## SYNTHESISED TEXT OF THE MLI AND THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MALTA AND CANADA FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL

## General disclaimer on the synthesised text document

This document presents the synthesised text for the application of the Agreement between the Republic of Malta and Canada for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital signed on 25 July 1986 (the "Agreement"), as modified by the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting signed by Malta and Canada on 7 June 2017 (the "MLI").

This document represents Malta's understanding of the modifications to the Agreement by the MLI. In preparing this document, Malta consulted with Canadian officials.

The document was prepared on the basis of the MLI position of Malta submitted to the Depositary upon ratification on 18 December 2018 and of the MLI position of Canada submitted to the Depositary upon ratification on 29 August 2019. These MLI positions are subject to modifications as provided in the MLI. Modifications made to MLI positions could modify the effects of the MLI on the Agreement.

The authentic legal texts of the Agreement and the MLI take precedence and remain the legal texts applicable.

The provisions of the MLI that are applicable with respect to the provisions of the Agreement are included in boxes throughout the text of this document in the context of the relevant provisions of the Agreement. The boxes containing the provisions of the MLI have generally been inserted in accordance with the ordering of the provisions of the 2017 OECD Model Tax Convention.

Changes to the text of the provisions of the MLI have been made to conform the terminology used in the MLI to the terminology used in the Agreement (such as "Covered Tax Agreement" and "Agreement", "Contracting Jurisdictions" and "Contracting States"), to ease the comprehension of the provisions of the MLI. The changes in terminology are intended to increase the readability of the document and are not intended to change the substance of the provisions of the MLI. Similarly, changes have been made to parts of provisions of the MLI that describe existing provisions of the Agreement: descriptive language has been replaced by legal references of the existing provisions to ease the readability.

In all cases, references made to the provisions of the Agreement or to the Agreement must be understood as referring to the Agreement as modified by the provisions of the MLI, provided such provisions of the MLI have taken effect.

### Reference:

The authentic legal texts of the MLI and the Agreement for Malta can be found at <u>https://legislation.mt/Legislation</u>.

The MLI position of Malta submitted to the Depositary upon ratification on 18 December 2018 and of the MLI position of Canada submitted to the Depositary upon ratification on 29 August 2019 can be found <u>on the MLI</u> Depositary (OECD) webpage (http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/beps-mli-signatories-and-parties.pdf).

## Disclaimer on the entry into effect of the provisions of the MLI

## Entry into Effect of the MLI Provisions

The provisions of the MLI applicable to this Agreement do not take effect on the same dates as the original provisions of the Convention. Each of provisions of the MLI could take effect on different dates, depending on the types of taxes involved (taxes withheld at source or other taxes levied) and on the choices made by Malta and Canada in their MLI positions.

Dates of the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval: 18 December 2018 for Malta and 29 August 2019 for Canada.

Entry into force of the MLI: 1 April 2019 for Malta and 1 December 2019 for Canada.

This document provides specific information on the dates on or after which each of the provisions of the MLI has effect with respect to the Agreement throughout this document.

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA AND CANADA FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL

The Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of Canada desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital,

The following paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI is included in the preamble of the Agreement:<sup>1</sup>

## ARTICLE 6 OF THE MLI- PURPOSE OF A COVERED TAX AGREEMENT

Intending to eliminate double taxation with respect to the taxes covered by [*this Agreement*] 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 [*the Agreement*] for the indirect benefit of residents of third jurisdictions),

have agreed as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Malta:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021.

In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Canada:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020.

#### I. Scope of the Agreement

## ARTICLE 1

## Personal Scope

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

## ARTICLE 2

## Taxes Covered

(1) This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income and on capital 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 and on capital all taxes imposed on total income, on total capital, or on elements of income or of capital, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises, as well as taxes on capital appreciation.

(3) The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are, in particular:

(*a*) in the case of Canada:

the income taxes imposed by the Government of Canada, (hereinafter referred to as "Canadian Tax");

(b) in the case of Malta:

the income tax, including prepayments of tax whether made by deduction at source or otherwise, (hereinafter referred to as "Malta tax").

