

UK/JAPAN DOUBLE TAXATION CONVENTION

SIGNED 2 FEBRUARY 2006

Entered into force 12 October 2006

Effective in United Kingdom from 1 January 2007 for taxes withheld at source, from 1 April 2007 for corporation tax and from 6 April 2007 for income tax and capital gains tax

Effective in Japan from 1 January 2007

Double Taxation Agreements are reproduced under the terms of Crown Copyright Policy Guidance issued by HMSO.

CONTENTS

Page no.

Article 1.....	3
Article 2.....	3
Article 3.....	3
Article 4.....	5
Article 5.....	6
Article 6.....	7
Article 7.....	7
Article 8.....	8
Article 9.....	9
Article 10.....	10
Article 11.....	11
Article 12.....	13
Article 13.....	13
Article 14.....	14
Article 15.....	14
Article 16.....	15
Article 17.....	15
Article 18.....	15
Article 19.....	16
Article 20.....	16
Article 21.....	16
Article 22.....	17
Article 23.....	19
Article 24.....	20
Article 25.....	21
Article 26.....	21
Article 27.....	22
Article 28.....	22
Article 29.....	23
PROTOCOL.....	24
Exchange of Notes.....	25

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND JAPAN FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF
DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH
RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL GAINS

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan,

Desiring to conclude a new Convention for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital gains,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

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

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 2

1. This Convention shall apply to the following taxes:

- (a) in the case of Japan:
 - (i) the income tax;
 - (ii) the corporation tax; and
 - (iii) the local inhabitant taxes

(hereinafter referred to as “Japanese tax”);

- (b) in the case of the United Kingdom:
 - (i) the income tax;
 - (ii) the corporation tax; and
 - (iii) the capital gains tax

(hereinafter referred to as “United Kingdom tax”).

2. This Convention shall also apply 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, those referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any substantial changes which have been made in their respective tax laws, or changes in other laws that significantly affect their obligations under the Convention, within a reasonable period of time after such changes.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 3

1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the term “United Kingdom” means Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including any area outside the territorial sea of the United Kingdom designated under its laws concerning the Continental shelf and in accordance with international law as an area within which the rights of the United Kingdom with respect to the seabed and subsoil and their natural resources may be exercised;

- (b) the term “Japan”, when used in a geographical sense, means all the territory of Japan, including its territorial sea, in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force, and all the area beyond its territorial sea, including the seabed and subsoil thereof, over which Japan may exercise sovereign rights in accordance with international law and in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force;
- (c) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean Japan or the United Kingdom, as the context requires;
- (d) the term “tax” means Japanese tax or United Kingdom tax, as the context requires;
- (e) the term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
- (f) the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- (g) the term “enterprise” applies to the carrying on of any business;
- (h) 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;
- (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;
- (j) the term “national” of a Contracting State means:
 - (i) in the case of the United Kingdom, any British citizen, or any British subject not possessing the citizenship of any other Commonwealth country or territory, provided he has the right of abode in the United Kingdom and any legal person, partnership, association or other entity deriving its status as such from the laws in force in the United Kingdom; and
 - (ii) in the case of Japan, any individual possessing the nationality of Japan and any juridical person created or organised under the laws of Japan and any organisation without juridical personality treated for the purposes of Japanese tax as a juridical person created or organised under the laws of Japan;
- (k) the term “competent authority” means:
 - (i) in the case of the United Kingdom, the Commissioners for Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs or their authorised representative; and
 - (ii) in the case of Japan, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
- (l) the term “business” includes the performance of professional services and of other activities of an independent character; and
- (m) the term “pension fund or pension scheme” means any plan, scheme, fund, trust or other arrangement that is:
 - (i) established under the laws of a Contracting State;
 - (ii) operated principally to administer or provide pensions, retirement benefits or other similar remuneration or to earn income or gains for the benefit of one or more such arrangements; and
 - (iii) exempt from tax in that Contracting State with respect to income or gains derived from activities described in clause (ii) of this subparagraph.

2. As regards the application of this Convention at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has at that time under the laws of that Contracting State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Convention applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Contracting State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

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 tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of head or main office, place of management, place of incorporation or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes:

- (a) the Government of that Contracting State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof;
- (b) a pension fund or pension scheme established under the laws of that Contracting State; and
- (c) an organisation established under the laws of that Contracting State and operated exclusively for a religious, charitable, educational, scientific, artistic, cultural or public purpose (or for more than one of those purposes), only if all or part of its income or gains may be exempt from tax under the domestic laws of that Contracting State.

This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that Contracting State in respect only of income, profits or gains from sources in that Contracting State.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

- (a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the 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, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State 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 does not have a permanent home available to him in either Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only 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 only 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.

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 the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall determine by mutual agreement the Contracting State of which that person shall be deemed to be a resident for the purposes of this Convention. In the absence of a mutual agreement by the competent authorities of the Contracting States, the person shall not be considered a resident of either Contracting State for the purposes of claiming any benefits provided by the Convention, except those provided by paragraph 1 of Article 23, Article 24 and Article 25 of the Convention.

4. Where, pursuant to any provision of this Convention, a Contracting State reduces the rate of tax on, or exempts from tax, income, profits or gains of a resident of the other Contracting State and under the laws in force in that other Contracting State the resident is subject to tax by that other Contracting State only on that part of such income, profits or gains which is remitted to or received in that other Contracting State, then the reduction or exemption shall apply only to so much of such income, profits or gains as is remitted to or received in that other Contracting State.

