二零一八年一月八日 討論文件

立法會財經事務委員會

《多邊稅收徵管互助公約》適用於香港事宜

目的

《多邊稅收徵管互助公約》("《多邊公約》")的適用範圍將會延伸至香港,以便香港履行在國際稅務合作方面的責任。本文件旨在向委員闡明政府就此將要採取的主要步驟。

《多邊公約》

2. 在本事務委員會二零一七年六月五日的會議上,我們向委員簡介政府把《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至香港的建議,以使香港能有效履行在國際稅務合作方面的責任。中央人民政府("中央政府")在二零一七年五月原則上同意把《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至香港(立法會 CB(1)1030/16-17(08)號文件)。

3. 《多邊公約》由經濟合作與發展組織("經合組織")和歐洲委員會 在一九八八年共同訂立,其後在二零一零年藉議定書修訂。《多邊公 約》訂明締約國在評稅和徵稅方面一切可行形式的徵管合作,以打擊 避稅和逃稅活動。《多邊公約》自二零一一年六月一日起開放予各國 簽署,其最新文本載於<u>附件 A</u>。截至二零一七年十二月十五日,共有 116 個稅務管轄區參與《多邊公約》(<u>附件 B</u>),當中有 15 個藉地域延 伸身分加入。

4. 《多邊公約》提供平台,讓香港以多邊模式,實施稅務事宜自動 交換財務帳戶資料("自動交換資料")、應對侵蝕稅基及轉移利潤 ("BEPS")方案規定的自動交換國別報告¹和自發交換稅務裁定資料²安 排。該等安排是促進國際稅務合作的主要措施。

- ¹ 經合組織規定,每年集團總收入不少於 7.5 億歐元(或 68 億港元)的跨國企業 須提交國別報告。參與的稅務管轄區須在收到國別報告後與其他稅務管轄區 進行自動交換。
- ² 為打擊損害性稅務措施及透過交換資料提升稅務透明度,經合組織規定須自 發交換六種特定的稅務裁定資料(即(i)與優惠制度有關的裁定;(ii)單方面的 預先定價安排或其他就跨境轉讓定價作出的單方面裁定;(iii)就調低應課稅利 潤的跨境裁定;(iv)就常設機構的裁定;(v)就關聯轉付公司的裁定;以及(vi) 任何在沒有自發交換資料情況下會引起 BEPS 問題的其他各類裁定)。

自動交換資料安排

5. 根據自動交換資料安排,財務機構須識辨申報稅務管轄區稅務居 民所持有的財務帳戶,並收集所需資料向稅務當局申報。個別稅務當 局會每年與其他稅務管轄區的稅務當局交換資料。

BEPS

6. BEPS 方案涵蓋 15 個範疇的行動計劃,旨在打擊跨國企業利用稅務規則的差異及錯配,人為地將利潤轉移至只有很少或沒有經濟活動的低稅或無稅地方。香港為履行實施 BEPS 方案的承諾,須落實自動 交換國別報告和自發交換稅務裁定資料的安排。

採用多邊模式

7. 雖然我們可採用雙邊模式實施自動交換資料安排和 BEPS 措施, 但由於國際社會交換稅務資料的範圍和網絡不斷擴大,這種模式愈來 愈不切實際。再者,經合組織要求承諾實施 BEPS 方案的稅務管轄區, 在二零一八年九月或之前與涵蓋廣泛網絡的伙伴進行首次自動交換資料。較可行的做法,是稅務管轄區通過《多邊公約》實施這些措施。

8. 香港仍未建立廣泛的交換稅務資料網絡,因此必須加入《多邊公約》³,否則未必能符合經合組織和歐洲聯盟("歐盟")的規定。經合組織和歐盟均十分重視各國如期落實自動交換資料安排和 BEPS 措施, 事實上亦已各自展開評估工作,以及制訂"不合作"稅務管轄區名單。 "不合作"稅務管轄區或會遭受抵制措施,其投資和營商吸引力會因而 下降。

³ 除稅務透明度外,歐盟也會評估稅務管轄區在公平課稅和實施 BEPS 措施方面是否 符合標準;未能達標者會被列為"不合作"稅務管轄區。

把《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至香港

9. 中國在二零一三年八月二十七日成為《多邊公約》第 56 個簽約國。在二零一五年十月交存《多邊公約》的批准書時,中國同時作出聲明指《多邊公約》不適用於香港和澳門;此舉符合香港當時的意向。
《多邊公約》自二零一六年二月一日起在中國生效。鑑於上文第 7 和
8 段所述的考慮,香港向中央政府要求把《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至香港,並在二零一七年五月獲得原則上同意。

10. 我們在本事務委員會二零一七年六月五日的會議上獲得委員支持後,在二零一七年十月十八日向立法會提交《2017 年稅務(修訂)(第 5 號)條例草案》("《條例草案》"),為《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至 香港作準備。目前,香港簽訂的雙邊全面性避免雙重課稅協定("全面 性協定")或稅務資料交換協定("交換協定"),均藉行政長官會同行政 會議根據《稅務條例》(第 112 章)第 49(1A)條所作命令在香港實施⁴。 然而,現行《稅務條例》並無賦權行政長官會同行政會議就多邊稅務 協定作出命令。此限制不利香港加入多邊稅務協定或參與新的國際稅 務合作領域。

11.鑑於國際稅務環境迅速發展,國際間着力推動更緊密的稅務合作, 我們在《條例草案》中建議修訂《稅務條例》,賦權行政長官會同行 政會議可藉命令宣布,香港與境外多於一個地區的政府訂立的稅務安 排,或由中央政府訂立並適用於香港的安排,具有效力。