(4) The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes and to taxes on capital which are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The Contracting States shall notify each other of significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

## **II.** Definitions

### **ARTICLE 3**

## General Definitions

(1) In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) (i) the term "Canada" used in a geographical sense, means the territory of Canada, including any area beyond the territorial seas of Canada which, under the laws of Canada, is an area within which Canada may exercise rights with respect to the sea-bed and subsoil and their natural resources;

(ii) the term "Malta" means the Republic of Malta and when used in a geographical sense, the term "Malta" means the Island of Malta, the Island of Gozo and the other islands of the Maltese archipelago, including the territorial waters thereof, and any area outside the territorial sea of Malta which, in accordance with international law, has been or may hereafter be designated, under the law of Malta concerning the

Continental Shelf, as an area within which the rights of Malta with respect to the seabed and subsoil and their natural resources may be exercised;

(b) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean, as the context requires, Canada or Malta;

(c) the term "person" includes an individual, an estate, a trust, a company, a partnership and any other body of persons;

(d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes; in French, the term "societe" also means a "corporation" within the meaning of Canadian law;

(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 "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of Canada, the Minister of National Revenue or his authorized representative,
  - (ii) in the case of Malta, the Minister responsible for finance or his authorised representative;

(g) 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;

- (*h*) the term "national" means:
  - (i) in the case of Canada, any individual possessing the nationality of Canada and any legal person, partnership and association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in Canada;
  - (ii) in the case of Malta, any citizen of Malta as provided for in Chapter III of the Constitution of Malta and in the Maltese Citizenship Act, and any legal person, partnership and association deriving its status as such from the law in force in Malta.

(2) As regards the application of the Agreement 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 Agreement applies.

## **ARTICLE 4**

#### Fiscal Domicile

(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.

(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 not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident 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 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 settle the

question by mutual agreement having regard in particular 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 be deemed not to be a resident of either Contracting State for the purposes of Articles 6 to 22 inclusive and Article 24.

## **ARTICLE 5**

#### 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; and
- (f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.

(3) A building site or construction or installation project, or an installation or drilling rig or ship used for the exploration or development of natural resources, or supervisory activities connected therewith, constitutes a permanent establishment but only if such site, project or activity continues for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days in any twelve month period, including the period of any supervisory activity connected therewith.

(4) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:

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

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2), where a person - other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph (6) applies - is acting on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the 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, 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.

(6) 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.

(7) The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State

(whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

#### **III.** Taxation of Income

#### **ARTICLE 6**

#### Income from Immovable Property

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

(2) For the purposes of this Agreement, 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, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting immovable property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships, boats and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting, or use in any other form of immovable property and to profits or income from the alienation of such 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.

#### 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 or has carried 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 attributable 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 those deductible expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment including executive and general administrative expenses, whether incurred in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

(4) Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph (2) shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits to be taxed

by such an apportionment as may be customary. The method of apportionment adopted shall, however, be such that the result shall be in accordance with the principles contained in this Article.

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

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

(7) The provisions of this Article shall not affect the provisions of the law of a Contracting State regarding the taxation of profits from the business of insurance carried on in that State.

(8) 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**

#### Shipping and Air Transport

(1) Profits derived by 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 the purposes of this Article, profits from the operation in international traffic of ships or aircraft include profits derived from the rental on a full or bareboat basis of ships or aircraft if operated in international traffic by the lessee or if such rental profits are incidental to other profits described in paragraph (1).

(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) used for the transport in international traffic of goods or merchandise shall be taxable only in that State.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) and Article 7, profits derived from the operation of ships or aircraft used principally to transport passengers or goods exclusively between places in a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

(5) The provisions of paragraphs (1), (3) and (4) shall also apply to profits referred to in those paragraphs derived by an enterprise of a Contracting State from its 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 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 accordinglyprofits 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 tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

(3) A Contracting State shall not change the profits of an enterprise in the circumstances referred to in paragraph (1) after the expiry of the time limits provided in its national laws and, in any case, after five years from the end of the year in which the profits which would be subject to such change would have accrued to an enterprise of that State.

(4) The provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply in the case of fraud, wilful default or neglect.

#### 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 -

- (a) where the dividends are paid by a company which is a resident of Canada to a resident of Malta who is the beneficial owner of the dividends the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends;
- (b) where the dividends are paid by a company which is a resident of Malta to a resident of Canada who is the beneficial owner thereof -
  - (i) Malta tax on the gross amount of the dividends shall not exceed that chargeable on the profits out of which the dividends are paid;
  - (ii) where such dividends are paid out of profits of a company in receipt of tax benefits under the provisions of the Aids to Industries Ordinance, the rate of Malta tax on the dividends shall be that applicable under the Fifth Schedule of the said Ordinance.

The provisions of this paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company on the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

(3) 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 which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

(4) The provisions of paragraph (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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

(5) Where a company which is 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.