5. For the purposes of applying this Convention:

- (a) an item of income, profit or gain:
 - (i) derived from a Contracting State through an entity that is organised in the other Contracting State; and
 - (ii) treated as an item of income, profit or gain of the beneficiaries, members or participants of that entity under the tax laws of that other Contracting State;

shall be eligible for the benefits of the Convention that would be granted if it were directly derived by a beneficiary, member or participant of that entity who is a resident of that other Contracting State, to the extent that such beneficiaries, members or participants are residents of that other Contracting State and satisfy any other conditions specified in the Convention, without regard to whether an item of income, profit or gain

is treated as an item of income, profit or gain of such beneficiaries, members or participants under the tax laws of the first-mentioned Contracting State.

- (b) an item of income, profit or gain:
 - (i) derived from a Contracting State through an entity that is organised in the other Contracting State; and
 - (ii) treated as an item of income, profit or gain of that entity under the tax laws of that other Contracting State;

shall be eligible for the benefits of the Convention that would be granted to a resident of that other Contracting State, without regard to whether an item of income, profit or gain is treated as an item of income, profit or gain of the entity under the tax laws of the first-mentioned Contracting State, if such entity is a resident of that other Contracting State and satisfies any other conditions specified in the Convention.

- (c) an item of income, profit or gain:
 - (i) derived from a Contracting State through an entity that is organised in that Contracting State; and
 - (ii) treated as an item of income, profit or gain of that entity under the tax laws of the other Contracting State;

shall not be eligible for the benefits of the Convention.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 5

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; 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 a construction or installation project constitutes a permanent establishment only if it lasts more than twelve months.

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

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

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, where a person – other than an agent of an independent status to whom the provisions of paragraph 6 of this Article apply – is acting on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises, in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts on behalf of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that Contracting 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 of this Article 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 Contracting State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.

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.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 6

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

2. The term “immovable property” shall have the meaning which it has under the 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 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 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.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 7

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. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article, 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 Contracting 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 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 contained in this Article.

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

6. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs of this Article, 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, profits or gains 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.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 8

1. Profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic carried on by an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

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

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

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

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2 of this Convention, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic, that enterprise, if an enterprise of the United Kingdom, 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 the United Kingdom.

4. The provisions of the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency, but only to so much of the profits so derived as is attributable to the participant in proportion to its share in the joint operation.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 9

1. Where

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

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

2. Where a Contracting State includes, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, 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 competent authority of that other Contracting State agrees that 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 Convention.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, a Contracting State shall not change the profits of an enterprise of that Contracting State in the circumstances referred to in that paragraph, if an enquiry into the profits of that enterprise is not initiated within seven years from the end of the taxable year or chargeable period in which the profits that would be subject to such change would, but for the conditions referred to in that paragraph, have accrued to that enterprise. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the case of fraud or wilful default or if the inability to initiate an enquiry within the prescribed period is attributable to the actions or inaction of that enterprise.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 10

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

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the dividends are beneficially owned by a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed, except as otherwise provided:

- (a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company that has owned shares representing directly or indirectly, for the period of six months ending on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined, at least 10 per cent of the voting power of the company paying the dividends;
- (b) 10 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. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article, dividends shall not be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State and either:

- (a) is a company that has owned, directly or indirectly, shares representing at least 50 per cent of the voting power of the company paying the dividends for the period of six months ending on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined; or
- (b) is a pension fund or pension scheme, provided that such dividends are not derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by such pension fund or pension scheme.

4. The provisions of subparagraph (a) of paragraph 2 and subparagraph (a) of paragraph 3 of this Article shall not apply in the case of dividends paid by a company which is entitled to a deduction for dividends paid to its beneficiaries in computing its taxable income in Japan.

5. 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 which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the tax laws of the Contracting State of which the payer is a resident.

6. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article 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 and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case the provisions of Article 7 of this Convention shall apply.

7. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives income, profits or gains from the other Contracting State, that other Contracting 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 Contracting State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment situated in that other Contracting State, nor subject the company’s undistributed profits to a tax on the company’s undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of income, profits or gains arising in such other Contracting State.

8. A resident of a Contracting State shall not be considered the beneficial owner of dividends paid by a resident of the other Contracting State in respect of preferred stock or other similar interest if such preferred stock or other similar interest would not have been established or acquired unless a person:

- (a) that is not entitled to benefits with respect to dividends paid by a resident of the other Contracting State which are equivalent to, or more favourable than, those available under this Convention to a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting State; and

- (b) that is not a resident of either Contracting State;

held equivalent preferred stock or other similar interest in the first-mentioned resident.

9. No relief shall be available under this Article if it was the main purpose or one of the main purposes of any person concerned with the creation or assignment of the shares or other rights in respect of which the dividend is paid to take advantage of this Article by means of that creation or assignment.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 11

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

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

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article, interest arising in a Contracting State shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if:

- (a) the interest is beneficially owned by the Government of that other Contracting State, a political subdivision or local authority thereof, or the central bank of that other Contracting State or any institution wholly owned by that Government;
- (b) the interest is beneficially owned by a resident of that other Contracting State with respect to debt-claims guaranteed, insured or indirectly financed by the Government of that other Contracting State, a political subdivision or local authority thereof, or the central bank of that other Contracting State or any institution wholly owned by that Government;
- (c) the interest is beneficially owned by a resident of that other Contracting State that is either:
 - (i) a bank;
 - (ii) an insurance company;
 - (iii) a securities dealer; or
 - (iv) any other enterprise, provided that in the three taxable years preceding the taxable year in which the interest is paid, the enterprise derives more than 50 per cent of its liabilities from the issuance of bonds in the financial markets or from taking deposits at interest, and more than 50 per cent of the assets of the enterprise consist of debt-claims against persons that do not have with the resident a relationship described in subparagraphs (a) or (b) of paragraph 1 of Article 9 of this Convention;
- (d) the interest is beneficially owned by a pension fund or pension scheme that is a resident of that other Contracting State, provided that such interest is not derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by such pension fund or pension scheme; or
- (e) the interest is beneficially owned by a resident of that other Contracting State and paid with respect to indebtedness arising as a part of the sale on credit by a resident of that other Contracting State of equipment or merchandise.