將要採取的主要步驟

12. 經合組織要求承諾實施自動交換資料的稅務管轄區,在二零一八年九月或之前與涵蓋廣泛網絡的伙伴進行首次自動交換資料。為配合這個時間表,香港須在未來數月完成下列關鍵步驟。

⁴ 根據《稅務條例》第 49(1A)條的規定,如行政長官會同行政會議藉命令宣布, 已與香港以外某地區的政府訂立安排,而該等安排的生效是有利的,該等安 排即屬有效。《稅務條例》第 49(1B)條進一步訂明,只有為以下兩個或其中 一個目的而訂立的安排,方可在《稅務條例》第 49(1A)條所指的命令中指明: (a)給予雙重課稅寬免;(b)就香港或有關地區的法律所施加的任何稅項交換資 料。

第一步——通過《條例草案》

13. 法案委員會最近已完成《條例草案》的審議,《條例草案》可望 在二零一八年年初獲得通過,屆時會提供法律框架,讓香港根據經修 訂的《稅務條例》實施多邊稅務安排。

第二步——中央政府交存延伸聲明

14. 我們會請中央政府協助向經合組織作出聲明,把《多邊公約》的 適用範圍延伸至香港("延伸聲明")。《多邊公約》會由經合組織收到 聲明當日起計三個月後的下一個月首日起(即約四個月後)在香港生效。

15. 我們計劃只實施《多邊公約》的強制性條文,同時針對非強制性條文加入適當的保留事項/聲明。我們擬就《多邊公約》加入的保留事項和聲明一覽表載於<u>附件 C</u>。適用於香港的相關保留事項/聲明, 會在中央政府所作的延伸聲明中反映。

第三步——使《多邊公約》在香港生效

16. 根據《條例草案》擬修訂的《稅務條例》,如行政長官會同行政 會議藉命令宣布,已訂立《多邊公約》(作為命令指明的安排),而 《多邊公約》的生效是有利的,《多邊公約》在香港即屬有效。這與 現時行政長官會同行政會議根據《稅務條例》作出命令,宣布香港簽 訂的雙邊全面性協定/交換協定具有效力的做法相若。

17. 在完成首兩個步驟後,我們擬建議行政長官會同行政會議作出命令,宣布《多邊公約》在香港具有效力,惟須受中央政府就香港加入的保留事項/聲明規限。該命令會載述《多邊公約》全文和中央政府 據此就香港加入的一切保留事項和聲明。該命令將根據《稅務條例》 (經《條例草案》修訂)作出,並須提交立法會按先訂立後審議的程序 審議。

第四步——與其他稅務管轄區展開交換資料關係

18.香港須在《多邊公約》的基礎上,簽訂相關的多邊主管當局協議, 才能以多邊模式實施自動交換資料和自動交換國別報告的措施。該兩 項措施的多邊主管當局協議由經合組織制訂,當中訂明稅務當局之間 交換資料的規範,包括保密要求、資料交換時間及傳送方式等。另一 方面, 實施自發交換稅務裁定資料的安排則無須簽訂特定的主管當局協議。

19. 總括而言,若《條例草案》在二零一八年年初獲立法會通過(第 一步),我們打算請中央政府在二零一八年第一季內協助交存延伸聲明(第二步)。隨後,我們會在二零一八年第一或第二季,建議行政長官會同行政會議根據《稅務條例》(經《條例草案》修訂)作出命令, 使《多邊公約》在香港生效(第三步)。最後,在經合組織所定限期(二 零一八年九月)前,使自動交換資料多邊主管當局協議生效(第四步)。 我們會盡力如期完成所需步驟,並按需要作出彈性安排,確保香港能履行國際責任。

20. 至於自動交換國別報告的安排,我們將會向立法會提交《2017年稅務(修訂)(第6號)條例草案》,就提交國別報告提供法律框架。如有關條例草案獲得通過,提交國別報告的制度預計會在二零一八年實施。屆時,香港會按適用情況,以多邊或雙邊模式,與協定伙伴交換有關報告⁵。

未來路向

21. 如期把《多邊公約》的適用範圍延伸至香港,對香港符合國際稅務合作新標準,以及維護香港國際金融和商業中心的聲譽,至為重要。我們會與立法會緊密合作,確保按時完成相關立法工作。

財經事務及庫務局 庫務科 二零一七年十二月

⁵ 以雙邊模式交換國別報告,適用於會計期並未為《多邊公約》所涵蓋的國別報告,或與未有簽署交換國別報告多邊主管當局協議的協定伙伴。

Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters

Text amended by the provisions of the Protocol amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, which entered into force on 1^{st} June 2011.

Preamble

The member States of the Council of Europe and the member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), signatories of this Convention,

Considering that the development of international movement of persons, capital, goods and services – although highly beneficial in itself – has increased the possibilities of tax avoidance and evasion and therefore requires increasing co-operation among tax authorities;

Welcoming the various efforts made in recent years to combat tax avoidance and tax evasion on an international level, whether bilaterally or multilaterally;

Considering that a co-ordinated effort between States is necessary in order to foster all forms of administrative assistance in matters concerning taxes of any kind whilst at the same time ensuring adequate protection of the rights of taxpayers;

Recognising that international co-operation can play an important part in facilitating the proper determination of tax liabilities and in helping the taxpayer to secure his rights;

Considering that fundamental principles entitling every person to have his rights and obligations determined in accordance with a proper legal procedure should be recognised as applying to tax matters in all States and that States should endeavour to protect the legitimate interests of taxpayers, including appropriate protection against discrimination and double taxation;