(6) Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as preventing a Contracting State from imposing on the earnings of a company attributable to a permanent establishment in that State, tax in addition to the tax which would be chargeable on the earnings of a company which is a national of that State, provided that any such additional tax so imposed shall not exceed 15 per cent of the amount of such earnings which have not been subjected to such additional tax in previous taxation years. For the purpose of this provision, the term "earnings" means the profits attributable to a permanent establishment in a Contracting State in a year and

previous years after deducting therefrom all taxes, other than the additional tax referred to herein, imposed on such profits by that State.

#### ARTICLE 11

#### Interest

(1) Interest 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 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) -
  - (*a*) interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to the Government or the Central Bank of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned State;
  - (b) interest arising in Malta and paid to the Export Development Corporation shall be exempt from Malta tax;
  - (c) interest arising in Canada and paid to the Malta Development Corporation shall be exempt from Canadian tax.

(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 which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from money lent by the laws of the State in which the income arises. However, the term "interest" does not include income dealt with in Article 10.

(5) The provisions of paragraph (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 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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, 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 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 recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2), copyright royalties and other like payments in respect of the production or reproduction of any literary, educational, dramatic, musical or artistic work (but not including royalties in respect of motion picture films and works on film or videotape for use in connection with television) arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State who is subject to tax thereon shall be taxable only in that other State.

(4) 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, 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, and includes payments of any kind in respect of motion picture films and works on film or videotape for use in connection with television.

(5) The provisions of paragraph (2) and (3) 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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

(6) 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 a 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 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 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.

## ARTICLE 13

#### Capital Gains

(1) Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

(2) Gains from the alienation of immovable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of 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 aircraft operated in international traffic and movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which such property is taxable according to paragraph (3) of Article 22.

- (4) [SUPERSEDED by paragraph 4 of Article 9] [Gains from the alienation of -
  - (a) shares of the capital stock of a company the property of which consists principally of immovable property situated in a Contracting State, and
  - (b) an interest in a partnership, trust or estate, the property of which consists principally of immovable property situated in a Contracting State,

may be taxed in that State. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "immovable property" includes the shares of a company referred to in sub-paragraph (a) or an interest in a partnership, trust or estate referred to in sub-paragraph (b) but shall not include property, other than rental property, in which the business of the company, partnership, trust or estate is carried on.]

*The following paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the MLI applies and supersedes paragraph 4 of Article 13 of this Agreement to the extent of incompatibility:*<sup>2</sup>

## ARTICLE 9 OF THE MLI – CAPITAL GAINS FROM ALIENATION OF SHARES OR INTERESTS OF ENTITIES DERIVING THEIR VALUE PRINCIPALLY FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

For purposes of [*the Agreement*], gains derived by a resident of a [*Contracting State*] from the alienation of shares or comparable interests, such as interests in a partnership or trust, may be taxed in the other [*Contracting State*] if, at any time during the 365 days preceding the alienation, these shares or comparable interests derived more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property (real property) situated in that other [*Contracting 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.

(6) The provisions of paragraph (5) shall not affect the right of either of the Contracting States to levy, according to its law, a tax on gains from the alienation of any property derived by an individual who is a

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Malta:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021.

In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Canada:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020.

resident of the other Contracting State and has been a resident of the first-mentioned State at any time during the six years immediately preceding the alienation of the property.

#### ARTICLE 14

#### Independent Personal Services

(1) Income derived by an individual who is a resident of a Contracting State from the performance of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State unless such services are performed in the other Contracting State and -

- (a) the individual is present in that other State for a period or periods aggregating more than 90 days in the taxable year concerned, or
- (b) the individual has or had a fixed base regularly available to him in that other 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 such other State, or
- (c) the remuneration for his services in the other Contracting State is derived from residents of that State and exceeds ten thousand Canadian dollars or the equivalent in Malta currency during the taxable year.

(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, 18 and 19, 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 the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in the calendar year concerned, and either -

- (a) the remuneration earned in the other Contracting State in the calendar year concerned does not exceed five thousand Canadian dollars (\$ 5,000) or its equivalent in Malta currency; or
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State, and such 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 in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State, shall be taxable only in that State.

### ARTICLE 16

#### 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 or a similar organ 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 7, 14 and 15, 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 an athlete, 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 an athlete in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or athlete himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or athlete are exercised.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (2) shall not apply if it is established that neither the entertainer or the athlete nor persons related thereto, participate directly or indirectly in the profits of the person referred to in that paragraph.

