an entity or arrangement that is treated as wholly or partly fiscally transparent under the tax law of either [Contracting State] shall be considered to be income of a resident of a [Contracting State] but only to the extent that the income is treated, for purposes of taxation by that [Contracting State], as the income of a resident of that [Contracting State].

The following paragraph 1 of Article 11 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement:

ARTICLE 11 OF THE MLI – APPLICATION OF TAX AGREEMENTS TO RESTRICT A PARTY'S RIGHT TO TAX ITS OWN RESIDENTS

[The Agreement] shall not affect the taxation by a [Contracting State] of its residents, except with respect to the benefits granted under [paragraph 2) of Article 9, or Articles 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 or 28] of [the Agreement].

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:
 - a) in the Republic of Poland:
 - (i) the personal income tax;
 - (ii) the corporate income tax;(hereinafter referred to as "Polish tax");
 - b) in the Slovak Republic:
 - (i) the tax on income of individuals;
 - (ii) the tax on income of legal persons;
 - (iii) the tax on immovable property;(hereinafter referred to as "Slovak tax").
4. This Agreement shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed by either Contracting State after the date of signature of this Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify to each other any significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

Article 3

General definitions

1. For the purpose of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a) the term "Poland" when used in geographical sense means the territory of the Republic of Poland, including any area beyond its territorial waters, within which under the laws of Poland and in accordance with international law, Poland may exercise its sovereign rights over the sea-bed, its subsoil and their natural resources;
 - b) the term "Slovakia" means Slovak Republic;
 - c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Poland or Slovak Republic 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 "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 law in force in a Contracting State;
- h) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship, aircraft, railway or road vehicle operated by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in a Contracting State, except when such transport is made solely between places in the other Contracting State;
- i) the term "competent authority" means:
 - (i) in the case of Poland, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative;
 - (ii) in the case of Slovakia, the Minister of Finance of the Slovak Republic or his authorized representative.

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

Article 4 Resident

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature. But this term 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 of the Contracting State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both Contracting States with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
- b) if the Contracting State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the Contracting State in which he has an habitual abode;
- c) if he has an habitual abode in both Contracting States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the Contracting State of which he is a national;
- d) if he is a national of both Contracting States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

[REPLACED by paragraph 1 of Article 4 of the MLI]

~~[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 of the State in which its place of effective management is situated. In case of doubts the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.]~~

The following paragraph 1 of Article 4 of the MLI replaces paragraph 3 of Article 4 of this Agreement:

ARTICLE 4 OF THE MLI – DUAL RESIDENT ENTITIES

Where by reason of the provisions of [*the Agreement*] a person other than an individual is a resident of both [*Contracting States*], the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] shall endeavour to determine by mutual agreement the [*Contracting State*] of which such person shall be deemed to be a resident for the purposes of [*the Agreement*], having regard to its place of effective management, the place where it is incorporated or otherwise constituted and any other relevant factors. In the absence of such agreement, such person shall not be entitled to any relief or exemption from tax provided by [*the Agreement*] except to the extent and in such manner as may be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*].

**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" shall include 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 assembly or installation project constitutes a permanent establishment only if it lasts more than 12 months starting from the date when effective work begins.
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 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 advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character, for the enterprise;
- f) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs a) to e), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from the 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, buildings, 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 purpose of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.

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

Article 8 International transport

1. Profits from the operation of ships, boats or aircraft or railway or road vehicles 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 in connection with international traffic 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.

Article 9 Associated enterprises¹

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.

¹ The wording of Article 9 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that Contracting State - and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other Contracting State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned Contracting State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other Contracting 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 recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends the tax so charged shall not exceed²:

- a) 0 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 on the date the dividends are paid and has done so or will have done so for an uninterrupted 24-month period in which that date falls;
- b) 5 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, 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 taxation 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.

² The wording of paragraph 2 of Article 10 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

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 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 State.

2. However, interest referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest the tax so charged shall not exceed 5 per cent of the gross amount of the interest³.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 interest arising in a Contracting State and derived by the Government of the other Contracting State including local authorities thereof, the Central Bank or any financial institution controlled by that Government, or interest derived on loans guaranteed by that Government shall be exempt from tax in the first mentioned State.