Convinced therefore that States should carry out measures or supply information, having regard to the necessity of protecting the confidentiality of information, and taking account of international instruments for the protection of privacy and flows of personal data;

Considering that a new co-operative environment has emerged and that it is desirable that a multilateral instrument is made available to allow the widest number of States to obtain the benefits of the new co-operative environment and at the same time implement the highest international standards of co-operation in the tax field;

Desiring to conclude a convention on mutual administrative assistance in tax matters,

Have agreed as follows:

Chapter I – Scope of the Convention

Article 1 – Object of the Convention and persons covered

- 1 The Parties shall, subject to the provisions of Chapter IV, provide administrative assistance to each other in tax matters. Such assistance may involve, where appropriate, measures taken by judicial bodies.
- 2 Such administrative assistance shall comprise:
 - a exchange of information, including simultaneous tax examinations and participation in tax examinations abroad;
 - b assistance in recovery, including measures of conservancy; and
 - c service of documents.
- 3 A Party shall provide administrative assistance whether the person affected is a resident or national of a Party or of any other State.

Article 2 – Taxes covered

- 1 This Convention shall apply:
 - a to the following taxes:
 - i taxes on income or profits,
 - ii taxes on capital gains which are imposed separately from the tax on income or profits,
 - iii taxes on net wealth,

imposed on behalf of a Party; and

- b to the following taxes:
 - i taxes on income, profits, capital gains or net wealth which are imposed on behalf of political subdivisions or local authorities of a Party,
 - ii compulsory social security contributions payable to general government or to social security institutions established under public law, and
 - iii taxes in other categories, except customs duties, imposed on behalf of a Party, namely:
 - A. estate, inheritance or gift taxes,

- B. taxes on immovable property,
- C. general consumption taxes, such as value added or sales taxes,
- D. specific taxes on goods and services such as excise taxes,
- E. taxes on the use or ownership of motor vehicles,
- F. taxes on the use or ownership of movable property other than motor vehicles,
- G. any other taxes;
- iv taxes in categories referred to in sub-paragraph iii. above which are imposed on behalf of political subdivisions or local authorities of a Party.
- 2 The existing taxes to which the Convention shall apply are listed in Annex A in the categories referred to in paragraph 1.
- ³ The Parties shall notify the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or the Secretary General of OECD (hereinafter referred to as the "Depositaries") of any change to be made to Annex A as a result of a modification of the list mentioned in paragraph 2. Such change shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such notification by the Depositary.
- ⁴ The Convention shall also apply, as from their adoption, to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed in a Contracting State after the entry into force of the Convention in respect of that Party in addition to or in place of the existing taxes listed in Annex A and, in that event, the Party concerned shall notify one of the Depositaries of the adoption of the tax in question.

Chapter II – General definitions

Article 3 – Definitions

- 1 For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a the terms "applicant State" and "requested State" mean respectively any Party applying for administrative assistance in tax matters and any Party requested to provide such assistance;
 - b the term "tax" means any tax or social security contribution to which the Convention applies pursuant to Article 2;
 - c the term "tax claim" means any amount of tax, as well as interest thereon, related administrative fines and costs incidental to recovery, which are owed and not yet paid;

- d the term "competent authority" means the persons and authorities listed in Annex B;
- e the term "nationals" in relation to a Party means:
 - i all individuals possessing the nationality of that Party, and
 - ii all legal persons, partnerships, associations and other entities deriving their status as such from the laws in force in that Party.

For each Party that has made a declaration for that purpose, the terms used above will be understood as defined in Annex C.

- 2 As regards the application of the Convention by a Party, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the law of that Party concerning the taxes covered by the Convention.
- ³ The Parties shall notify one of the Depositaries of any change to be made to Annexes B and C. Such change shall take effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such notification by the Depositary in question.

Chapter III – Forms of assistance

Section I – Exchange of information

Article 4 – General provision

- 1 The Parties shall exchange any information, in particular as provided in this section, that is foreseeably relevant for the administration or enforcement of their domestic laws concerning the taxes covered by this Convention.
- 2 Deleted.
- 3 Any Party may, by a declaration addressed to one of the Depositaries, indicate that, according to its internal legislation, its authorities may inform its resident or national before transmitting information concerning him, in conformity with Articles 5 and 7.

Article 5 – Exchange of information on request

- 1 At the request of the applicant State, the requested State shall provide the applicant State with any information referred to in Article 4 which concerns particular persons or transactions.
- 2 If the information available in the tax files of the requested State is not sufficient to enable it to comply with the request for information, that State shall take all relevant measures to provide the applicant State with the information requested.

Article 6 – Automatic exchange of information

With respect to categories of cases and in accordance with procedures which they shall determine by mutual agreement, two or more Parties shall automatically exchange the information referred to in Article 4.

Article 7 – Spontaneous exchange of information

- 1 A Party shall, without prior request, forward to another Party information of which it has knowledge in the following circumstances:
 - a the first-mentioned Party has grounds for supposing that there may be a loss of tax in the other Party;
 - b a person liable to tax obtains a reduction in or an exemption from tax in the firstmentioned Party which would give rise to an increase in tax or to liability to tax in the other Party;
 - c business dealings between a person liable to tax in a Party and a person liable to tax in another Party are conducted through one or more countries in such a way that a saving in tax may result in one or the other Party or in both;
 - d a Party has grounds for supposing that a saving of tax may result from artificial transfers of profits within groups of enterprises;
 - e information forwarded to the first-mentioned Party by the other Party has enabled information to be obtained which may be relevant in assessing liability to tax in the latter Party.
- 2 Each Party shall take such measures and implement such procedures as are necessary to ensure that information described in paragraph 1 will be made available for transmission to another Party.

