

# **1997 Income Tax Convention and Final Protocol**

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## **CONVENTION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain,  
Desiring to conclude a Convention for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income,  
Have agreed as follows:

### **Article 1 Personal Scope**

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

### **Article 2 Taxes Covered**

1. This Convention shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income, or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, 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 Convention shall apply are in particular:
  - (a) In the case of Thailand:
    - the income tax; and
    - the petroleum income tax;(hereinafter referred to as "Thai tax");
  - (b) In the case of Spain:
    - the income tax on individuals; and
    - the corporation tax;(hereinafter referred to as "Spanish tax").
4. The Convention shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of the Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of significant changes which have been made, in their respective taxation laws.

### **Article 3 General Definitions**

1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) the term "Spain" means the Kingdom of Spain and, when used geographically, means the territory of the Spanish State including any areas outside the territorial sea upon which, in accordance with international law and domestic legislation, the Spanish State may exercise jurisdiction or sovereign rights with respect to the seabed, its subsoil and superjacent waters, and their natural resources;
  - (b) the term "Thailand" means the Kingdom of Thailand and includes any area adjacent to the territorial sea of the Kingdom of Thailand including the seabed and subsoil over which the Kingdom of Thailand may exercise jurisdiction by virtue of its legislation and in accordance with international law;
  - (c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Spain or Thailand 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 "tax" means Thai tax or Spanish tax as the context requires;
  - (h) the term "national" means:
    - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;

(ii) any legal person, partnership, association and any other entity deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;

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

(j) the term "competent authority" means in the case of Spain, the Minister of Economy and Finance or his authorized representative, and, in the case of Thailand, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative.

2. As regards the application of the Convention 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 the Convention applies.

#### **Article 4 Resident**

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the law of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, 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.

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 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 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 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 of the State of which he is a national;

(d) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

#### **Article 5 Permanent Establishment**

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

2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:

(a) a place of management;

(b) a branch;

(c) an office;

(d) a factory;

(e) a workshop;

(f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources;

(g) a farm or plantation;

3.

(a) The term "permanent establishment" shall also include: a building site, a construction, installation or assembly project, or supervisory activities in connection therewith, where such site, project or activities continue for a period of more than 6 months;

(b) the furnishing of services including consultancy services by a resident of one of the Contracting States through employees or other personnel, where activities of that nature continue for the same or a connected project within the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 6 months within any twelve-month period.

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

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

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

- (c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;
- (d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise, or of collecting information, for the enterprise;
- (e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of 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 this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 4, where a person -- other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies -- is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State, if such a person:

- (a) has and habitually exercises in the first-mentioned State an authority to conclude contracts on behalf of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to the purchase of goods or merchandise for the enterprise;
- (b) has no such authority, but habitually maintains in the first-mentioned State a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise from which he regularly fills orders or makes deliveries on behalf of the enterprise; or
- (c) has no such authority, but habitually secures orders in the first-mentioned State wholly or almost wholly for the enterprise or for the enterprise and other enterprises which are controlled by it or have a controlling interest in it.

6. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except with regard to reinsurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other State if it collects premiums in the territory of that other State or insures risks situated therein through an employee or through a representative who is not an agent of an independent status within the meaning of paragraph 7 of this Article.

7. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other 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.

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

### **Article 6 Income From Immovable Property**

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

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships, 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 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:

- (a) that permanent establishment;

(b) sales in that other State of goods or merchandise of the same or similar kind as those sold through that permanent establishment; or

(c) other business activities carried on in that other State of the same or similar kind as those effected through that permanent establishment.

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

3. In the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the business of the permanent establishment including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere. However, no such deduction shall be allowed in respect of amounts, if any, paid (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses) by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission, for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the permanent establishment. Likewise, no account shall be taken, in the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment for amounts charged (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses), by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices.

4. Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment, in the case of a person who does not claim taxation on the basis of the actual net profits of the permanent establishment, on the basis of a certain reasonable percentage of the gross receipts of the permanent establishment, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude such State from determining the profits to be taxed by such a method.

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

### **Article 8 Shipping and Air Transport**

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

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

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

### **Article 9 Associated Enterprises**

Where

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

(b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of a Contracting State and an enterprise of the other Contracting State, and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

### **Article 10 Dividends**

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other 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 exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application or these limitations.

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

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

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other 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. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as preventing a Contracting State from imposing income tax, according to the laws of that State, on the disposal of profits made by a permanent establishment situated therein, but such tax shall not be levied at the rate exceeding the rate provided in paragraph 2 of this Article.

### **Article 11 Interest**

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

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

a) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest if it is received by any financial institution (including an insurance company);

b) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the interest in other cases.