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 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 that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority 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

³ The wording of paragraph 2 of Article 11 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

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 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 (encompassing literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films and films or tapes for television or radio broadcasting), 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 experience⁴.

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 arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base is 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 that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority 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 a fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or a fixed base is situated.

⁴ The wording of paragraph 3 of Article 12 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

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 relationships the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

Article 13 Capital gains

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

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

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

[REPLACED by paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the MLI]

~~[4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares deriving more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State⁵.]~~

The following paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the MLI replaces paragraph 4 of Article 13 of this Agreement:

ARTICLE 9 OF THE MLI - CAPITAL GAINS FROM ALIENATION OF SHARES OR INTERESTS OF ENTITIES DERIVING THEIR VALUE PRINCIPALLY FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

For purposes of [*the Agreement*], gains derived by a resident of a [*Contracting State*] from the alienation of shares or comparable interests, such as interests in a partnership or trust, may be taxed in the other [*Contracting State*] if, at any time

⁵ The wording of paragraph 4 of Article 13 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

during the 365 days preceding the alienation, these shares or comparable interests derived more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property (real property) situated in that other [Contracting State].

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 resident⁶.

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 Contracting 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 and 19, 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 all following conditions are fulfilled:

- a) the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve- month period 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.

⁶ The wording of paragraph 5 of Article 13 presented as added by the Amending Protocol.

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 in connection with international traffic, 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 or any other similar organ 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 Article 14 and 15, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as 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, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, income mentioned in this Article shall be exempt from tax in the Contracting State in which the activity of the entertainer or the sportsman is exercised provided that this activity is supported in a substantial part out of public funds of that State or of the other State or the activity is exercised under a cultural agreement or arrangement between the Contracting States.

Article 18 **Pensions**

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

Article 19
Government service

1.
 - a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or local authority shall be taxable only in that State.
 - b) However, such 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 is a national of that State; or did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering 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 and 18 shall apply to remuneration and 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
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. A student at a university or other institution for higher education in a Contracting State, or a business apprentice who is present in the other Contracting State, for a period or periods not exceeding 183 days in any twelve month period concerned and who is or was immediately before such visit a resident of the first- mentioned State, shall not be taxed in the other Contracting State in respect of remuneration for services rendered in that other State, provided that the services are in connection with his studies or training and the remuneration constitutes earnings necessary for his maintenance.

Article 21
Professors and researchers

1. An individual who visits a Contracting State for the purpose of teaching or carrying out research at a university, college or other recognized educational institution in that Contracting State and who is or was immediately before that visit a resident of the other Contracting State, shall be exempted from taxation in the first- mentioned Contracting State on remuneration or such teaching or research for a period not exceeding two years from the date of his first visit for that purpose.
2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to income from research if such research is undertaken not in the public interest but primarily for the private benefit of a specific person or persons.

Article 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, boats, aircraft or railway and road vehicles operated in international traffic and be movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships, boats, aircraft or railway and road vehicles, 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 Elimination of double taxation⁷

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

[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 this Agreement may be taxed in Slovakia, Poland shall, subject to the provisions of letters b) and c), exempt such income or capital from tax. Poland may in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of such resident apply the rate of tax which would have been applicable if the exempted income had not been so exempted.]~~

The following paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the MLI replaces subparagraph a) and c) of paragraph 1 of Article 24 of this Agreement:

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 Slovakia in accordance with the provisions of [this Agreement] (except to the extent that these provisions allow taxation by [Slovakia] solely because the income is also income derived by a resident of [Slovakia]), [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 [Slovakia];
- ii) as a deduction from the tax on the capital of that resident, an amount equal to the capital tax paid in [Slovakia].

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 [Slovakia].

Where in accordance with any provision of [the 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 income or capital gains which, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 16 may be

⁷ The wording of Article 24 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

taxed in Slovakia, Poland shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income or capital gains of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Slovakia. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such income or capital gains derived from Slovakia.