Article 8 – Simultaneous tax examinations

- 1 At the request of one of them, two or more Parties shall consult together for the purposes of determining cases and procedures for simultaneous tax examinations. Each Party involved shall decide whether or not it wishes to participate in a particular simultaneous tax examination.
- 2 For the purposes of this Convention, a simultaneous tax examination means an arrangement between two or more Parties to examine simultaneously, each in its own territory, the tax affairs of a person or persons in which they have a common or related interest, with a view to exchanging any relevant information which they so obtain.

Article 9 – Tax examinations abroad

- 1 At the request of the competent authority of the applicant State, the competent authority of the requested State may allow representatives of the competent authority of the applicant State to be present at the appropriate part of a tax examination in the requested State.
- 2 If the request is acceded to, the competent authority of the requested State shall, as soon as possible, notify the competent authority of the applicant State about the time and place of the examination, the authority or official designated to carry out the examination and the procedures and conditions required by the requested State for the conduct of the examination. All decisions with respect to the conduct of the tax examination shall be made by the requested State.
- 3 A Party may inform one of the Depositaries of its intention not to accept, as a general rule, such requests as are referred to in paragraph 1. Such a declaration may be made or withdrawn at any time.

Article 10 – Conflicting information

If a Party receives from another Party information about a person's tax affairs which appears to it to conflict with information in its possession, it shall so advise the Party which has provided the information.

Section II - Assistance in recovery

Article 11 – Recovery of tax claims

- 1 At the request of the applicant State, the requested State shall, subject to the provisions of Articles 14 and 15, take the necessary steps to recover tax claims of the first-mentioned State as if they were its own tax claims.
- 2 The provision of paragraph 1 shall apply only to tax claims which form the subject of an instrument permitting their enforcement in the applicant State and, unless otherwise agreed between the Parties concerned, which are not contested.

However, where the claim is against a person who is not a resident of the applicant State, paragraph 1 shall only apply, unless otherwise agreed between the Parties concerned, where the claim may no longer be contested.

3 The obligation to provide assistance in the recovery of tax claims concerning a deceased person or his estate, is limited to the value of the estate or of the property acquired by each beneficiary of the estate, according to whether the claim is to be recovered from the estate or from the beneficiaries thereof.

Article 12 – Measures of conservancy

At the request of the applicant State, the requested State shall, with a view to the recovery of an amount of tax, take measures of conservancy even if the claim is contested or is not yet the subject of an instrument permitting enforcement.

Article 13 – Documents accompanying the request

- 1 The request for administrative assistance under this section shall be accompanied by:
 - a a declaration that the tax claim concerns a tax covered by the Convention and, in the case of recovery that, subject to paragraph 2 of Article 11, the tax claim is not or may not be contested,
 - b an official copy of the instrument permitting enforcement in the applicant State, and
 - c any other document required for recovery or measures of conservancy.
- 2 The instrument permitting enforcement in the applicant State shall, where appropriate and in accordance with the provisions in force in the requested State, be accepted, recognised, supplemented or replaced as soon as possible after the date of the receipt of the request for assistance, by an instrument permitting enforcement in the latter State.

Article 14 – Time limits

- 1 Questions concerning any period beyond which a tax claim cannot be enforced shall be governed by the law of the applicant State. The request for assistance shall give particulars concerning that period.
- 2 Acts of recovery carried out by the requested State in pursuance of a request for assistance, which, according to the laws of that State, would have the effect of suspending or interrupting the period mentioned in paragraph 1, shall also have this effect under the laws of the applicant State. The requested State shall inform the applicant State about such acts.
- In any case, the requested State is not obliged to comply with a request for assistance which is submitted after a period of 15 years from the date of the original instrument permitting enforcement.

Article 15 – Priority

The tax claim in the recovery of which assistance is provided shall not have in the requested State any priority specially accorded to the tax claims of that State even if the recovery procedure used is the one applicable to its own tax claims.

Article 16 – Deferral of payment

The requested State may allow deferral of payment or payment by instalments if its laws or administrative practice permit it to do so in similar circumstances, but shall first inform the applicant State.

Section III – Service of documents

Article 17 – Service of documents

- 1 At the request of the applicant State, the requested State shall serve upon the addressee documents, including those relating to judicial decisions, which emanate from the applicant State and which relate to a tax covered by this Convention.
- 2 The requested State shall effect service of documents:
 - a by a method prescribed by its domestic laws for the service of documents of a substantially similar nature;
 - b to the extent possible, by a particular method requested by the applicant State or the closest to such method available under its own laws.
- 3 A Party may effect service of documents directly through the post on a person within the territory of another Party.
- 4 Nothing in the Convention shall be construed as invalidating any service of documents by a Party in accordance with its laws.
- ⁵ When a document is served in accordance with this article, it need not be accompanied by a translation. However, where it is satisfied that the addressee cannot understand the language of the document, the requested State shall arrange to have it translated into or a summary drafted in its or one of its official languages. Alternatively, it may ask the applicant State to have the document either translated into or accompanied by a summary in one of the official languages of the requested State, the Council of Europe or the OECD.