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, interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State, shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State if it is paid in respect of a loan made by:

(a) in the case of Thailand, means the Government of Thailand and shall include:

(i) the Bank of Thailand;

(ii) Export-Import Bank of Thailand

(iii) the local authorities; and

(iv) such institutions, the capital of which is wholly owned by the Government of Thailand or any local authorities as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the two Contracting States;

(b) in the case of Spain, means:

(i) The Bank of Spain;

(ii) Any financial instrumentality as may be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

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

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: (a) such permanent establishment or fixed base; or with: (b) business activities referred to under (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 7. 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 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 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 Convention.

## **Article 12 Royalties**

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

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner 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 royalties for the use of, or the right to use, any copyrights of literary, dramatic, musical, artistic or scientific work, excluding cinematograph films or films or tapes used for radio or television broadcasting;

(b) 8 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties received in consideration of financial leasing for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment; and

(c) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties in all other cases.

3. The term "royalties" as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work, including cinematograph films, or films or tapes used for radio or television broadcasting, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment including the amount receiving in consideration in financial leasing, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience. The term "royalties" also includes gains derived from the alienation of such right or property to the extent that such gains are contingent on productivity, use, or disposition thereof.

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: (a) such permanent establishment or fixed base; or with: (b) business activities referred to under (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 7. In such cases 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 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 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 Convention.

## **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 derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares or comparable rights in a company, the assets of which consist wholly or principally of immovable property as referred to in Article 6 and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other 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 a fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.
4. Gains derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.
5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article and paragraph 3 of Article 12, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

## **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 except in the following circumstances, when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State if he has a fixed base available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities, for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within any twelve-month period; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other State.
2. The term "professional services" includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, dentists, lawyers, engineers, architects 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 of this Article, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if:
  - (a) the recipient is present in the other State for period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within any twelve-month period; and
  - (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other 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 by an enterprise of a Contracting State may be taxable only in that State.

## **Article 16 Director's 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 Athletes**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 and 15, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as an athlete, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.
2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or an athlete in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or athlete himself but to another person, that income

may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or athlete are exercised.

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

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

### **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 that State.

### **Article 19 Governmental Function**

1.

(a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or 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:

(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 local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State 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 local authority thereof.

### **Article 20 Students**

A student or business apprentice who, immediately before visiting a Contracting State, was a resident of the other Contracting State and whose visit to the first-mentioned Contracting State is solely for the purpose of education or training shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned State on:

(i) remittances from abroad for the purposes of his maintenance, education, study, research or training;

(ii) a grant, allowance or award from a governmental scientific, literary or educational organization; and

(iii) income from personal services rendered in that State provided the income constitutes earnings reasonably necessary for his maintenance and education, and that the study or training is not of a secondary character in respect of the services rendered.

### **Article 21 Professors, Teachers and Researchers**

1. An individual who is a resident of a Contracting State immediately before making a visit to the other Contracting State and who, at the invitation of any university, college, school, or other similar educational institution which is officially recognised in that other Contracting State, visits that other Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years solely for the purpose of teaching or research or both at such educational institution shall be exempt from tax in that other Contracting State on any remuneration for such teaching or research.

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

### **Article 22 Income Not Expressly Mentioned**

1. Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Convention 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.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, items of income of a resident of Contracting State not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Convention and arising in the other Contracting State may also be taxed in that other State.

### **Article 23 Elimination of Double Taxation**

1. The laws in force in either of the Contracting States shall continue to govern the taxation of income in the respective Contracting States except when an express provision to the contrary is made in this Convention. When income is subject to tax in both Contracting States, relief from double taxation shall be given in accordance with the following paragraphs of this Article.

2. In Spain, double taxation will be avoided, in the Following manner:

(a) Where a resident of Spain derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in Thailand, Spain shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the income tax paid in Thailand.

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

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

3. In the case of Thailand, where a resident of Thailand derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention may be taxed in Spain, Thailand shall allow as a deduction from Thai tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Spain. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Thai tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriated to such items of income.

4. For the purposes of subparagraph (a) of paragraph 2, the term "income tax paid in Thailand" shall be deemed to include any amount which would have been payable as Thai tax in accordance with the provisions of the Convention for any year but for an exemption or reduction of tax granted with a view to promoting industrial, commercial, scientific, educational or other development in Thailand, for that year or any part thereof under:

(a) Sections 31 and 35(3) (but only to the extent that the exemption or reduction allowed by those provisions would not have been available if those provisions had not been enacted), 33, 34, 35(2) and 35(4) of the Investment Promotion Act B.E. 2520 so been modified since, the date of signature of this Convention, or have been modified only in minor respects so as not to affect their general character; or

(b) any other provision which may subsequently be made granting an exemption or reduction of tax which is agreed by the competent authorities of the Contracting State to be of a substantially similar character, if it has not been modified thereafter or has been modified only in minor respects so as not to affect its general character.