## ARTICLE 18

#### Pensions and Annuities

(1) Pensions and annuities arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

(2) Pensions arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may also be taxed in the State in which they arise, and according to the law of that State. However, in the case of periodic pension payments, the tax so charged shall not exceed the lesser of -

- (a) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the payment, and
- (b) the rate determined by reference to the amount of tax that the recipient of the payment would otherwise be required to pay for the year on the total amount of the periodic pension payments received by him in the year, if he were resident in the Contracting State in which the payment arises and if such total amount were his only income in that year.

(3) Annuities arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may also be taxed in the State in which they arise, and according to the law of that State; but the tax so charged shall not exceed 15 per cent of the portion thereof that is subject to tax in that State. However, this limitation does

not apply to lump-sum payments arising on the surrender, cancellation, redemption, sale or other alienation of an annuity, or to payments of any kind under an income-averaging annuity contract.

- (4) Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement -
  - (a) war veterans pensions or allowances or war disability benefits received from a Contracting State shall not be taxable in the other Contracting State so long as they are not subject to tax in the first-mentioned State;
  - (b) alimony and other similar payments arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State who is subject to tax therein in respect thereof, shall be taxable only in that other State.

## ARTICLE 19

#### **Government Service**

(1) (a) Remuneration, other than a pension, 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 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) The provisions of Articles 15, 16 and 17 shall apply to 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.

(3) Where remuneration is paid under a development assistance programme of a Contracting State, out of funds exclusively supplied by that State to a specialist or volunteer seconded to the other Contracting State with the consent of that other State, such remuneration shall be deemed to have been paid by the first-mentioned State and shall be taxable only in that State.

## ARTICLE 20

#### Students

Payments which a student, apprentice or business trainee 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 21

## Other Income

(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement shall be taxable only in that State.

(2) However, if such income is derived by a resident of a Contracting State from sources in the other Contracting State, such income may also be taxed in the State in which it arises, and according to the law of that State. However, in the case of income from an estate or trust, the tax so charged shall, provided that the

income is taxable in the Contracting State in which the recipient resides, not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the income.

## **IV.** Taxation of Capital

### **ARTICLE 22**

#### Capital

(1) Capital represented by immovable property owned by a resident of a Contracting State and situated in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

(2) Capital represented by 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 by 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, may be taxed in that other State.

(3) Capital represented by ships and aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State in international traffic and by movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships and aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.

(4) All other elements of capital of a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

## V. Methods for Prevention of Double Taxation

## **ARTICLE 23**

#### Elimination of Double Taxation

- (1) In the case of Canada, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:
  - (a) Subject to the existing provisions of the law of Canada regarding the deduction from tax payable in Canada of tax paid in a territory outside Canada and to any subsequent modification of those provisions - which shall not affect the general principle hereof - and unless a greater deduction or relief is provided under the laws of Canada, tax payable in Malta on profits, income or gains arising in Malta shall be deducted from any Canadian tax payable in respect of such profits, income or gains.
  - (b) Subject to the existing provisions of the law of Canada regarding the determination of the exempt surplus of a foreign affiliate and to any subsequent modification of those provisions which shall not affect the general principle hereof for the purpose of computing Canadian tax, a company resident in Canada shall be allowed to deduct in computing its taxable income any dividend received by it out of the exempt surplus of a foreign affiliate resident in Malta.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) (a), tax payable in Malta by a resident of Canada in respect of dividends, interest or royalties received by it from a company which is a resident of Malta, shall be deemed to include any amount which would have been payable as Malta tax for any year but for an exemption from, or reduction of, tax granted for that year or any part thereof under -

- (a) the provisions of article 5 of the Aids to Industries Ordinance, so far as they were in force on, and have not been modified since, the date of signature of this Agreement, or have been modified only in minor respect so as not to affect their general character;
- (b) any other special provisions of the law of Malta designed to promote investments necessary for the economic development of Malta which may subsequently be made, granting an exemption or reduction of tax which is agreed by the competent authorities of the Contracting States to be of a

substantially similar character, if it has not been modified thereafter or has been modified only in minor respects so as not to affect its general character,

provided that any deduction from Canadian tax granted in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends, interest or royalties.

(3) In the case of Malta, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:

Subject to the provisions of the law of Malta regarding the allowance of a credit against Malta tax in respect of foreign tax, where, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, there is included in a Malta assessment income from sources within Canada, or elements of capital situated in Canada, the Canadian tax on such income or elements of capital, as the case may be, shall be allowed as a credit against the relative Malta tax payable thereon.

