

AGREEMENT OF 18TH JANUARY, 1974

Japan

CONVENTION BETWEEN IRELAND AND JAPAN FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of Ireland and the Government of Japan,

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

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

Article 2

1. The taxes which are the subject of this Convention are:

- (a) in Ireland:
 - (i) the income tax (including sur-tax), and
 - (ii) the corporation profits tax;
- (b) in Japan:
 - (i) the income tax,
 - (ii) the corporation tax, and
 - (iii) the local inhabitant taxes.

2. This Convention shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes, whether national or local, which are imposed in either Contracting State after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify to each other any changes which are made in their respective taxation laws.

3. With respect to enterprises operating ships or aircraft this Convention shall also apply to the taxes referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 9.

Article 3

1. In this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the term "Japan", when used in a geographical sense, means the territory in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force;
- (b) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Ireland or Japan, as the context requires;

- (c) the term “nationals” means:
 - (i) in relation to Ireland, all citizens of Ireland and all legal persons, partnerships and associations deriving their status as such from the laws in force in Ireland;
 - (ii) in relation to Japan, all individuals possessing the nationality of Japan and all juridical persons created or organised under the laws of Japan and all organisations without juridical personality treated for the purposes of Japanese tax as juridical persons created or organised under the laws of Japan;
- (d) the term “person” includes 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 “Irish tax” means tax imposed in Ireland being tax to which this Convention applies by virtue of paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 of Article 2; the term “Japanese tax” means tax imposed in Japan being tax to which this Convention applies by virtue of paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 of Article 2;
- (h) the term “tax” means Irish tax or Japanese tax, as the context requires;
- (i) the term “competent authority” means, in the case of Ireland, the Revenue Commissioners or their authorised representative and, in the case of Japan, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
- (j) 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.

2. As regards the application of this Convention by a Contracting State any term not otherwise defined shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the laws of that Contracting State relating to the taxes which are the subject of this Convention.

Article 4

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means, any person who, under the laws of that Contracting State, is liable to taxation therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of head or main office, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature; the term does not include any individual who is liable to tax in that Contracting State only if he derives income from sources therein.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then the competent authorities shall determine by mutual agreement the Contracting State of which that individual shall be deemed to be a resident for the purposes of this Convention.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident of the Contracting State in which its head or main office is situated.

Article 5

Where under any provision of this Convention income is relieved from tax of a Contracting State and, under the laws in force in the other Contracting State, an individual, in respect of the said income, is subject to tax by reference to the amount thereof which is remitted to or received in that other Contracting State and not by reference to the full amount thereof, then the relief to be allowed under this Convention in the first-mentioned Contracting State shall apply only to so much of the income as is remitted to or received in that other Contracting State.

Article 6

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term “permanent establishment” means a fixed place of business in which the business of the 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;
- (f) a mine, quarry or other place of extraction of natural resources;
- (g) a building site or construction or assembly project which exists for more than twelve months.

3. The term “permanent establishment” shall not be deemed 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 for 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.

4. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it carries on the activity of providing the services within that other Contracting State of public entertainers or athletes referred to in Article 18.

5. A person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State--other than an agent of an independent status to whom the provisions of paragraph 6 of this Article apply--shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned Contracting State if:

- (a) he has, and habitually exercises in that Contracting State, an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to the purchase of goods or merchandise for the enterprise, or
- (b) he maintains in that Contracting State a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise from which he regularly fills orders on behalf of the enterprise.

6. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other Contracting State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, where 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 Contracting State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

Article 7

1. Income from immovable property may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.

2. The term “immovable property” shall be defined in accordance with the laws 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 immovable 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 of this Article 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 of this Article shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to income from immovable property used for the performance of professional services.

Article 8

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting 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 that other Contracting State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

2. 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 at arm's length 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 Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4. In so far 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 of this Article 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 laid down in this Article.

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

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

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

Article 9

1. Profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic carried on by an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the other Contracting State.

2. In respect of the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic carried on by an enterprise of a Contracting State, that enterprise, if an enterprise of Ireland, shall be exempt from the enterprise tax in Japan, and, if an enterprise of Japan, shall be exempt from any tax similar to the enterprise tax in Japan which may hereafter be imposed in Ireland.

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

Article 10

(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.

Article 11

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

2. However, such dividends may be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but the tax so charged shall be limited pursuant to the provisions of subparagraphs (a) and (b):

- (a) dividends paid by a company which is a resident of Ireland to a resident of Japan shall be exempt from Irish sur-tax;
- (b) dividends paid by a company which is a resident of Japan to a resident of Ireland who is subject to Irish tax in respect thereof shall not be chargeable to tax in Japan at a rate exceeding 15 per cent:

Provided that where the resident of Ireland is a company which owns at least 25 per cent of the entire voting shares of the company paying such dividends during the period of 6 months immediately preceding the date of payment of the dividends, such dividends shall not be chargeable to tax in Japan at a rate exceeding 10 per cent.