Chapter IV – Provisions relating to all forms of assistance

Article 18 – Information to be provided by the applicant State

- 1 A request for assistance shall indicate where appropriate:
 - a the authority or agency which initiated the request made by the competent authority;
 - b the name, address, or any other particulars assisting in the identification of the person in respect of whom the request is made;
 - c in the case of a request for information, the form in which the applicant State wishes the information to be supplied in order to meet its needs;
 - d in the case of a request for assistance in recovery or measures of conservancy, the nature of the tax claim, the components of the tax claim and the assets from which the tax claim may be recovered;

- e in the case of a request for service of documents, the nature and the subject of the document to be served;
- f whether it is in conformity with the law and administrative practice of the applicant State and whether it is justified in the light of the requirements of Article 21.2.g.
- 2 As soon as any other information relevant to the request for assistance comes to its knowledge, the applicant State shall forward it to the requested State.

Article 19 – Deleted

Article 20 – Response to the request for assistance

- 1 If the request for assistance is complied with, the requested State shall inform the applicant State of the action taken and of the result of the assistance as soon as possible.
- 2 If the request is declined, the requested State shall inform the applicant State of that decision and the reason for it as soon as possible.
- ³ If, with respect to a request for information, the applicant State has specified the form in which it wishes the information to be supplied and the requested State is in a position to do so, the requested State shall supply it in the form requested.

Article 21 – Protection of persons and limits to the obligation to provide assistance

- 1 Nothing in this Convention shall affect the rights and safeguards secured to persons by the laws or administrative practice of the requested State.
- 2 Except in the case of Article 14, the provisions of this Convention shall not be construed so as to impose on the requested State the obligation:
 - a to carry out measures at variance with its own laws or administrative practice or the laws or administrative practice of the applicant State;
 - b to carry out measures which would be contrary to public policy (*ordre public*);
 - c to supply information which is not obtainable under its own laws or its administrative practice or under the laws of the applicant State or its administrative practice;
 - d to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret, or trade process, or information the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (*ordre public*);
 - e to provide administrative assistance if and insofar as it considers the taxation in the applicant State to be contrary to generally accepted taxation principles or to the provisions of a convention for the avoidance of double taxation, or of any other convention which the requested State has concluded with the applicant State;

- f to provide administrative assistance for the purpose of administering or enforcing a provision of the tax law of the applicant State, or any requirement connected therewith, which discriminates against a national of the requested State as compared with a national of the applicant State in the same circumstances;
- g to provide administrative assistance if the applicant State has not pursued all reasonable measures available under its laws or administrative practice, except where recourse to such measures would give rise to disproportionate difficulty;
- h to provide assistance in recovery in those cases where the administrative burden for that State is clearly disproportionate to the benefit to be derived by the applicant State.
- ³ If information is requested by the applicant State in accordance with this Convention, the requested State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though the requested State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations contained in this Convention, but in no case shall such limitations, including in particular those of paragraphs 1 and 2, be construed to permit a requested State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.
- ⁴ In no case shall the provisions of this Convention, including in particular those of paragraphs 1 and 2, be construed to permit a requested State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

Article 22 – Secrecy

- 1 Any information obtained by a Party under this Convention shall be treated as secret and protected in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic law of that Party and, to the extent needed to ensure the necessary level of protection of personal data, in accordance with the safeguards which may be specified by the supplying Party as required under its domestic law.
- 2 Such information shall in any case be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative or supervisory bodies) concerned with the assessment, collection or recovery of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, taxes of that Party, or the oversight of the above. Only the persons or authorities mentioned above may use the information and then only for such purposes. They may, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, disclose it in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions relating to such taxes.

- ³ If a Party has made a reservation provided for in sub-paragraph a. of paragraph 1 of Article 30, any other Party obtaining information from that Party shall not use it for the purpose of a tax in a category subject to the reservation. Similarly, the Party making such a reservation shall not use information obtained under this Convention for the purpose of a tax in a category subject to the reservation.
- ⁴ Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, information received by a Party may be used for other purposes when such information may be used for such other purposes under the laws of the supplying Party and the competent authority of that Party authorises such use. Information provided by a Party to another Party may be transmitted by the latter to a third Party, subject to prior authorisation by the competent authority of the first-mentioned Party.

Article 23 – Proceedings

- 1 Proceedings relating to measures taken under this Convention by the requested State shall be brought only before the appropriate body of that State.
- 2 Proceedings relating to measures taken under this Convention by the applicant State, in particular those which, in the field of recovery, concern the existence or the amount of the tax claim or the instrument permitting its enforcement, shall be brought only before the appropriate body of that State. If such proceedings are brought, the applicant State shall inform the requested State which shall suspend the procedure pending the decision of the body in question. However, the requested State shall, if asked by the applicant State, take measures of conservancy to safeguard recovery. The requested State can also be informed of such proceedings by any interested person. Upon receipt of such information the requested State shall consult on the matter, if necessary, with the applicant State.
- 3 As soon as a final decision in the proceedings has been given, the requested State or the applicant State, as the case may be, shall notify the other State of the decision and the implications which it has for the request for assistance.

Chapter V – Special provisions

Article 24 – Implementation of the Convention

- 1 The Parties shall communicate with each other for the implementation of this Convention through their respective competent authorities. The competent authorities may communicate directly for this purpose and may authorise subordinate authorities to act on their behalf. The competent authorities of two or more Parties may mutually agree on the mode of application of the Convention among themselves.
- 2 Where the requested State considers that the application of this Convention in a particular case would have serious and undesirable consequences, the competent authorities of the requested and of the applicant State shall consult each other and endeavour to resolve the situation by mutual agreement.

