# AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE

### **TAXATION**

# AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Republic of Ghana and the Government of the State of Qatar;

Desiring to further develop their economic relationship and to enhance their cooperation in tax matters,

Intending to conclude an agreement for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on income without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance (including through treaty shopping arrangements aimed at obtaining reliefs provided in this Agreement for the indirect benefits of residents of third States), Have agreed as follows:

### ARTICLE 1 PERSONS COVERED

- 1. This Agreement shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.
- 2. For the purposes of this Agreement, income derived by or through an entity or arrangement that is treated as wholly or partly fiscally transparent under the tax law of either Contracting State shall be considered to be income of a resident of a Contracting State but only to the extent that the income is treated, for purposes of taxation by that State, as the income of a resident of that State.
- 3. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Agreement, a collective investment vehicle which is established in a Contracting State and

which receives income arising in the other Contracting State shall be treated, for purposes of applying the Agreement to such income, as an individual who is a resident of the Contracting State in which it is established and as the beneficial owner of the income it receives (provided that, if an individual who is a resident of the first-mentioned State had received the income in the same circumstances, such individual would have been considered to be the beneficial owner thereof).

For purposes of this paragraph, the term "collective investment vehicle" means any investment fund, arrangement or entity established in either Contracting State which the competent authorities of the Contracting States agree to regard as a collective investment vehicle for purposes of this paragraph.

### **ARTICLE 2**

### TAXES COVERED

- 1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
- 2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income, all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on total amount of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.
- 3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:
- a. in the case of the State of Qatar: taxes on income (hereinafter referred to as "Qatari tax"); and
- b. in the case of Ghana: the income tax (hereinafter referred to as "Ghana tax").
- 4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of the existing taxes. The

competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes that have been made in their respective tax laws.

# ARTICLE 3 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
- a. the term "Qatar" means the State of Qatar and, when used in its geographical sense, means the State of Qatar's lands, internal waters and territorial sea, including its bed and subsoil, the air space over them, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf over which the State of Qatar exercises sovereign rights and jurisdiction, in accordance with the provisions of international law and the State of Qatar's national laws and regulations;
- b. the term "Ghana" means the Republic of Ghana including its air space, the territorial sea and any area outside the territorial sea within which, in accordance with international law, the Republic of Ghana exercises jurisdiction and has sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of the seabed and its subsoil and the superjacent waters;
- c. the term "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" means Qatar or Ghana, as the context requires;
- d. the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
- e. the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- f. the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;
- g. the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise that has its place of effective

management in a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;

- h. the term "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of Qatar, the Minister of Finance, or his authorized representative; and
  - (ii) in the case of Ghana, the Commissioner-General of the Ghana Revenue Authority or his authorised representative;
- i. the term "national", in relation to a Contracting State, means:
  - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of that Contracting State;
  - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in that Contracting State;
- 2. As regards the application of the Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires or the competent authorities agree to a different meaning pursuant to the provisions of Article 25, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### RESIDENT

1 . For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State.

- 2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:
- a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident
  - only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
- b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode;
- c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;
- d) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.
- 3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to determine by mutual agreement the Contracting State of which such person shall be deemed to be a resident for the purposes of the Agreement, having regard to its place of effective management, the place where it is incorporated or otherwise constituted and any other relevant factors. In the absence of such agreement, such person shall not be entitled to any relief or exemption from tax provided by this Agreement except to the extent and in such manner as may be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

### PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.
- 2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:
- a. a place of management;
- b. a branch;
- c. an office;
- d. a factory;
- e. a workshop;
- f. a warehouse, in relation to a person providing storage facilities for others;
- g. premises used as sales outlet;
- h. a farm or plantation; and
- i. a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of exploration, extraction or exploitation, of natural resources.
- 3. The term "permanent establishment" also encompasses:
- a. a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities last more than 6 months;
- b. the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only if activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within a Contracting State for period or periods aggregating more than 183 days in any 12 month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned.
- 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 or display 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 or display;
- 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;
- f. the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in Sub-paragraphs (a) to (e), provided that such activity or, in the case of Sub-paragraph (f), the overall activity of the fixed place of business, is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.
- 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 but subject to the provisions of paragraph 7, where a person is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, if such a person:
- a. habitually concludes contracts, or habitually plays the principal role leading to the conclusion of contracts that are routinely concluded without material modification by the enterprise, and these contracts are
  - (i) in the name of the enterprise, or
  - (ii) for the transfer of the ownership of, or for the granting of the right to use, property owned by that enterprise or that the enterprise has the right to use, or
  - (iii) for the provision of services by that enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 4 which, if exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph; or

b. the person does not habitually conclude contracts nor plays the principal role leading to the conclusion of such contracts, but habitually maintains in that State a stock of goods or merchandise