4. For the purposes of paragraph 3 of this Article, the terms “the central bank” and “institution wholly owned by that Government” mean:

- (a) in the case of Japan:
 - (i) the Bank of Japan;
 - (ii) the Japan Bank for International Cooperation;
 - (iii) the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance; and

- (iv) such other similar institution the capital of which is wholly owned by the Government of Japan as may be agreed upon from time to time between the Governments of the Contracting States through an exchange of diplomatic notes.
- (b) in the case of the United Kingdom:
 - (i) the Bank of England;
 - (ii) the Commonwealth Development Corporation; and
 - (iii) such other similar institution the capital of which is wholly owned by the Government of the United Kingdom as may be agreed upon from time to time between the Governments of the Contracting States through an exchange of diplomatic notes.

5. 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, and all other income that is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from money lent by the tax laws of the Contracting State in which the income arises. Income dealt with in Article 10 of this Convention shall not be regarded as interest for the purposes of this Convention.

6. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article 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 and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case the provisions of Article 7 of this Convention shall apply.

7. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether such person is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a state other than that of which such person is a resident 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:

- (a) if the permanent establishment is situated in a Contracting State, such interest shall be deemed to arise in that Contracting State; and
- (b) if the permanent establishment is situated in a state other than the Contracting States, such interest shall not be deemed to arise in either Contracting State.

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

9. A resident of a Contracting State shall not be considered the beneficial owner of interest in respect of a debt-claim if such debt-claim would not have been established unless a person:

- (a) that is not entitled to benefits with respect to the interest arising in the other Contracting State which are equivalent to, or more favourable than, those available under this Convention to a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting State; and
- (b) that is not a resident of either Contracting State;

held an equivalent debt-claim against the first-mentioned resident.

10. No relief shall be available under this Article if it was the main purpose or one of the main purposes of any person concerned with the creation or assignment of the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid to take advantage of this Article by means of that creation or assignment.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 12

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and beneficially owned by a resident of the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in that other Contracting State.

2. 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, or secret formula or process, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article 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 and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case the provisions of Article 7 of this Convention shall apply.

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

5. A resident of a Contracting State shall not be considered the beneficial owner of royalties in respect of the use of intangible property if such royalties would not have been paid to the resident unless the resident pays royalties in respect of the same intangible property to a person:

- (a) that is not entitled to benefits with respect to royalties arising in the other Contracting State which are equivalent to, or more favourable than, those available under this Convention to a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting State; and
- (b) that is not a resident of either Contracting State.

6. No relief shall be available under this Article if it was the main purpose or one of the main purposes of any person concerned with the creation or assignment of the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid to take advantage of this Article by means of that creation or assignment.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 13

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

2. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares in a company or of an interest in a partnership or trust may be taxed in the other Contracting State where the shares or the interest derive at least 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property referred to in Article 6 of this Convention and situated in that other Contracting State unless the relevant class of the shares or the interest is traded on a recognised stock exchange specified in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 7 of Article 22 of this Convention and the resident and persons related or connected to that resident hold or own in the aggregate 5 per cent or less of that class of the shares or the interest.

3. Unless the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article are applicable, gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State which are not subject to tax in that Contracting State from the alienation of shares issued by a company being a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State, if:

- (a) shares held or owned by the alienator (together with such shares held or owned by any other related or connected persons as may be aggregated therewith) amount to at least 25

per cent of the total issued shares of such company at any time during the taxable year or chargeable period in which the alienation takes place; and

- (b) the total of the shares alienated by the alienator and such related or connected persons during that taxable year or chargeable period in which the alienation takes place amounts to at least 5 per cent of the total issued shares of such company.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, 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, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise), may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

5. Gains derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated by that enterprise in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

6. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 14

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 15, 17 and 18 of this Convention, 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 the other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve month period commencing or ending in the taxable year or year of assessment concerned;
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other Contracting State; and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment which the employer has in the other Contracting State.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraphs 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 taxed in that Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 15

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

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 16

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7 and 14 of this Convention, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsman, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised in a Contracting State 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 and 14 of this Convention, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 17

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 18 of this Convention, pensions and other similar remuneration beneficially owned by a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 18

1. (a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or political subdivision or local authority thereof, in the discharge of functions of a governmental nature, shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

(b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other Contracting State and the individual 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 rendering the services.

2. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds to which contributions are made or created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

(b) However, such pensions and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that other Contracting State.