The provisions of this paragraph shall only apply for a period of 10 years beginning on the first day of January of the taxable year next following that in which this Convention enters into force. This period may be extended by mutual agreement between the competent authorities.

### **Article 24 Non-Discrimination**

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

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 enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities.

3. Except where the provisions 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 resident of the first-mentioned State.

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

5. The provisions of this Article shall 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.

6. In this Article the term "taxation" means taxes of every kind and description.

### **Article 25 Mutual Agreement Procedure**

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

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 Convention.

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 Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Convention.

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

### **Article 26 Exchange of Information**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Convention. 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) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Convention. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

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

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

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

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

### **Article 27 Diplomatic Agents and Consular Officials**

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

### **Article 28 Entry Into Force**

1. This Convention shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Bangkok as soon as possible.

2. The Convention shall enter into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification and its provisions shall have effect:

(a) in respect of taxes withheld at the source, on amounts paid or remitted on or after the first day of January next following that in which the exchange of instruments of ratification takes place;

(b) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxable years or accounting periods beginning on or after the first day of January next following that in which the exchange of instruments of ratification takes place.

### **Article 29 Termination**

This Convention shall remain in force indefinitely, but either of the Contracting States may, on or before 30th June in any calendar year beginning after the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force, give to the other Contracting State, through diplomatic channels, written notice of termination.

In such event the Convention shall cease to have effect:

(a) in respect of taxes withheld at the source, on amounts paid or remitted on or after the first day of January next following that in which the notice is given;

(b) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxable years or accounting periods beginning on or after the first day of January next following that in which the notice is given.

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

Done in duplicate at Madrid on this 14th day of October 1997, each in the Thai, Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authoritative, except in the case of doubt when the English text shall prevail.

### **FOR THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND:**

*Mr. Prachuab Chaiyasarn*

*Minister of Foreign Affairs*

### **FOR THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN:**

*Mr. Abel Matutes Juan*

*Minister of Foreign Affairs*

### **PROTOCOL**

At the signing of the Convention between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Kingdom of Spain for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, the undersigned have agreed upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Convention:

1. With reference to paragraph 1(d) of Article 3, the term "person", in the case of Thailand, also includes an undivided Estate.

2. (1) With reference to paragraph 4 of Article 5, if a person who is a resident of a Contracting State, provides a warehouse or any facilities in one of the Contracting States for other persons to store goods or merchandise, he shall be deemed to be carrying on a business in that Contracting State through a permanent establishment.

(2) With reference to paragraph 4(a) and (b) of Article 5, it is understood that the use of facilities for delivery shall be deemed to constitute a permanent establishment if they are used as a sales outlet.

3. With reference to paragraph 7 of Article 5 of the Convention, the term "a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status" is understood not to include a person who is engaged in one of the Contracting States in such activities as prescribed in sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph 5 of the said Article wholly or almost wholly for or on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State or for or on behalf of such enterprise and other enterprises which are controlled by or have a controlling interest in such enterprise.

4. With reference to subparagraphs (b) and (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 7, it is understood that:

(1) in the case of doubt, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall consult with each other to arrive at a satisfactory solution as regards the similarity of the goods or merchandise or the business activities mentioned in the said subparagraphs;

(2) losses arising in connection with the sales or business activities referred to in the above subparagraphs shall also be taken into account when determining the profits of the permanent establishment.

5. With reference to paragraph 2 of Article 8 it is understood that the lesser of the tax rate applied by the Contracting States on income derived by an enterprise of any other country from the operation of ships in international traffic shall be extended through mutual agreement between the competent authorities.

6. With reference to paragraph 5 of Article 10, if after the signature of this Convention either Contracting State concludes a Convention to avoid double taxation with another country, in which the tax on disposal of profits referred to in such paragraph, is not applicable, such an exemption shall be granted through mutual agreement between the competent authorities of the two Contracting States.

7. With reference to paragraph 2 of Article 12, the royalties received in consideration of financial leasing means the amount received in consideration for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment where the lessee has the option at the end of the contract to buy the equipment, to continue leasing or to terminate the contract.

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

Done in duplicate at Madrid this 14th day of October 1997, in the Thai, Spanish and English languages.

**FOR THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND:**

*Mr. Prachuab Chaiyasan*

*Minister of Foreign Affairs*

**FOR THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN:**

*Mr. Abel Matutes Juan*

*Minister of Foreign Affairs*