(4) For the purposes of this Article, profits, income or gains of a resident of a Contracting State which are taxed in the other Contracting State in accordance with this Agreement shall be deemed to arise from sources in that other State.

#### **VI.** Special Provisions

#### **ARTICLE 24**

#### Non-discrimination

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

(2) The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities.

(3) Nothing in this Article shall 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.

(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, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of a third State, are or may be subjected.

(5) In this Article, the term "taxation" means taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

#### 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 Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, address to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident an application in writing stating the grounds for claiming the revision of such taxation. [**REPLACED by the second sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 16**] [To be admissible, the said

application must be submitted within two years from the first notification of the action which gives rise to taxation not in accordance with the Agreement.]

The following second sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the MLI replaces the second sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 25 of this Agreement: <sup>3</sup>

# ARTICLE 16 OF THE MLI – MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

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 referred to in paragraph (1) shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at an appropriate solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation not in accordance with the Agreement.

(3) A Contracting State shall not, after the expiry of the time limits provided in its national laws and, in any case, after five years from the end of the taxable period in which the income concerned has accrued, increase the tax base of a resident of either of the Contracting States by including therein items of income

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 35 of the MLI, Article 16 of the MLI has effect with respect to this Agreement for a case presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State on or after 1 December 2019, except for cases that were not eligible to be presented as of that date under the Agreement prior to its modification by the MLI, without regard to the taxable period to which the case relates.

which have also been charged to tax in the other Contracting State. This paragraph shall not apply in the case of fraud, wilful default or neglect.

(4) 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. In particular, the competent authorities of the Contracting States may consult together to endeavour to agree:

- (a) to the same attribution of profits to a resident of a Contracting State and its permanent establishment situated in the other Contracting State;
- (b) to the same allocation of income between a resident of a Contracting State and any associated person provided for in Article 9.

(5) The competent authorities of the Contracting States may consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement. They may also communicate with each other directly for the purpose of applying the Agreement.

The following Part VI of the MLI applies to the Agreement:<sup>4</sup>

## PART VI OF THE MLI – ARBITRATION

Article 19 (Mandatory Binding Arbitration) of the MLI

- 1. Where:
  - a) under [*paragraph 1 of Article 25 of the Agreement*], a person has presented a case to the competent authority of a [*Contracting State*] on the basis that the actions of one or both of the [*Contracting States*] have resulted for that person in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of [*the Agreement*]; and
  - b) the competent authorities are unable to reach an agreement to resolve that case pursuant to [*paragraph 2 of Article 25 of the Agreement*], within a period of two years beginning on the start date referred to in paragraph 8 or 9 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*], as the case may be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Part VI of the MLI has effect:

a) with respect to cases presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State on or after December 1, 2019; and

b) with respect to a cases presented to the competent authority of a Contracting State prior to December 1, 2019 only to the extent that the competent authorities of both Contracting States agree that it will apply to that specific case.

**Note:** The entry into effect provisions for Part VI of the MLI should be read in conjunction with the reservations made by Canada and Malta pursuant to Article 23 of the MLI. As a consequence of those reservations, Article 19 of the MLI will not apply until the competent authorities of the Contracting States reach an agreement on the type of arbitration process.

(unless, prior to the expiration of that period the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] have agreed to a different time period with respect to that case and have notified the person who presented the case of such agreement),

any unresolved issues arising from the case shall, if the person so requests in writing, be submitted to arbitration in the manner described in [*Part VI of the MLI*], according to any rules or procedures agreed upon by the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] pursuant to the provisions [*of paragraph 10 of Article 19 of the MLI*].

2. Where a competent authority has suspended the mutual agreement procedure referred to in paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI] because a case with respect to one or more of the same issues is pending before court or administrative tribunal, the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI] will stop running until either a final decision has been rendered by the court or administrative tribunal or the case has been suspended or withdrawn. In addition, where a person who presented a case and a competent authority have agreed to suspend the mutual agreement procedure, the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI] will stop running until the suspension has been lifted.

3. Where both competent authorities agree that a person directly affected by the case has failed to provide in a timely manner any additional material information requested by either competent authority after the start of the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI], the period provided in subparagraph b) of paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI] shall be extended for an amount of time equal to the period beginning on the date by which the information was requested and ending on the date on which that information was provided.