3. The provisions of Articles 14, 15, 16 and 17 of this Convention shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions, and other similar remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 19

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 Contracting 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 the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that Contracting State. The exemption provided by this Article shall apply to a business apprentice only for a period not exceeding one year from the date he first begins his training in the first-mentioned Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 20

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Convention, any income, profits or gains derived by a sleeping partner in respect of a sleeping partnership (Tokumei Kumiai) contract or other similar contract may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such income, profits or gains arise, and according to the laws of that Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 21

1. Items of income beneficially owned by a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, which are not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Convention (hereinafter referred to as "other income"), other than income paid out of trusts or the estates of deceased persons in the course of administration, shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6 of this Convention, if the beneficial owner of such income, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein and the right or property in respect of which the income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment. In such case the provisions of Article 7 of the Convention shall apply.

3. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the resident referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the payer, or between both of them and some other person, the amount of other income exceeds the amount (if any) which would have been agreed upon between them 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 other income shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other applicable provisions of this Convention.

4. A resident of a Contracting State shall not be considered the beneficial owner of other income in respect of the right or property if such other income would not have been paid to the resident unless the resident pays other income in respect of the same right or property to a person:

- (a) that is not entitled to benefits with respect to other income arising in the other Contracting State which are equivalent to, or more favourable than, those available under this Convention to a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting State; and
- (b) that is not a resident of either Contracting State.

5. No relief shall be available under this Article if it was the main purpose or one of the main purposes of any person concerned with the creation or assignment of the right or property in respect of which the other income is paid to take advantage of this Article by means of that creation or assignment.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 22

1. Except as otherwise provided in this Article, a resident of a Contracting State that derives income, profits or gains described in Article 7; in paragraph 3 of Article 10 or paragraph 3 of Article 11; or in Articles 12, 13 or 21 of this Convention from the other Contracting State shall be entitled to the benefits granted for a taxable year or chargeable period by the provisions of those paragraphs or Articles only if such resident is a qualified person as defined in paragraph 2 of this Article and satisfies any other specified conditions in those paragraphs or Articles for the obtaining of such benefits.

2. A resident of a Contracting State is a qualified person for a taxable year or chargeable period only if such resident is either:

- (a) an individual;
- (b) a qualified governmental entity;
- (c) a company if the principal class of its shares is listed, registered or admitted to dealings on a recognised stock exchange specified in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (c) of paragraph 7 of this Article and is regularly traded on one or more recognised stock exchanges;
- (d) a person other than an individual or a company if the principal class of units in that person is listed, registered or admitted to dealings on a recognised stock exchange specified in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (c) of paragraph 7 of this Article and is regularly traded on one or more recognised stock exchanges;
- (e) a person described in subparagraph (b) or (c) of paragraph 1 of Article 4 of this Convention, provided that in the case of a person described in subparagraph (b) of that paragraph as of the end of the prior taxable year or chargeable period more than 50 per cent of the person's beneficiaries, members or participants are individuals who are residents of either Contracting State;
- (f) a person other than an individual if residents of either Contracting State that are qualified persons by reason of subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of this paragraph own, directly or indirectly, shares or other beneficial interests representing at least 50 per cent of the voting power of the person; or
- (g) a trust or trustee of a trust in their capacity as such if at least 50 per cent of the beneficial interests in the trust is held, directly or indirectly, by persons who are either:
 - (i) qualified persons by reason of subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of this paragraph; or
 - (ii) equivalent beneficiaries as defined in clause (i) of subparagraph (e) of paragraph 7 of this Article.

3. Notwithstanding that a company that is a resident of a Contracting State may not be a qualified person, it shall be entitled to the benefits otherwise accorded to residents of a Contracting State by the provisions of Article 7; of paragraph 3 of Article 10 or paragraph 3 of Article 11; or of Articles 12, 13 or 21 of the Convention with respect to an item of income, profit or gain described in those paragraphs or Articles derived from the other Contracting State if it satisfies any other specified conditions in those paragraphs or Articles for the obtaining of such benefits and shares representing at least 75 per cent of the voting power of the company are owned, directly or indirectly, by seven or fewer persons who are equivalent beneficiaries.

4. Where the provisions of subparagraphs (f) or (g) of paragraph 2 or the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article apply:

- (a) in respect of taxation by withholding at source, a resident of a Contracting State shall be considered to satisfy the conditions described in the relevant subparagraph or paragraph for the taxable year or chargeable period in which the payment is made if such resident satisfies those conditions during the twelve month period preceding the date of payment of an item of income, profit or gain (or, in the case of dividends, the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined);