- from which that person regularly delivers goods or merchandise on behalf of the enterprise.
- 6. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to reinsurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums on the territory of that other Contracting State or insures risks situated therein through a person, other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies.
- 7. Paragraphs 5 and 6 shall not apply where the person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of enterprise of the other Contracting State carries on business in the first-mentioned State is an independent agent and acts for the enterprise in the ordinary course of that business. Where, however, a person acts exclusively or almost exclusively on behalf of one or more enterprise to which it is closely related, the person shall not be considered to be an independent agent within the meaning of this paragraph with respect to any such enterprise.
- 8. The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.
- 9. For the purposes of this Article, a person or enterprise is closely related to an enterprise if, based on all the relevant facts and circumstances, one has control of the other or both are under the control of the same persons or enterprises. In any case, a person or enterprise shall be considered to be closely related to an enterprise if one possesses directly or indirectly more than 50 per cent of the beneficial interest in the other (or, in the case of a company, more than 50 per cent of the aggregate vote and value of the company's shares or of the beneficial equity interest in the company) or if

another person or enterprise possesses directly or indirectly more than 50 per cent of the beneficial interest (or, in the case of a

company, more than 50 per cent of the aggregate vote and value of the company's shares or of the beneficial equity interest in the company) in the person and the enterprise or in the two enterprises.

### **ARTICLE 6**

#### INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

- 1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.
- 3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting or use in any other form of immovable property.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

### **BUSINESS PROFITS**

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

- 2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.
- 3. In the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the business of the permanent establishment including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere. However, no such deduction shall be allowed in respect of amounts, if any, paid (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses) by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission, for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the permanent establishment. Likewise, no account shall be taken, in the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, for amounts charged (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses), by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices.
- 4. In so far as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various

- parts, nothing in paragraph 2 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. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.
- 6. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

## ARTICLE 8 INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

- 1. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. For purposes of this Article, profits from the operation of ships or aircraft include, but are not limited to:
- a. profits from the rental of ships or aircraft on a full (time or voyage) basis; and
- b. profits from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships or aircraft.
- Profits derived by an enterprise from the inland transport of property or passengers within either Contracting State shall be treated as profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic if such transport is undertaken as part of international traffic.
- 3. Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State from the use, maintenance, or rental of containers (including trailers, barges, and related equipment for the transport of containers) shall be taxable only in that Contracting State, except to the extent that those

- containers are used for transport solely between places within the other Contracting State.
- 4. The provisions of paragraph I and 3 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

### Article 9

### **Associated enterprises**

- 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 the profits of an enterprise of that State and taxes accordingly profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State shall make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall if necessary consult each other.

3. A Contracting State shall not include in the profits of an enterprise, and tax accordingly, profits that would have accrued to the enterprise but by reason of the conditions referred to in paragraph I have not so accrued, after 6 years from the end of the taxable year in which the profits would have accrued to the enterprise. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the case of fraud, gross negligence or wilful default.

### ARTICLE 10

### **DIVIDENDS**

- 1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:
- a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company which holds directly at least 25 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends;
- b) 7 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.
- The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of these limitations.
- This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.
- 3. To the extent that a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State is, under Paragraph 2 of Article I, considered to be income of another company resident of the other Contracting State because that other company is a member of a fiscally transparent entity or arrangement referred to in that paragraph, that

other company shall be deemed, for the purposes of the application of Sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 2 of Article 10, to hold directly

that part of the capital of the company paying the dividend that is held by the transparent entity or arrangement which corresponds to the proportion of the capital of that fiscally transparent entity or arrangement that is held by that other company.

- 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in that other State, if the beneficial owner of the dividends is:
- a. that State or any of its political subdivisions or local authorities, or any of their statutory bodies, agencies or instrumentalities or its central bank; or
- b. one of the following entities, as long as they are wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by the Contracting States, their political subdivisions or local authorities:
  - (i) In Ghana:
  - Ghana National Petroleum Corporation;
  - State Housing Company Limited;
  - Ghana Infrastructure and Investment Fund;
  - Ghana Exim Bank;
  - Social Security and National Investment Trust;
  - ESLA PLC.
  - (ii) In Qatar:
  - Qatar Investment Authority;
  - Qatar Holding LLC;
  - Qatar retirement funds; Qatar Development Bank; Qatar Petroleum.
- c. any other entity, as long as it is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by the Contracting States, their political subdivisions or local

- authorities, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
- Each competent authority of a Contracting State shall notify to the competent authority of the other Contracting State which entities should be removed from the list in the event that they no longer meet the criteria mentioned in this paragraph, as well as new entities that should be added to the list, in case they meet these criteria.
- 5. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, "jouissance" shares or "jouissance" rights, mining shares, founders 'shares or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.
- 6. The provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in the other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 7. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