- 3 A co-ordinating body composed of representatives of the competent authorities of the Parties shall monitor the implementation and development of this Convention, under the aegis of the OECD. To that end, the co-ordinating body shall recommend any action likely to further the general aims of the Convention. In particular it shall act as a forum for the study of new methods and procedures to increase international co-operation in tax matters and, where appropriate, it may recommend revisions or amendments to the Convention. States which have signed but not yet ratified, accepted or approved the Convention are entitled to be represented at the meetings of the co-ordinating body as observers.
- 4 A Party may ask the co-ordinating body to furnish opinions on the interpretation of the provisions of the Convention.
- 5 Where difficulties or doubts arise between two or more Parties regarding the implementation or interpretation of the Convention, the competent authorities of those Parties shall endeavour to resolve the matter by mutual agreement. The agreement shall be communicated to the co-ordinating body.
- ⁶ The Secretary General of OECD shall inform the Parties, and the Signatory States which have not yet ratified, accepted or approved the Convention, of opinions furnished by the co-ordinating body according to the provisions of paragraph 4 above and of mutual agreements reached under paragraph 5 above.

Article 25 – Language

Requests for assistance and answers thereto shall be drawn up in one of the official languages of the OECD and of the Council of Europe or in any other language agreed bilaterally between the Contracting States concerned.

Article 26 – Costs

Unless otherwise agreed bilaterally by the Parties concerned:

- a ordinary costs incurred in providing assistance shall be borne by the requested State;
- b extraordinary costs incurred in providing assistance shall be borne by the applicant State.

Chapter VI – Final provisions

Article 27 – Other international agreements or arrangements

1 The possibilities of assistance provided by this Convention do not limit, nor are they limited by, those contained in existing or future international agreements or other arrangements between the Parties concerned or other instruments which relate to co-operation in tax matters. 2 Notwithstanding paragraph 1, those Parties which are member States of the European Union can apply, in their mutual relations, the possibilities of assistance provided for by the Convention in so far as they allow a wider co-operation than the possibilities offered by the applicable European Union rules.

Article 28 – Signature and entry into force of the Convention

- 1 This Convention shall be open for signature by the member States of the Council of Europe and the member countries of OECD. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with one of the Depositaries.
- 2 This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date on which five States have expressed their consent to be bound by the Convention in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1.
- ³ In respect of any member State of the Council of Europe or any member country of OECD which subsequently expresses its consent to be bound by it, the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.
- ⁴ Any member State of the Council of Europe or any member country of OECD which becomes a Party to the Convention after the entry into force of the Protocol amending this Convention, opened for signature on 27th May 2010 (the "2010 Protocol"), shall be a Party to the Convention as amended by that Protocol, unless they express a different intention in a written communication to one of the Depositaries.
- ⁵ After the entry into force of the 2010 Protocol, any State which is not a member of the Council of Europe or of the OECD may request to be invited to sign and ratify this Convention as amended by the 2010 Protocol. Any request to this effect shall be addressed to one of the Depositaries, who shall transmit it to the Parties. The Depositary shall also inform the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and the OECD Council. The decision to invite States which so request to become Party to this Convention shall be taken by consensus by the Parties to the Convention through the co-ordinating body. In respect of any State ratifying the Convention as amended by the 2010 Protocol in accordance with this paragraph, this Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of deposit of the instrument of ratification with one of the Depositaries.
- ⁶ The provisions of this Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, shall have effect for administrative assistance related to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January of the year following the one in which the Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, entered into force in respect of a Party, or where there is no taxable period, for administrative assistance related to charges to tax arising on or after 1 January of the year following the one in which the Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, entered into force in respect of a Party. Any two or more Parties may mutually agree that the Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, shall have effect for administrative assistance related to earlier taxable periods or charges to tax.

7 Notwithstanding paragraph 6, for tax matters involving intentional conduct which is liable to prosecution under the criminal laws of the applicant Party, the provisions of this Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, shall have effect from the date of entry into force in respect of a Party in relation to earlier taxable periods or charges to tax.

Article 29 – Territorial application of the Convention

- 1 Each State may, at the time of signature, or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, specify the territory or territories to which this Convention shall apply.
- 2 Any State may, at any later date, by a declaration addressed to one of the Depositaries, extend the application of this Convention to any other territory specified in the declaration. In respect of such territory the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such declaration by the Depositary.
- 3 Any declaration made under either of the two preceding paragraphs may, in respect of any territory specified in such declaration, be withdrawn by a notification addressed to one of the Depositaries. The withdrawal shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such notification by the Depositary.

Article 30 – Reservations

- 1 Any State may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval or at any later date, declare that it reserves the right:
 - a not to provide any form of assistance in relation to the taxes of other Parties in any of the categories listed in sub-paragraph b. of paragraph 1 of Article 2, provided that it has not included any domestic tax in that category under Annex A of the Convention;
 - b not to provide assistance in the recovery of any tax claim, or in the recovery of an administrative fine, for all taxes or only for taxes in one or more of the categories listed in paragraph 1 of Article 2;
 - not to provide assistance in respect of any tax claim, which is in existence at the date of entry into force of the Convention in respect of that State or, where a reservation has previously been made under sub-paragraph a. or b. above, at the date of withdrawal of such a reservation in relation to taxes in the category in question;
 - d not to provide assistance in the service of documents for all taxes or only for taxes in one or more of the categories listed in paragraph 1 of Article 2;

- e not to permit the service of documents through the post as provided for in paragraph 3 of Article 17;
- f to apply paragraph 7 of Article 28 exclusively for administrative assistance related to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January of the third year preceding the one in which the Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, entered into force in respect of a Party, or where there is no taxable period, for administrative assistance related to charges to tax arising on or after 1 January of the third year preceding the one in which the Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, entered into force in respect of a Party.
- 2 No other reservation may be made.
- 3 After the entry into force of the Convention in respect of a Party, that Party may make one or more of the reservations listed in paragraph 1 which it did not make at the time of ratification, acceptance or approval. Such reservations shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of the reservation by one of the Depositaries.
- 4 Any Party which has made a reservation under paragraphs 1 and 3 may wholly or partly withdraw it by means of a notification addressed to one of the Depositaries. The withdrawal shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notification by the Depositary in question.
- 5 A Party which has made a reservation in respect of a provision of this Convention may not require the application of that provision by any other Party; it may, however, if its reservation is partial, require the application of that provision insofar as it has itself accepted it.