- (b) for all other cases, a resident of a Contracting State shall be considered to satisfy the conditions described in subparagraphs (f) or (g) of paragraph 2 or in paragraph 3 of this Article for the taxable year or chargeable period in which the payment is made if such resident satisfies those conditions on at least half the days of the taxable year or chargeable period.
5. (a) Notwithstanding that a resident of a Contracting State may not be a qualified person, that resident shall be entitled to the benefits granted by the provisions of Article 7; of paragraph 3 of Article 10 or paragraph 3 of Article 11; or of Articles 12, 13 or 21 of this Convention with respect to an item of income, profit or gain described in those paragraphs or Articles derived from the other Contracting State if the resident is carrying on business in the first-mentioned Contracting State (other than the business of making or managing investments for the resident's own account, unless the business is banking, insurance or securities business carried on by a bank, insurance company or securities dealer), the income, profits or gains derived from the other Contracting State is derived in connection with, or is incidental to, that business and that resident satisfies any other specified conditions in those paragraphs or Articles for the obtaining of such benefits.
- (b) If a resident of a Contracting State derives an item of income, profit or gain from a business carried on by that resident in the other Contracting State or derives an item of income, profit or gain arising in the other Contracting State from a person that has with the resident a relationship described in subparagraph (a) or (b) of paragraph 1 of Article 9 of this Convention, the conditions described in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph shall be considered to be satisfied with respect to such item of income, profit or gain only if the business carried on in the first-mentioned Contracting State is substantial in relation to the business carried on in the other Contracting State. Whether such business is substantial for the purpose of this paragraph will be determined on the basis of all the facts and circumstances.
- (c) In determining whether a person is carrying on business in a Contracting State under subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, the business conducted by a partnership in which that person is a partner and the business conducted by persons connected to such person shall be deemed to be conducted by such person. A person shall be connected to another if one possesses at least 50 per cent of the beneficial interest in the other (or, in the case of a company, shares representing at least 50 per cent of the voting power of the company) or another person possesses, directly or indirectly, at least 50 per cent of the beneficial interest (or, in the case of a company, shares representing at least 50 per cent of the voting power of the company) in each person. In any case, a person shall be considered to be connected to another if, on the basis of all the facts and circumstances, one has control of the other or both are under the control of the same person or persons.
6. A resident of a Contracting State that is neither a qualified person nor entitled under paragraph 3 or 5 of this Article to the benefits granted by the provisions of Article 7; of paragraph 3 of Article 10 or paragraph 3 of Article 11; or of Articles 12, 13 or 21 of this Convention with respect to an item of income, profit or gain described in those paragraphs or Articles shall, nevertheless, be granted such benefits if the competent authority of the other Contracting State determines, in accordance with its domestic law or administrative practice, that the establishment, acquisition or maintenance of such resident and the conduct of its operations did not have as one of the principal purposes the obtaining of such benefits.
7. For the purposes of this Article:
- (a) the term "qualified governmental entity" means the Government of a Contracting State, any political subdivision or local authority thereof, the Bank of Japan, the Bank of England or a person that is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by the Government of a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof;
- (b) the term "principal class of shares" means the ordinary or common shares of the company, provided that such class of shares represents the majority of the voting power of the company. If no single class of ordinary or common shares represents the majority of the voting power of the company, the "principal class of shares" is that class or those classes that in the aggregate represent a majority of the voting power of the company;
- (c) the term "recognised stock exchange" means:

- (i) the London Stock Exchange and any other recognised investment exchange within the meaning of the Financial Services Act 1986 or, as the case may be, the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
 - (ii) any stock exchange established by a Stock Exchange or a securities dealers association under the terms of the Securities and Exchange law (Law No.25 of 1948) of Japan;
 - (iii) the Swiss Stock Exchange, the Irish Stock Exchange and the stock exchanges of Amsterdam, Brussels, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Johannesburg, Luxembourg, Madrid, Milan, New York, Paris, Singapore, Stockholm, Sydney, Toronto and Vienna and the NASDAQ System; and
 - (iv) any other stock exchange which the competent authorities agree to recognise for the purposes of this Article;
- (d) the term “units” includes shares and any other instrument, not being a debt-claim, granting an entitlement to share in the assets or income of, or receive a distribution from, the person. The term “principal class of units” means the class of units which represents the majority of the value of the person. If no single class of units represents the majority of the value of the person, the “principal class of units” is that class or those classes that in the aggregate represent the majority of the value of the person; and
- (e) an equivalent beneficiary is:
- (i) a resident of a state that has a convention for the avoidance of double taxation between that state and the Contracting State from which the benefits of this Convention are claimed such that:
 - (aa) that convention contains provisions for effective exchange of information;
 - (bb) that resident is a qualified person under limitation on benefits provisions (Tokuten Joku) in that convention or, where there are no such provisions in that convention, would be a qualified person when that convention is read as including provisions corresponding to paragraph 2 of this Article (or for the purposes of subparagraph (g) of paragraph 2 of this Article, a provision corresponding to clause (i) of that subparagraph); and
 - (cc) with respect to an item of income, profit or gain referred to in Article 7; in paragraph 3 of Article 10 or paragraph 3 of Article 11; or in Articles 12, 13 or 21 of this Convention that resident would be entitled under that convention to a rate of tax with respect to the particular class of income, profit or gain for which the benefits are being claimed under this Convention that is at least as low as the rate applicable under this Convention, under conditions in that convention which are no less restrictive than those in this Convention; or
 - (ii) a qualified person by reason of subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of paragraph 2 of this Article.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 23

1. Subject to the provisions of the laws of the United Kingdom regarding the allowance as a credit against United Kingdom tax of tax payable in a territory outside the United Kingdom (which shall not affect the general principle hereof):

- (a) Japanese tax payable under the laws of Japan and in accordance with this Convention, whether directly or by deduction, on income, profits or chargeable gains from sources within Japan (excluding in the case of a dividend, tax payable in respect of the profits out of which the dividend is paid) shall be allowed as a credit against any United Kingdom tax computed by reference to the same income, profits or chargeable gains by reference to which the Japanese tax is computed;
- (b) in the case of a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Japan to a company which is a resident of the United Kingdom and which controls directly or indirectly at least 10 per cent of the voting power in the company paying the dividend, the credit shall

take into account (in addition to any Japanese tax for which credit may be allowed under the provisions of subparagraph (a) of this paragraph) the Japanese tax payable by the company in respect of the profits out of which such dividend is paid.