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 assimilated to income from shares by the taxation laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the recipient of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, has in the other Contracting State, of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, a permanent establishment with which the holding by virtue of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected. In such a case, the provisions of Article 8 shall apply.

5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other Contracting State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company to persons who are not residents of that other Contracting State, or subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in that other Contracting State.

Article 12

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

2. However, such interest may be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

3. The term “interest” as used in this Article means income from Government securities, bonds or debentures, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in profits, and other debt-claims of every kind, and any excess of the amount repaid in respect of such debt-claims over the amount lent, as well as all other income assimilated to income from money lent by the taxation laws of the Contracting State in which the income arises.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the recipient of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, has in the other Contracting State a permanent establishment and the debt-claim from which the interest arises is effectively connected with a business carried on through that permanent establishment. In such a case, the provisions of Article 8 shall apply.

5. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that Contracting State itself, a local authority or a resident of that Contracting 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 in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated.

6. Where, owing to a special relationship between the payer and the recipient or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest paid, 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 recipient in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In that 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

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

2. However, such royalties may be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.

3. The term “royalties” as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films and films or tapes for radio or television broadcasting, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the recipient of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, has in the other Contracting State a permanent establishment and the right or property giving rise to the royalties is effectively connected with a business carried on through that permanent establishment. In such a case, the provisions of Article 8 shall apply.

5. Where, owing to a special relationship between the payer and the recipient or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties paid, 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 recipient in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In that 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 14

1. Gains from the alienation of immovable property, as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 7, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.

2. Gains from the alienation of any property (other than immovable 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 any property (other than immovable property) pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing professional services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or together with the whole enterprise) or of such a fixed base, may be taxed in that other Contracting State. However, gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic and any property (other than immovable property) pertaining to the operation of such ships and aircraft shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

3. Gains from the alienation of any property other than those mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

Article 15

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other independent activities of a similar character shall be taxable only in that Contracting 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 that 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 16

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 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 Contracting State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 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 Contracting State if:

- (a) the recipient is present in that other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in the taxable year concerned, and
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of that other Contracting State, and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in that other Contracting State.

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

Article 17

Remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

Article 18

Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, income derived by public entertainers, such as theatre, motion picture, radio or television artistes, and musicians, and by athletes, from their personal activities as such may be taxed in the Contracting State in which these activities are exercised.

Article 19

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment and any annuity paid to such a resident shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

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

Article 20

1.
 - (a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a local authority thereof to any individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or local authority thereof, in the discharge of functions of a governmental nature, shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
 - (b) However, such remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other Contracting State and the recipient is a resident of that other Contracting State who:
 - (i) is a national of that other Contracting State; or
 - (ii) did not become a resident of that other Contracting State solely for the purpose of performing the services.
2.
 - (a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a local authority thereof to any individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or local authority thereof shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
 - (b) However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the pensioner is a national of and a resident of that other Contracting State.
3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply to remuneration and pensions in respect of services rendered in connection with any trade or business carried on by a Contracting State or a local authority thereof.

Article 21

Payments or income received for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training by a student or business apprentice who is present in a Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training and who is, or immediately before being so present was, a resident of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax of the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments are made for him from outside that first-mentioned Contracting State or that such income is received in respect of his personal services performed in that first-mentioned Contracting State in an amount not in excess of 600,000 Japanese yen or its equivalent in Irish pounds during any taxable year.

Article 22

1. A professor or teacher who visits a Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years for the purpose of teaching at a university, college, school or other educational institution in that Contracting State and who is, or was immediately before that visit, a resident of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned Contracting State in respect of any remuneration for such teaching.
2. An individual from one of the Contracting States who is temporarily present in the other Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years as a recipient of a grant, allowance or award for the primary purpose of conducting research from a governmental, religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational organisation shall be exempt from tax in that other Contracting State in respect of the amount of such grant, allowance or award.

Article 23

Items of income arising in a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State which are not expressly mentioned in the foregoing Articles of this Convention shall be taxable only in that other Contracting State.