Article 31 – Denunciation

- 1 Any Party may, at any time, denounce this Convention by means of a notification addressed to one of the Depositaries.
- 2 Such denunciation shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary.
- 3 Any Party which denounces the Convention shall remain bound by the provisions of Article 22 for as long as it retains in its possession any documents or information obtained under the Convention.

Article 32 – Depositaries and their functions

- 1 The Depositary with whom an act, notification or communication has been accomplished, shall notify the member States of the Council of Europe and the member countries of OECD and any Party to this Convention of:
 - a any signature;

- b the deposit of any instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval;
- c any date of entry into force of this Convention in accordance with the provisions of Articles 28 and 29;
- d any declaration made in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 4 or paragraph 3 of Article 9 and the withdrawal of any such declaration;
- e any reservation made in pursuance of the provisions of Article 30 and the withdrawal of any reservation effected in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article 30;
- f any notification received in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 3 or 4 of Article 2, paragraph 3 of Article 3, Article 29 or paragraph 1 of Article 31;
- g any other act, notification or communication relating to this Convention.
- 2 The Depositary receiving a communication or making a notification in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 1 shall inform immediately the other Depositary thereof.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed the Convention.

Established by the Depositaries the 1st day of June 2011 pursuant to Article X.4 of the Protocol amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, in English and French, both texts being equally authentic, in two copies of which one shall be deposited in the archives of each Depositary. The Depositaries shall transmit a certified copy to each Party to the Convention as amended by the Protocol and to each State entitled to become a party.

參與《多邊稅收徵管互助公約》的稅務管轄區

(截至二零一七年十二月十五日)

1	阿爾日尼西	<u>/</u> 1	庙 副	81.	纽 按
1. 2.	阿爾巴尼亞 安道爾	41. 12	德 國 迦 納	81. 82.	紐 埃 挪 威
2. 3.	安道爾 安圭拉 [#] 阿根廷 阿魯巴 [#] 澳大利亞	42.	^{远 衲} 直 布 羅 陀 [#]		四基斯坦
3. 4.	久 土 位 阿 相 	43.	希臘		巴奎斯坦巴拿馬
4. 5.	阿 似 处 同 角 田 [#]	44.	^布 蹠 格陵蘭 [#]	84. 85.	
5. 6	四 晉 L 演 十 判 否	4J.			秘 魯
6. 7	突入 们 显 窗 地 刊	40.	危地馬拉 坦亜自#	86. 87	菲律賓
7.	奥地利		根西島 [#]	87.	波蘭
8.	阿塞拜疆		匈牙利	88.	葡萄牙
	巴哈馬		冰島		卡塔爾
	巴林		印度	90.	
	巴巴多斯		印度尼西亞		
	比利時		愛爾蘭		
	伯利茲	53.	萌島 [#]	93.	聖盧西亞
			以色列	94.	聖文森特和格林納丁斯
15.	巴西	55.	意大利	95.	薩摩亞
16.	英屬維爾京群島#	56.	牙買加	96.	聖馬力諾
17.	文 萊 達 魯 薩 蘭 國	57.	日本	97.	沙地阿拉伯
18.	保加利亞	58.	澤西島#	98.	
19.	布基納法索	59.	哈 薩 克 斯 坦	99.	塞舌爾
20.	布基納法索 喀麥隆 加拿大	60.	肯亞	100.	新加坡
21.	加拿大	61.	韓國	101.	聖馬丁島#
22.	開曼群島 [#] 智利	62.	科威特	102.	斯 洛 伐 克 共 和 國
23.	智 利	63.	拉 脫 維 亞	103.	斯洛文尼亞
24.	中國(中華人民共和國)	64.	黎巴嫩	104.	南非
25.	哥倫比亞	65.	列支敦士登	105.	西班牙
26.	庫克群島	66.	立陶宛	106.	瑞典
27.	哥斯達黎加	67.	盧 森 堡	107.	瑞士
	克羅地亞 庫拉索 [#]	68.	馬 來 西 亞	108.	突尼西亞
	庫拉索#	69.	馬爾他		土耳其
	塞浦路斯	70.	馬紹爾群島		特克斯和凱科斯群島#
	捷克共和國		毛利求斯		烏干達
	丹麥	72.	墨西哥		烏克蘭
	多米尼加共和國		摩爾多瓦		阿拉伯聯合酋長國
	薩爾瓦多		摩納哥		英國
	愛沙尼亞		蒙特塞拉特島#	115.	
	∠ 〕 二 <u></u>		摩洛哥		烏拉圭
	芬蘭		瑙魯		
	法國		荷蘭		
	加蓬		新西蘭		
	格魯吉亞		尼日利亞		
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#藉地域延伸身分加入