### ARTICLE 11 INTEREST

- 1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed only in that other State.
- 2. However, interest arising in a Contracting State may also be taxed in that State according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 7 per cent of the gross amount of the interest. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest referred to in paragraph I shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the recipient is a resident if:
- a) the interest is paid:
  - (i) by the State in which the interest arises or by a political subdivision, a local authority or statutory body thereof; or
  - (ii) in respect of a loan, debt-claim or credit that is owed to, or made, provided, guaranteed or insured by, that State or a political subdivision, local authority or export financing agency thereof; or
- b) the beneficial owner of the interest is:
  - (i) that State, or any of its political subdivisions or local authorities, or any of their statutory bodies, agencies or instrumentalities or its central bank; or
  - (ii) any entity listed in Sub-paragraph b of Paragraph 4 of Article 10 of this Agreement.
  - (iii) any other entity, as long as it is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by the Contracting States, their political subdivisions or local authorities, as may be agreed from time to time between the competent authorities of the Contracting States.
- Each competent authority of a Contracting State shall notify to the competent authority of the other Contracting State which entities should be removed from the list in the event that they no longer

meet the criteria mentioned in this paragraph, as well as new entities that should be added to the list, in case they meet these criteria.

- 4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debtclaims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purposes of this Article.
- 5. The provisions of paragraphs I and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in the other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.
- 7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner of the interest or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt
  - claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall

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

### ARTICLE 12 ROYALTIES

- 1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.
- 3. The term "royalties" as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work (including cinematograph films and films, tapes or discs for radio or television broadcasting), any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial commercial or scientific equipment or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in the other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

- 5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.
- 6. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties, having regard to the use, right or information for which they are paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

### FEES FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

- 1. Fees for technical services arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 15 and subject to the provisions of Articles 8, 16 and 17, fees for technical services arising in a Contracting State may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the fees is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 percent of the gross amount of the fees.

- 3. The term "fees for technical services" as used in this Article means any payment in consideration for any service of a managerial, technical or consultancy nature, unless the payment is made:
- (a) to an employee of the person making the payment;
- (b) for teaching in an educational institution or for teaching by an educational institution; or
- (c) by an individual for services for the personal use of an individual.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs I and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of fees for technical services, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the fees for technical services arise through a permanent establishment situated in that other State, or performs in the other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated in that other State, and the fees for technical services are effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such cases the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. For the purposes of this Article, subject to paragraph 6, fees for technical services shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State if the payer is a resident of that State or if the person paying the fees, whether that person is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the obligation to pay the fees was incurred, and such fees are borne by the permanent establishment or fixed base.
- 6. For the purposes of this Article, fees for technical services shall be deemed not to arise in a Contracting State if the payer is a resident
  - of that State and carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated in that other State or performs independent personal services through a fixed base situated in that other State and such fees are borne by that permanent establishment or fixed base.
- 7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner of the fees for technical services or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the fees, having regard

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

### **ARTICLE 14**

### **CAPITAL GAINS**

- 1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property referred to in Article 6 and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such a fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.
- 3. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircrafts operated in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircrafts, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
- 4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares deriving more than 50% of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

### **ARTICLE 15**

### INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

- 1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State except in the following circumstances, when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State:
- a. if he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other Contracting State; or
- b. if his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelvemonth period commencing or ending in the taxable year concerned; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. The term "professional services" includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

### DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

- 1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 19 and 20, salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if:
- a. the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned, and
- b. the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State; and
- c. the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in the other State.
- 3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment, as a member of the regular complement of a ship or aircraft, that is exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic, other than aboard a ship or aircraft operated solely within the other Contracting State, shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State.

# ARTICLE 17 DIRECTORS' FEES

Directors' fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a

Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the Board of

Directors of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting

State may be taxed in that other State.

# ARTICLE 18 ENTERTAINERS AND SPORTSPERSONS

- 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, 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 sportsperson, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsperson acting as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsperson are exercised.
- 3. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from activities exercised in the other Contracting State as envisaged in paragraphs I and 2 of this Article, shall be exempted from tax in that other State if the visit to that other State is supported wholly or substantially by funds of either Contracting State, a political subdivision or a local authority thereof, or takes place under a cultural agreement or arrangement between the Governments of the Contracting States.

### PENSIONS AND ANNUITIES

- 1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration and annuities paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. The term "annuity" means a stated sum payable periodically at stated times during life or during a specified or ascertainable period of time under an obligation to make the payments in return for adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth.

#### **ARTICLE 20**

### **GOVERNMENT SERVICE**

- 1 . a. Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that 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 State and the individual is a resident of that State who:
  - (i) is a national of that State; or
  - (ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
- 2. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.

- b. However, such 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 State.
- 3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18, and 19 of this Agreement 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 a local authority thereof.

