

Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement between Philippines and Russia

Completed on January 1, 1998

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The Convention between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Russian Federation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income was signed in Manila on April 26, 1995. It entered into force on September 12, 1997, upon the exchange of the relevant instruments of ratification in Moscow, Russia on that date. Its provisions on taxes apply on income derived or which accrued January 1, 1998.

THE CONVENTION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION
AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Russian Federation

Desiring to conclude a Convention for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and to promote economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the two States,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1
PERSONAL SCOPE

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

Article 2
TAXES COVERED

1. This Convention shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of each Contracting State 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.
3. The existing taxes to which the Convention shall apply are, in particular:
 - a) In the case of the Russian Federation:
 - the taxes on profits (income) of enterprises and organisations;
 - the taxes on income of individuals(hereinafter referred to as “Russian tax”);
 - b) In the case of the Philippines:

the income tax imposed under Title II (on tax on income) of the National Internal Revenue Code of the Republic of the Philippines;

(hereinafter referred to as “Philippine tax”).
4. The Convention shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of substantial changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

Article 3
GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. In this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a) - the term “the Russian Federation (Russia),” when used in geographical sense, means its territory, including inland waters and territorial sea, air space above them as well as economic zone and continental shelf, where Russia exercises its sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with its federal law and international law;
 - the term “Philippines” shall refer to the territory of the Republic of the Philippines in accordance with its Constitution and laws including adjacent areas and such other areas where the Republic has sovereign rights and other rights under international law;

- b) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean the Russian Federation or the Philippines as the context requires;
 - c) the term “person” includes an individual, a company, and any other body of persons;
 - d) the term “company” means any body corporate or any other entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
 - e) 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;
 - f) the term “international traffic” means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;
 - g) the term “national” means:
 - (i) any individual possessing the citizenship of a Contracting State;
 - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association created, organized or incorporated under the laws of a Contracting State;
 - h) the term “competent authority” means:
 - in the case of the Russian Federation, the Ministry for Finance or his authorized representative;
 - in the case of the Philippines the Secretary of Finance or his authorized representative.
2. As regards the application of the Convention by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the law of that State concerning the taxes to which the Convention applies.

Article 4 RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Convention the term “resident of a Contracting State” means any person who, under the 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. But this term does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State.
2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

- a) he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
 - b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has no permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State in which he has a habitual abode;
 - c) if he has a habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State of which he is a national;
 - d) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.
3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed a resident of the Contracting State in which its place of effective management is situated.

Article 5
PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term “permanent establishment” means a fixed place of business through which the business of the enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.
2. The term “permanent establishment” includes especially:
 - a) a place of management;
 - b) a branch;
 - c) an office;
 - d) a factory;
 - e) a workshop;
 - f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction or exploration of natural resources;
 - g) a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only where such site, project or activity continues for a period of more than 183 days;

- h) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only where activities of that nature continue for same period exceeding in the aggregate 183 days within any twelve-month period.
3. 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;
4. A person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State (other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 5 applies) shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned State if:
- a) he has, and habitually exercises in that State, an authority to conclude contracts on behalf of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 3 of this Article; or
 - b) he has no such authority, but habitually maintains in the first-mentioned State a stock of goods or merchandise from which he regularly delivers goods or merchandise on behalf of the enterprise.
5. An enterprise shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business. However, when the activities of such an agent are devoted wholly or almost wholly on behalf of the enterprise, he shall not be considered an agent of an independent status within the meaning of this paragraph.
6. 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 for either company a permanent establishment of the other.

Article 6
INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Article 7
BUSINESS PROFITS

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to:
 - a) that permanent establishment; or
 - b) sales within that other Contracting State of goods or services and those of a similar kind as those sold through that permanent establishment.
2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment 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.

However, insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in this paragraph shall preclude such 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.

3. In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deduction expenses which are incurred for the purposes 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.