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

- (a) Where a resident of Japan derives income from the United Kingdom which may be taxed in the United Kingdom in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, the amount of the United Kingdom 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 the United Kingdom is dividends paid by a company which is a resident of the United Kingdom to a company which is a resident of Japan and which has owned at least 25 per cent of the voting shares issued by the company paying the dividends during the period of six months immediately before the day when the obligation to pay dividends is confirmed, the credit shall take into account the United Kingdom tax payable by the company paying the dividends in respect of its income.

3. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs of this Article, income, profits or gains beneficially owned by a resident of a Contracting State which may be taxed in the other Contracting State in accordance with this Convention shall be deemed to arise from sources in that other Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 24

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

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. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

3. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraphs 8 or 9 of Article 10, paragraphs 8, 9 or 10 of Article 11, paragraphs 4, 5 or 6 of Article 12, or paragraphs 3, 4 or 5 of Article 21 of this Convention apply, dividends, interest, royalties and other disbursements paid by a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purposes of determining the taxable profits of the first-mentioned resident, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting 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 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 the first-mentioned Contracting State are or may be subjected.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 25

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 Convention, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those Contracting States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 24 of the Convention, 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 Convention or, if later, within six years from the end of the taxable year or chargeable period in respect of which that taxation is imposed or proposed.

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 provisions of this Convention. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits or other procedural limitations in the domestic law of the Contracting States, except such limitations as apply for the purposes of giving effect to such an agreement.

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.

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 of this Article.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 26

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention and of every kind and description imposed by a Contracting State insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the provisions of the Convention. The exchange of information is not restricted by Article 1 of the Convention.

2. Any information received under paragraph 1 of this Article 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, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, or the oversight of the above, and only to the extent necessary for those persons or authorities to perform their respective responsibilities. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for the purposes of discharging such responsibilities. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

3. In no case shall the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 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 and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
- (c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy.

4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other 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 of this Article 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 of this Article be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank or other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person. However, a Contracting State may decline to supply information relating to confidential communications between attorneys, solicitors or other admitted legal representatives in their role as such and their clients to the extent that the communications are protected from disclosure under the domestic laws of that Contracting State.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 27

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

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 28

1. This Convention shall be approved in accordance with the legal procedures of each of the Contracting States and shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of exchange of diplomatic notes indicating such approval.

2. This Convention shall be applicable:

(a) in the United Kingdom:

- (i) with respect to taxes withheld at source, to income derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force;
- (ii) subject to clause (i) of subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, with respect to income tax and capital gains tax, for any year of assessment beginning on or after 6th April in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force; and
- (iii) with respect to corporation tax, for any financial year beginning on or after 1st April in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force; and

(b) in Japan:

- (i) with respect to taxes withheld at source, for amounts taxable on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force; and
- (ii) with respect to taxes on income which are not withheld at source and the enterprise tax, as regards income for any taxable year beginning on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force.

3. The Convention between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income signed at Tokyo on 10th February 1969 as amended by the Protocol signed at Tokyo on 14th February 1980 (“the prior Convention”) shall cease to be effective from the date upon which this Convention has effect in respect of the taxes to which the Convention applies in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article.

4. In respect of the development land tax and the petroleum revenue tax to which the prior Convention applies, the prior Convention shall cease to be effective from the date upon which this Convention enters into force.

5. The prior Convention shall terminate on the last date on which it has effect in accordance with this Article.

6. Notwithstanding the entry into force of this Convention, an individual who is entitled to the benefits of Article 22 of the prior Convention at the time of the entry into force of this Convention shall continue to be entitled to such benefits until such time as he would have ceased to be entitled to such benefits if the prior Convention had remained in force.

[Back to contents](#)

ARTICLE 29

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

- (a) in the United Kingdom:
 - (i) with respect to taxes withheld at source, to income derived on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given;
 - (ii) subject to clause (i) of subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, with respect to income tax and capital gains tax, for any year of assessment beginning on or after 6th April in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given; and
 - (iii) with respect to corporation tax, for any financial year beginning on or after 1st April in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given; and
- (b) in Japan:
 - (i) with respect to taxes withheld at source, for amounts taxable on or after 1st January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given; and
 - (ii) with respect to taxes on income which are not withheld at source and the enterprise tax, as regards income 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 authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.

DONE in duplicate at London this second day of February, 2006, in the Japanese and English languages, each text being equally authoritative.

For the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

Dawn Primarolo

For Japan:

Y Nogami

[Back to contents](#)

PROTOCOL

At the signing of the Convention between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan have agreed upon the following provisions, which shall form an integral part of the Convention.

1. With reference to subparagraph (m) of paragraph 1 of Article 3 of the Convention:

A pension fund or pension scheme shall be treated as exempt from tax on income derived with respect to the activities described in clause (ii) of that subparagraph even though it is subject to the tax stipulated in Articles 8 or 10-3 of the Corporation Tax Law (Law No. 34 of 1965) of Japan or paragraph 1 of Article 20 of its supplementary provisions.

2. With reference to Article 7 of the Convention:

Where a resident of the United Kingdom is a member of a partnership established under the laws of Japan, nothing in the Convention shall prevent the United Kingdom from taxing that resident on his share of any income, profits or gains of that partnership.

3. With reference to paragraph 6 of Article 13 of the Convention:

The provisions of paragraph 6 of Article 13 of the Convention shall not affect the right of the United Kingdom to levy according to its law a tax chargeable in respect of gains from the alienation of any property on a person who is a resident of the United Kingdom at any time during the fiscal year in which the property is alienated, or has been so resident at any time during the six fiscal years immediately preceding that year.