#### **STUDENTS**

Payments which a student or business apprentice who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

### **ARTICLE 22**

### **OTHER INCOME**

- 1. Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt within the foregoing Articles of this Agreement shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6, derived by a resident of a Contracting State, if the recipient of such income carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in the other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or

property in respect of which the income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

### **ARTICLE 23**

### ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

- 1. In the case of Qatar, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
- a. Where a resident of a Qatar derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Ghana, Qatar
  - shall, subject to the provisions of Sub-paragraph b of this Paragraph, exempt such income from tax.
- b. Where a resident of Qatar derives items of income which, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11, may be taxed in Ghana, Qatar shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Ghana. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such items of income derived from that other State.
- 2. In the case of Ghana, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
- a. Qatar tax payable under the laws of Qatar and in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement, whether directly (by assessment) or by deduction (withholding), on profits, income or capital gains from sources within Qatar (excluding, in the case of dividends, tax payable in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid) shall be allowed as a credit against any Ghana tax computed by reference to the same profits, income or capital gains by reference to which Qatar tax is computed.
- b. In the case of dividends paid by a company which is a resident of Qatar to a company which is resident in Ghana and which controls directly at least 25% of the capital of the company paying the dividends, the credit shall take into account (in addition to any Qatar

tax for which credit may be allowed under the provisions of Subparagraph (a) the Qatar tax payable by the company in respect of the profits out of which such dividends are paid;

provided that any credit allowed under Sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph shall not exceed the proportion of the Ghana tax which such profits, income or capital gains bear to the entire profits, income or capital gains chargeable to Ghana tax.

### **ARTICLE 24**

#### NON-DISCRIMINATION

- 1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirements connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected. This provision shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article I, also apply to persons who are not residents of one or both of the Contracting States.
- 2. Stateless persons who are residents of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in either 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 the State concerned in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected.
- 3. The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, relief and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

- 4. Except where the provisions of Paragraph I of Article 9, Paragraph 7 of Article I1, Paragraph 6 of Article 12 or Paragraph 7 of Article 13 apply, interest, royalties, fees for technical services and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State.
- 5. Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned State to any taxation or any requirements connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.
- 6. The non-taxation of Qatari nationals under Qatari tax law shall not be regarded as discrimination under the provisions of this Article.
- 7. The provisions of this Article shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, apply to taxes of every kind and description.

### MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 24, to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

- 2. The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.
- 3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.
- 4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly, including through a joint commission consisting of themselves or their representatives, for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

### **EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

- 1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles I and 2.
- 2. Any information received under Paragraph 1 by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that 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, or the oversight of the above. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, information received by a Contracting State may be used for other purposes when such information may be used for such purposes under the

laws of both States and the competent authority of the supplying State authorises such use.

- 3. In no case shall the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:
- a. to carry out administrative measur.es at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- b. to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
- c. to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information, the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (ordre public).
- 4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.
- 5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee

or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

### **ARTICLE 27**

### MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR POSTS

Nothing in this Agreement 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.

### **ARTICLE 28**

### ENTITLEMENT TO BENEFITS

- 1. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Agreement, a benefit under this Agreement shall not be granted in respect of an item of income if it is reasonable to conclude, having regard to all relevant facts and circumstances, that obtaining that benefit was one of the principal purposes of any arrangement or transaction that resulted directly or indirectly in that benefit, unless it is established that granting that benefit in these circumstances would be in accordance with the object and purpose of the relevant provisions of this Agreement.
- 2. Where a benefit under this Agreement is denied to a person under Paragraph 1, the competent authority of the Contracting State that would otherwise have granted this benefit shall nevertheless treat that person as being entitled to this benefit, or to different benefits with respect to a specific item of income, if such competent authority, upon request from that person and after consideration of the relevant facts and circumstances, determines that such benefits would have been granted to that person in the absence of the transaction or arrangement referred to in Paragraph 1. The competent authority of the Contracting State to which the request has been made will consult with the competent authority of the other State before rejecting a request made under this paragraph by a resident of that other State.

### **ENTRY INTO FORCE**

- 1. The Contracting States shall notify each other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of the procedures required by their laws for the bringing into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the later of these notifications.
- 2. The provisions of this Agreement shall have effect:
- a. with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January of the calendar year immediately following the year in which the Agreement enters into force; and
- b. with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after the first day of January of the calendar year immediately following the year in which the Agreement enters into force.

### **ARTICLE 30**

### **TERMINATION**

- 1. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving written notice of termination at least 6 months before the end of any calendar year following the expiration of a period of 5 years from the date of its entry into force.
- 2. This Agreement shall cease to have effect:
- a. with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January of the calendar year immediately following the year in which the notice is given; and
- b. with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after the first day of January of the calendar year immediately following the year in which the notice is given.

- In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.
- Done in duplicate at the day of 2022 in English and Arabic languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence between the texts, the English text shall prevail.