Article 24

1. Subject to the provisions of the laws of Ireland regarding the allowance as a credit against Irish tax of tax payable in a territory outside Ireland and to any subsequent modifications of these provisions--which, however, shall not affect the principle hereof--Japanese tax payable under the laws of Japan and in accordance with this Convention, whether directly or by deduction, in respect of income from sources within Japan shall be allowed as a credit against any Irish tax payable in respect of that income. Where such income is an ordinary dividend paid by a company resident in Japan the credit shall take into account (in addition to any Japanese tax payable in respect of the dividend) the Japanese tax payable by the company in respect of its profits, and, where it is a dividend paid on participating preference shares and representing both a dividend at the fixed rate to which the shares are entitled and an additional participation in profits, the Japanese tax so payable by the company shall likewise be taken into account in so far as the dividend exceeds that fixed rate.

2. Subject to the laws of Japan regarding the allowance as a credit against Japanese tax of tax payable in any country other than Japan:

- (a) Where a resident of Japan derives income (other than a dividend) from Ireland which may be taxed in Ireland in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, the amount of Irish tax payable in respect of that income shall be allowed as a credit against the Japanese tax imposed on that resident. The amount of credit, however, shall not exceed that part of the Japanese tax which is appropriate to that income.
- (b) Where the income derived from Ireland is a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Ireland to a company which is a resident of Japan and which owns not less than 25 per cent either of the voting shares of the company paying the dividend, or of the total shares issued by that company, the credit shall take into account the Irish tax payable by the company paying the dividend in respect of its profits.
- (c) For the purposes of the credit referred to in subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, there shall be deemed to have been paid by a company the Irish tax which would have been payable if the Irish tax had not been wholly relieved or reduced for a limited period of time in accordance with the special incentive measures designed to promote economic development in Ireland effective on the date of signature of this Convention, or which may be introduced in future in the Irish tax laws in modification of, or in addition to, such measures:

Provided that the scope of the benefit accorded to the taxpayer by those measures shall be agreed to by the Governments of both Contracting States.

3. For the purposes of this Article, income derived from sources in the United Kingdom by an individual who is a resident of Ireland shall be deemed to be income from sources in Ireland if such income is not subject to United Kingdom income tax.

Article 25

1. Individuals who are residents of Ireland shall be entitled to the same personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for the purposes of Japanese income tax as Japanese nationals not resident in Japan may be entitled.

2. Individuals who are residents of Japan shall be entitled to the same personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for the purposes of Irish income tax as Irish citizens who are not resident in Ireland.

Article 26

1. The nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other Contracting State in the same circumstances 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 Contracting State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other Contracting State carrying on the same activities. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes which it grants to its own residents.

3. 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 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 Contracting State are or may be subjected.

4. The provisions of this Article shall not be construed as obliging Ireland to grant to any company other than a company created under the company laws of Ireland and resident therein for the purposes of the income tax, any relief or exemption allowed in accordance with the provisions of:

- (i) the Finance (Profits of Certain Mines) (Temporary Relief from Taxation) Act, 1956 (No. 8 of 1956), as subsequently amended, or
- (ii) Chapter II of Part XXV of the Income Tax Act, 1967 (No. 6 of 1967), as subsequently amended.

5. In this Article the term “taxation” means taxes of every kind and description.

Article 27

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, notwithstanding the remedies provided by the national laws of those Contracting States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident.

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 an appropriate 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 not in accordance with this 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 this Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in this Convention.

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

Article 28

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information (being information which is at their disposal under their respective taxation laws in the normal course of administration) as is necessary for the carrying out of this Convention or for the prevention of fraud or the administration of statutory provisions against legal avoidance in relation to taxes which are the subject of this Convention. Any information so exchanged shall be treated as secret and shall not be disclosed to any persons other than persons (including a court or administrative body) concerned with the assessment or collection of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes which are the subject of this Convention.

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

- (a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws or the administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (b) to supply particulars which are not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State; or
- (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.

Article 29

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

Article 30

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

2. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification and shall have effect:

- (a) in Ireland:
 - (i) as respects income tax (including sur-tax) for any year of assessment beginning on or after the 6th April of the calendar year in which this Convention enters into force;
 - (ii) as respects corporation profits tax, for any accounting period beginning on or after the 1st April of the calendar year in which this Convention enters into force and for the unexpired portion of any accounting period current at that date;
- (b) in Japan: as respects income for any taxable year beginning on or after the 1st January of the calendar year in which this Convention enters into force.

Article 31

This Convention shall remain in force indefinitely, but either Contracting State may, on or before the 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, this Convention shall cease to have effect:

- (a) in Ireland:
 - (i) as respects income tax (including sur-tax) for any year of assessment beginning on or after the 6th April in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given;
 - (ii) as respects corporation profits tax for any accounting period beginning on or after the 1st April in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given and for the unexpired portion of any accounting period current at that date;
- (b) in Japan: as respects income for any taxable year beginning on or after the 1st January of the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given.