4. With reference to paragraph 1 of Article 14 of the Convention:

It is understood that the benefits, income or gains enjoyed by employees under share or stock option plans relating to the period between grant and exercise of an option are regarded as “other similar remuneration” for the purposes of that Article.

It is further understood that where an employee:

- (a) has been granted a share or stock option in the course of an employment;
- (b) has exercised that employment in both Contracting States during the period between grant and exercise of the option;
- (c) remains in that employment at the date of the exercise; and
- (d) under the domestic law of the Contracting States, would be taxable in both Contracting States in respect of such benefits, income or gains;

then, in order to avoid double taxation, the Contracting State of which, at the time of the exercise of the option, the employee is not a resident may tax only that proportion of such benefits, income or gains which relates to the period or periods between grant and exercise of the option during which the individual has exercised the employment in that Contracting State.

With the aim of ensuring that no unrelieved double taxation arises, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement under Article 25 of the Convention any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of Articles 14 and 23 of the Convention in relation to such share or stock option plans.

5. With reference to subparagraph (e) of paragraph 7 of Article 22 of the Convention:

It is understood that for the purpose of applying paragraph 3 of Article 10 of the Convention, in order to determine whether a person, owning shares, directly or indirectly, in the company claiming the benefits of the Convention, is an equivalent beneficiary, such person shall be deemed to hold the same voting power in the company paying the dividends as the company claiming the benefits holds in such company.

6. With reference to paragraph 1 of Article 23 of the Convention:

Where gains are taxable by the United Kingdom by reason of the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Protocol, the United Kingdom shall eliminate double taxation in accordance with the methods set out in Article 23 of the Convention as if the gains arose from sources in Japan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE in duplicate at London this second day of February, 2006, in the Japanese and English languages, each text being equally authoritative.

For the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

For Japan:

Dawn Primarolo

Y Nogami

[Back to contents](#)

Exchange of Notes

The Rt. Hon. Dawn Primarolo, MP

Paymaster General

London, February 2, 2006

Excellency:

I have the honour to refer to the Convention between Japan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains which was signed today (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) and to the Protocol also signed today which forms an integral part of the Convention, and to make, on behalf of the Government of Japan, the following proposals:

1. With reference to subparagraph (m) of paragraph 1 of Article 3 of the Convention:

It is understood that the term “pension fund or pension scheme” includes the following and any identical or substantially similar funds or schemes which are established pursuant to legislation introduced after the date of signature of the Convention:

- (a) funds or schemes established as the pension or retirement benefits systems implemented under the following laws in Japan:
 - (i) National Pension Law (Law No.141 of 1959);
 - (ii) Employees’ Pension Insurance Law (Law No.115 of 1954);
 - (iii) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid Association for National Public Officials (Law No.128 of 1958);
 - (iv) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid Association for Local Public Officials and Personnel of Similar Status (Law No.152 of 1962);
 - (v) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid for Private School Personnel (Law No.245 of 1953);
 - (vi) Coal-Mining Pension Fund Law (Law No.135 of 1967);
 - (vii) Defined-Benefit Corporate Pension Law (Law No. 50 of 2001);
 - (viii) Defined-Contribution Pension Law (Law No. 88 of 2001);
 - (ix) Farmers’ Pension Fund Law (Law No.127 of 2002);
 - (x) Corporate Tax Law (Law No. 34 of 1965);
 - (xi) Small and Medium Enterprises Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid Law (Law No.160 of 1959);
 - (xii) Small Enterprise Mutual Relief Projects Law (Law No.102 of 1965); and

- (xiii) Cabinet Order of Income Tax Law (Cabinet Order No. 96 of 1965); and
- (b) under the laws of the United Kingdom, employment related arrangements (other than a social security scheme) approved as retirement benefit schemes for the purpose of Chapter I of Part XIV of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, personal pension schemes approved under Chapter IV of Part XIV of that Act and schemes approved under Part 4 of the Finance Act 2004.

It is further understood that the term “pension fund or pension scheme” includes, in the case of Japan, investment funds or trusts where all of the interest of the funds or trusts are held by pension funds or pension schemes, and in the case of the United Kingdom, pension funds or pension schemes arranged through insurance companies and unit trusts where the unit holders are exclusively pension funds or pension schemes.

2. With reference to paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 10 of the Convention:

It is understood that, in the case of Japan, the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined is the end of the accounting period for which the distribution of profits takes place.

3. With reference to Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Convention:

It is understood that trustees or managers of investment funds established in a Contracting State may submit a claim relating to the benefits afforded by the provisions of those Articles. The admission of any claim in whole or in part by the other Contracting State may be made subject to such conditions as that other Contracting State thinks proper to impose. The competent authorities may consult with a view to resolving difficulties which occur if such conditions are imposed. Investment funds include, in the case of Japan, an investment trust as defined in paragraphs 3 and 28 of Article 2 of the Investment Trust and Investment Corporation Law (Law No.198 of 1951), a loan trust as defined in paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Loan Trust Law (Law No.195 of 1952), a jointly operated trust as defined in subparagraph 11 of paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Income Tax Law (Law No.33 of 1965) and a Special Purpose Trust as defined in paragraph 13 of Article 2 of the Liquidation of Assets Law (Law No.105 of 1998).

4. With reference to paragraph 8 of Article 11 and paragraph 4 of Article 12 of the Convention:

It is understood that these paragraphs do not, of themselves, permit Contracting States to recharacterise interest or royalties as a different type of income.