擬在《多邊稅收徵管互助公約》加入的 保留事項和聲明一覽表

保留事項/聲明

- 1. 根據《修訂〈多邊稅收徵管互助公 約〉議定書》修訂的《多邊稅收徵管 互助公約》(下稱《公約》)第 29 條第2款的規定,《公約》將擴展適 用於中華人民共和國香港特別行政區 (下稱「香港特區」)。
- 2. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.a 款的規 加入保留事項,訂明香 定,對《公約》第2條第1.b款就其 他締約方列入《公約》適用的稅項, 所訂的基本稅種(即第 2 香港特區不提供任何形式的協助。
- 3. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.b 款項的 規定,就所有稅收申索的追討或保存 港不會協助追討根據 措施,香港特區不提供協助。
- 4. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.c 款項的 規定,對於《公約》(根據《公約》 第 29 條第 2 款)在香港特區生效的 日期已存在的任何税收申索,或如有 對於先前根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.a 或 1.b 款就某些税收作出保留,在有 關保留被撤銷的日期已存在涉及該等 稅種的任何稅收申索,香港特區均不 提供協助。
- 5. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.d 款的規 定,就文件送達,香港特區不提供協 助。

目的^{*}

聲明《多邊公約》適用 於香港。

港只會就《多邊公約》 條第 1.a 款所列者)提供 協助。

加入保留事項,訂明香 《多邊公約》提出的稅 收申索或保存措施。

加入保留事項,訂明就 《多邊公約》對香港生 效之日已存在的稅收申 索,或就上文第 2 或 3 段所述保留事項撤銷之 日已存在的稅收申索, 香港不會提供協助。

加入保留事項,訂明香 港不會根據《多邊公 約》提供文書送達方面 的協助。

保留事項/聲明

- 6. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.e 款的規 定,香港特區不准許根據《公約》第 港不會根據《多邊公 17 條第 3 款所訂定的、透過郵遞方 式的文件送達。
- 7. 根據《公約》第 30 條第 1.f 款的規 定,《公約》第28條第7款只適用 於涉及指定課稅期的行政協助,該指 定課稅期為經《2010年議定書》修 訂的《公約》在香港特區生效當年之 前的第三個年份的1月1日當日或之 後開始的課稅期。如沒有課稅期,第 28 條第 7 款則只適用於指定日期或 之後產生的徵稅行為所涉及的行政協 助,該指定日期為經《2010年議定 書》修訂的《公約》在香港特區生效 當年之前的第三個年份的1月1日。
- 8. 根據《公約》第2條第1款作出聲 明,《公約》適用於香港特區以下稅 香港的稅種作出聲明。 種:

《公約》第2條第1.a.i款: 入息或利得稅 - 利得稅;

- 薪俸稅;及
- 物業稅。
- 9. 根據《公約》第3條第1.d 款作出聲 就香港主管當局的定義 明,就香港特區而言,"主管當局"一 詞,指稅務局局長或其授權代表。
- 10. 根據《公約》第 3 條第 1.e 款項作出 聲 明 , 就 香 港 特 區 而 言 , "國 民"一 詞,指任何擁有香港特區的居留權或 在香港特區成立為法團或以其他方式 定義作出聲明。 組成的人。

目的^{*}

加入保留事項,訂明香 約》協助通過郵寄方式 送達文書。

加入保留事項,訂明關 於涉及根據請求方刑事 法例可予檢控的蓄意行 為的稅務事宜, 香港保 留權利不會就《多邊公 約》在香港生效當年之 前的第三個年份的 1 月 1 日前(假定《多邊公 約》在2018年在香港生 效,即在2015年1月1 日前)產生的徵稅行為, 提供任何協助。

就《多邊公約》適用於

作出聲明。

根 據 全 面 性 避 免 雙 重 課 稅協定通常採用的擬訂 方式,就香港"國民"的

<u>保留事項/聲明</u>

- 11. 根據《公約》第4條第3款作出聲明,在根據《公約》第5條規定提供涉及香港特區居民或國民的資料前, 香港特區可通知該人。
- 12. 根據《公約》第 9 條第 3 款作出聲
 明,作為一般規則,香港特區不會接
 受《公約》第 9 條第 1 款所述的請
 求。
- 13.《公約》應根據《自動交換財務帳戶 資料多邊主管當局協議》(下稱"《財 務帳戶資料多邊協議》")的提供行政 協助條款,適用於香港特區及其他已 作出類似聲明的該公約締約方,不論 有關資料涉及接收資料的稅務管轄區 那一個課稅期或那一項徵稅行為。

《公約》應同時適用於香港特區及其 他已作出類似聲明的該公約締約方之 間、根據該公約第 5 條提供的行政協 助,不論有關資料涉及接收資料的稅 務管轄區那一個課稅期或那一項徵稅 行為,前提是有關協助涉及根據《財 務帳戶資料多邊協議》進行的資料交 換,而相關的提交資料的稅務管轄區 的申報期間為該協議所涵蓋。

<u>目的</u>^{*}

聲明當根據《多邊公約》處理交換資料請求時,香港在向締約另一 方傳送涉及香港居民或國民的資料前,可通知該居民或國民。

聲明香港一般不會接受 境外稅務調查的請求。

聲明指《多邊公約》適
用於按香港擬簽訂的
《財務帳戶資料多邊協
議》所訂時間表進行的
自動交換資料安排(即在
2018年首次就 2017年7
月1日起的資料進行交換)。

只供參考,不屬擬在《多邊公約》加入的保留事項/聲明或本文件第 17 段所 指命令的一部分。