[REPLACED by paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the MLI]⁸

~~[c) — The provisions of paragraph 1 letter a) shall not apply to income derived or capital owned by a resident of Poland where Slovakia applies the provisions of this Agreement or its domestic provisions to exempt such income or capital from tax or applies the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 10, or of Article 11 or 12 to such income.]~~

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

Slovakia when imposing taxes on its residents may include in the tax base upon which such taxes are imposed the items of income which according to the provisions of this Agreement may also be taxed in Poland, but shall allow as a deduction from the amount of tax computed on such a base an amount equal to the tax paid in Poland. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Slovak tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriate to the income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Poland.

The following paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement:

ARTICLE 3 OF THE MLI - TRANSPARENT ENTITIES

[Article 24 of the Agreement] shall not apply to the extent that such provision allows taxation by that other [Contracting State] solely because the income is also income derived by a resident of that other [Contracting State].

**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 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.

⁸ The wording of paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the MLI is presented in this document immediately after subparagraph a) of paragraph 1 of Article 24 of the Agreement.

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 State than the taxation levied on enterprise of that other State carrying on the same activities. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.
3. Except where the provisions of Article 9, of paragraph 7 of Article 11, or of 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.
4. Enterprise of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of that first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.
5. The provisions of this Article shall apply to the taxes referred to in Article 2 of this Agreement.

Article 26

Mutual agreement procedure

1. Where a resident of a Contracting State considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with 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.

The following second sentence of paragraph 2 of Article 16 of the MLI applies to this Agreement:

ARTICLE 16 OF THE MLI – MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

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. When it seems advisable in order to reach agreement to have an oral exchange of opinions, such exchange may take place through a Commission consisting of representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

Article 27 **Exchange of information⁹**

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 concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.

2. Any information received under paragraph 1 by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that Contracting State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, information received by a Contracting State may be used for other purposes when such information may be used for such other purposes under the laws of both Contracting States and the competent authority of the supplying Contracting State authorises such use.

⁹ The wording of Article 27 presented as amended by the Amending Protocol.

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

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

4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other Contracting 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 28

Diplomatic agents and consular officers

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

The following paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI applies and supersedes the provisions of this Agreement¹⁰:

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

¹⁰ Article 7(1) of the MLI applies to all the provisions of the Agreement (as in practice it is added to the Agreement).

benefit in these circumstances would be in accordance with the object and purpose of the relevant provisions of [*the Agreement*].

Article 28A **Limitation of benefits¹¹**

Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent tax administration from identifying the substance of transaction. The benefits of this Agreement shall not apply if income is paid or derived in connection with an artificial arrangement.

Article 29 **Entry into force**

1. The Governments of the Contracting States shall notify to each other that the legal requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement have been complied with.
2. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the latter of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect in both Contracting States:
 - a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, to amounts derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Agreement enters into force;
 - b) in respect of other taxes on income, and taxes on capital, to taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Agreement enters into force.
3. On the date of the entry into effect of this Agreement the Treaty between the Czechoslovak Republic and the Republic of Poland for avoidance of double taxation with respect to direct state taxes signed in Warsaw on 23 April 1925 shall terminate.

Article 30 **Termination**

1. 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 notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar 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 taxes withheld at source, to amounts derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given;

¹¹ The wording of Article 28A presented as added by the Amending Protocol.

- b) in respect of other taxes on income, and taxes on capital, to taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given.

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

Done in duplicate at Warsaw this 18th day of August 1994 in the Polish, Slovak and English languages all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

PROTOCOL

to the Agreement between the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital.

On the signature of the Agreement between the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital the signatories below duly authorized thereto, have agreed as follows:

1. Since the entry into effect of this Agreement the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic suspend in their mutual relations the application of the Multilateral Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to income and capital of individuals signed in Miskolc on 27 May 1977 and the Multilateral Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to income and capital of legal entities signed in Ulan-Bator on 19 May 1978.

2. The computation of the period referred to in Article 5, paragraph 3 of the Agreement shall begin on 1 January 1995.

3. The building site or activities referred to in Article 5, paragraph 3 of the Agreement related to contracts concluded before 1 June 1994 shall not be regarded as permanent establishment if they do not exceed 18 months after 1 July 1994.

This Protocol shall form an integral part of the above mentioned Agreement.

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

Done in duplicate at Warsaw this 18th day of August 1994 in the Polish, Slovak and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergency of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.