5. With reference to paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention:

It is understood that gains are to be regarded as subject to tax if they are subject to tax in the same way as other gains derived from the disposal of shares by a resident of a Contracting State.

It is further understood that where, in the case of schemes of reorganisation of companies, the laws of a Contracting State allow for the taxation of the gains arising from the disposal of shares in a company to be deferred, such gains will be regarded as subject to tax unless any part of the deferred gains is as a result of a later disposal or reorganisation subject to a statutory exemption under the laws of that Contracting State.

6. With reference to Article 19 of the Convention:

It is understood that a payment will be considered to arise from sources outside a Contracting State if the payer is located outside that Contracting State. It is further understood that, where appropriate, substance prevails over form in determining the identity of the payer.

If the foregoing understanding is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to suggest that the present note and Your Excellency’s reply to that effect should be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force at the same time as the Convention.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yoshiji Nogami
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland

His Excellency Yoshiji Nogami
Embassy of Japan

London
2nd February 2006

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's Note of today's date which in translation reads as follows:

"I have the honour to refer to the Convention between Japan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains which was signed today (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention") and to the Protocol also signed today which forms an integral part of the Convention, and to make, on behalf of the Government of Japan, the following proposals:

1. With reference to subparagraph (m) of paragraph 1 of Article 3 of the Convention:

It is understood that the term "pension fund or pension scheme" includes the following and any identical or substantially similar funds or schemes which are established pursuant to legislation introduced after the date of signature of the Convention:

- (a) funds or schemes established as the pension or retirement benefits systems implemented under the following laws in Japan:
 - (i) National Pension Law (Law No.141 of 1959);
 - (ii) Employees' Pension Insurance Law (Law No.115 of 1954);
 - (iii) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid Association for National Public Officials (Law No.128 of 1958);
 - (iv) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid Association for Local Public Officials and Personnel of Similar Status (Law No.152 of 1962);
 - (v) The Law Concerning Mutual Aid for Private School Personnel (Law No.245 of 1953);
 - (vi) Coal-Mining Pension Fund Law (Law No.135 of 1967);
 - (vii) Defined-Benefit Corporate Pension Law (Law No. 50 of 2001);
 - (viii) Defined-Contribution Pension Law (Law No. 88 of 2001);
 - (ix) Farmers' Pension Fund Law (Law No.127 of 2002);
 - (x) Corporate Tax Law (Law No. 34 of 1965);
 - (xi) Small and Medium Enterprises Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid Law (Law No.160 of 1959);
 - (xii) Small Enterprise Mutual Relief Projects Law (Law No.102 of 1965); and
 - (xiii) Cabinet Order of Income Tax Law (Cabinet Order No. 96 of 1965); and
- (b) under the laws of the United Kingdom, employment related arrangements (other than a social security scheme) approved as retirement benefit schemes for the purpose of Chapter I of Part XIV of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, personal pension schemes approved under Chapter IV of Part XIV of that Act and schemes approved under Part 4 of the Finance Act 2004.

It is further understood that the term "pension fund or pension scheme" includes, in the case of Japan, investment funds or trusts where all of the interest of the funds or trusts are held by pension funds or pension schemes, and in the case of the United Kingdom, pension funds or pension schemes arranged through insurance companies and unit trusts where the unit holders are exclusively pension funds or pension schemes.

2. With reference to paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 10 of the Convention:

It is understood that, in the case of Japan, the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined is the end of the accounting period for which the distribution of profits takes place.

3. With reference to Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Convention:

It is understood that trustees or managers of investment funds established in a Contracting State may submit a claim relating to the benefits afforded by the provisions of those Articles. The admission of any claim in whole or in part by the other Contracting State may be made subject to such conditions as that other Contracting State thinks proper to impose. The competent authorities may consult with a view to resolving difficulties which occur if such conditions are imposed. Investment funds include, in the case of Japan, an investment trust as defined in paragraphs 3 and 28 of Article 2 of the Investment Trust and Investment Corporation Law (Law No.198 of 1951), a loan trust as defined in paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Loan Trust Law (Law No.195 of 1952), a jointly operated trust as defined in subparagraph 11 of paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Income Tax Law (Law No.33 of 1965) and a Special Purpose Trust as defined in paragraph 13 of Article 2 of the Liquidation of Assets Law (Law No.105 of 1998).

4. With reference to paragraph 8 of Article 11 and paragraph 4 of Article 12 of the Convention:

It is understood that these paragraphs do not, of themselves, permit Contracting States to recharacterise interest or royalties as a different type of income.

5. With reference to paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention:

It is understood that gains are to be regarded as subject to tax if they are subject to tax in the same way as other gains derived from the disposal of shares by a resident of a Contracting State.

It is further understood that where, in the case of schemes of reorganisation of companies, the laws of a Contracting State allow for the taxation of the gains arising from the disposal of shares in a company to be deferred, such gains will be regarded as subject to tax unless any part of the deferred gains is as a result of a later disposal or reorganisation subject to a statutory exemption under the laws of that Contracting State.

6. With reference to Article 19 of the Convention:

It is understood that a payment will be considered to arise from sources outside a Contracting State if the payer is located outside that Contracting State. It is further understood that, where appropriate, substance prevails over form in determining the identity of the payer.

If the foregoing understanding is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to suggest that the present note and Your Excellency's reply to that effect should be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force at the same time as the Convention."

The foregoing proposal being acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to confirm that Your Excellency's Note and this reply shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force at the same time as the entry into force of the Convention.

I take this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Dawn Primarolo

[Back to contents](#)