Article 8 SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1. Profits derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation in international traffic of ships or aircraft shall be taxable in that State.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, profits from sources within a Contracting State derived by an enterprise of the other Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic may be taxed in the first-mentioned State but the tax so charged shall not exceed the lesser of
 - a) one and one-half per cent of the gross revenues derived from sources in that State; and
 - b) the lowest rate that may be imposed on profits of the same kind derived under similar circumstances by a resident of a third State.
3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to profits derived from the participation in pools, 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 Convention and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall, if necessary, consult each other.

Article 10 DIVIDENDS

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends, the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends.
3. The term “dividends” as used in this Article means income from shares, or other rights not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of that State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.
4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends being a resident of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 (“Business Profits”) or Article 14 (“Independent Personal Services”), as the case may be, shall apply.
5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax

on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on 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 Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises, and according to the laws of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest paid by a Contracting State to the government of the other State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof shall be taxable only in that other State.
4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures, as well as income assimilated to income from money lent by the taxation laws of the State in which the income arises.
5. The provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 ("Business Profits") or Article 14 ("Independent Personal Services"), as the case may be, shall apply.
6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base,

then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

Article 12 ROYALTIES

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
2. However, the royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of the State, but the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of 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 and tapes for television or radio broadcasting, any patent, trademark, 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 that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 (“Business Profits”) or Article 14 (“Independent Personal Services”), as the case may be shall apply.
5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political subdivision, a local authority or a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or fixed base in connection with which the obligation 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 Contracting 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 recipient in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

Article 13

GAINS FROM THE ALIENATION OF PROPERTY

1. Gains from the alienation of immovable property referred to in Article 6 (“Income from Immovable Property”), may be taxed in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.
2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part 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 fixed base may be taxed in that other State.
3. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic by enterprise of a Contracting State or gains from the alienation of movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.
4. Gains from the alienation of shares of a company, and interest in a partnership or trust may be taxed in the Contracting State, where such company, partnership or trust is a resident.
5. Gains from the alienation of any property, other than those mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

Article 14

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State. However, such income may be taxed in the other Contracting State if:

- a) he has a fixed base regularly available to him in that other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; but only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that Contracting State; or
 - b) he is present in that other State for a period (or periods) aggregating 120 days within any twelve-month period.
2. The term “professional services” includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

Article 15
DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16 (“Director’s Fees”), 18 (“Pensions”), 19 (“Government Service”), 20 (“Professors and Teachers”) and 21 (“Students and Trainees”), 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 that other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in the 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 within any twelve-month period, and
 - b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of 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 from an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the recipient is a resident or national.

Article 16
DIRECTOR’S FEES

Director’s fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors or a similar body of a

company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

Article 17
ARTISTES AND ATHLETES

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 (“Independent Personal Services”) and 15 (“Dependent Personal Services”), income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer such a theatre, a motion picture, a radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as an athlete, from his personal activities as such may be taxed in the Contracting State in which these activities are performed.
2. Where income in respect of personal activities of an entertainer or an athlete in his capacity as such accrues not to that entertainer or athlete himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7 (“Business Profits”), 14 (“Independent Personal Services”) and 15 (“Dependent Personal Services”), be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or athlete are exercised.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, income derived in respect of the activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article within the framework of cultural or sports exchange programme agreed to by both Contracting States, substantially supported by public funds and/or officially recognized and endorsed by Contracting States, shall be exempted from taxation in the Contracting State in which these activities are exercised.

Article 18
PENSIONS

Pensions and other similar remuneration paid from a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.

Article 19
GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1. a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or local authority thereof shall be taxable only in that State;
- b) However, such remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that State and the recipient 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. The provisions of Articles 15 (“Dependent Personal Services”), 16 (“Director’s Fees”) and 18 (“Pensions”) shall apply to remuneration and pensions 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.

Article 20
PROFESSORS AND TEACHERS

1. Remuneration which a professor or a teacher who is a resident of one of the Contracting States and who visits the other Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years for the purpose of teaching or carrying out advanced study or research at a university, college, school or other educational institution upon an official invitation of these institutions, received for those activities shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State.
2. This Article shall not apply to remuneration which a professor or a teacher received for conducting research if the research is undertaken primarily for the private benefit of person or persons other than those referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 21
STUDENTS AND TRAINEES

An individual who was a resident of a Contracting State immediately before visiting the other Contracting State and is temporarily present in that State solely as a student at a university, college or other similar educational institution or as a trainee for the purpose of acquiring technical, professional or business experience shall be exempt from tax in that other State on:

- a) all remittances from abroad for purposes of his maintenance or training, and
- b) any remuneration for services performed in connection with his training thereto, for an aggregate period of not more than two years from the date of his first arrival in that other Contracting State.

Article 22
OTHER INCOME

Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State which are not expressly mentioned in the foregoing Articles of this Convention may be taxed in that State where the income arises.

Article 23
RELIEF FROM DOUBLE TAXATION

- In the case of the Philippines, double taxation shall be avoided in the following manner:

Subject to the provisions of the laws of the Philippines relating to the allowance as credit against Philippine tax of tax payable in any country other than the Philippines, income taxes paid or have accrued under the laws of the Russian Federation and in accordance with this Convention, whether directly or by deduction, in respect of income from sources within the Russian Federation shall be allowed as a credit against Philippines tax payable in respect of that income.

In the case of a Philippine corporation owning more than 50 per cent of the voting stock of a Russian company from which it receives dividends in any taxable year, the Philippines shall also allow credit for the appropriate amount of taxes paid or accrued in the Russian Federation to a Russian company paying such dividends with respect to the profits out of which such dividends are paid. The deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Philippine income tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriate to the income which may be taxed in the Russian Federation.

- In the case of the Russian Federation, double taxation shall be avoided in the following manner:

Where a resident of the Russian Federation derives income from the Philippines, the amount of tax of that income payable in the Philippines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be credited against the tax levied in the Russian Federation imposed on that resident. The amount of credit, however, shall not exceed the amount of the Russian tax on that income computed in accordance with taxation laws and regulations of the Russian Federation.

Article 24
NON-DISCRIMINATION

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

reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

3. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9 (“Associated Enterprises”), paragraph 8 of Article 11 (“Interest”), or paragraph 6 of Article 12 (“Royalties”) apply, interest, royalties, and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State.
4. Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.

Article 25

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 Convention, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic laws of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 24 (“Non-discrimination”), to that Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within two years from the first notification of the action which gives rise to taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.
2. The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Convention.
3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Convention.
4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

Article 26
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to this Convention. The exchange of information is not restricted by Article 1. Any information received by a Contracting State shall be treated as confidential in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Convention. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.
2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:
 - a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws or the 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 the public policy.
3. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall obtain the information to which the request related from or with respect to its residents or nationals in the same manner and to the same extent as if the tax of the requesting State were the tax of the other State and were being imposed by that other State. A Contracting State may obtain information from or with respect to its residents or nationals in accordance with this paragraph for the sole purpose of assisting the other Contracting State in the determination of the taxes of that other State.

Article 27
DIPLOMATIC AGENTS AND CONSULAR OFFICERS

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

Article 28
MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Nothing in this Convention shall be construed as preventing the Contracting State from taxing their nationals who may be residing in the other Contracting State in accordance with the respective domestic laws. However, no credit shall be given for taxes paid in pursuance thereto.

Article 29
ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Convention shall be subject to ratification in each Contracting State.
2. This Convention shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification and its provisions shall have effect:
 - a) in respect of tax withheld at source, for amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January in the calendar year, following the year in which the Convention enters into force; and
 - b) in respect of other income taxes for taxable period beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year, following the year in which the Convention enters into force.

Article 30
TERMINATION

1. This Convention shall remain in force indefinitely but either of the Contracting States may, on or before the thirtieth day of June in any calendar year from the fifth year following that in which the instruments of ratification have been exchanged, give to the other Contracting State, through diplomatic channels, written notice on termination and, in such event, this Convention shall cease to have effect:
 - a) in respect of tax withheld at source, for amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given; and
 - b) in respect of other taxes on income, for taxation years beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.

DONE in duplicate in Manila in the 26th day of April 1995, each in English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of conflict between the two texts, the English text shall be used.

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES

FOR THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

(Sgd.) JUANITA D. AMATONG