- 4. a) The arbitration decision with respect to the issues submitted to arbitration shall be implemented through the mutual agreement concerning the case referred to in paragraph 1 [of Article 19 of the MLI]. The arbitration decision shall be final.
  - b) The arbitration decision shall be binding on both [*Contracting States*] except in the following cases:
    - i) if a person directly affected by the case does not accept the mutual agreement that implements the arbitration decision. In such a case, the case shall not be eligible for any further consideration by the competent authorities. The mutual agreement that implements the arbitration decision on the case shall be considered not to be accepted by a person directly affected by the case if any person directly affected by the case does not, within 60 days after the date on which notification of the mutual agreement is sent to the person, withdraw all issues resolved in the mutual agreement implementing the arbitration decision from consideration by any court or administrative tribunal or otherwise terminate any pending court or administrative proceedings with respect to such issues in a manner consistent with that mutual agreement.
    - ii) if a final decision of the courts of one of the [*Contracting States*] holds that the arbitration decision is invalid. In such a case, the request for arbitration under paragraph 1 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*] shall be considered not to have been made, and the arbitration process shall be considered not to have taken place (except for the purposes of Articles 21 (Confidentiality of Arbitration Proceedings) and 25 (Costs of Arbitration Proceedings)) [*of the MLI*]. In such a case, a new request for arbitration

may be made unless the competent authorities agree that such a new request should not be permitted.

iii) if a person directly affected by the case pursues litigation on the issues which were resolved in the mutual agreement implementing the arbitration decision in any court or administrative tribunal.

5. The competent authority that received the initial request for a mutual agreement procedure as described in subparagraph a) of paragraph 1 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*] shall, within two calendar months of receiving the request:

- a) send a notification to the person who presented the case that it has received the request; and
- b) send a notification of that request, along with a copy of the request, to the competent authority of the other [*Contracting State*].

6. Within three calendar months after a competent authority receives the request for a mutual agreement procedure (or a copy thereof from the competent authority of the other [*Contracting State*]) it shall either:

- a) notify the person who has presented the case and the other competent authority that it has received the information necessary to undertake substantive consideration of the case; or
- b) request additional information from that person for that purpose.

7. Where pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*], one or both of the competent authorities have requested from the person who presented the case additional information necessary to undertake substantive consideration of the case, the competent authority that requested the additional information shall, within three calendar months of receiving the additional information from that person, notify that person and the other competent authority either:

- a) that it has received the requested information; or
- b) that some of the requested information is still missing.

8. Where neither competent authority has requested additional information pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*], the start date referred to in paragraph 1 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*] shall be the earlier of:

- a) the date on which both competent authorities have notified the person who presented the case pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 6 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*]; and
- b) the date that is three calendar months after the notification to the competent authority of the other [*Contracting State*] pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 5 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*].

9. Where additional information has been requested pursuant to subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*], the start date referred to in paragraph 1 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*] shall be the earlier of:

- a) the latest date on which the competent authorities that requested additional information have notified the person who presented the case and the other competent authority pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 7 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*]; and
- b) the date that is three calendar months after both competent authorities have received all information requested by either competent authority from the person who presented the case.

If, however, one or both of the competent authorities send the notification referred to in subparagraph b) of paragraph 7 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*], such notification shall be treated as a request for additional information under subparagraph b) of paragraph 6 [*of Article 19 of the MLI*].

10. The competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] shall by mutual agreement pursuant to [*Article 25 of the Agreement*] settle the mode of application of the provisions contained in [*Part VI of the MLI*], including the minimum information necessary for each competent authority to undertake substantive consideration of the case. Such an agreement shall be concluded before the date on which unresolved issues in a case are first eligible to be submitted to arbitration and may be modified from time to time thereafter.

12. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Article of the MLI:

- a) any unresolved issue arising from a mutual agreement procedure case otherwise within the scope of the arbitration process provided for by [*the MLI*] shall not be submitted to arbitration, if a decision on this issue has already been rendered by a court or administrative tribunal of either [*Contracting State*];
- b) if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [*Contracting State*], a decision concerning the issue is rendered by a court or administrative tribunal of one of the [Contracting States], the arbitration process shall terminate.

Article 20 (Appointment of Arbitrators) of the MLI

1. Except to the extent that the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] mutually agree on different rules, paragraphs 2 through 4 [*of Article 20 of the MLI*] shall apply for the purposes of [*Part VI of the MLI*].

- 2. The following rules shall govern the appointment of the members of an arbitration panel:
  - a) The arbitration panel shall consist of three individual members with expertise or experience in international tax matters.
  - b) Each competent authority shall appoint one panel member within 60 days of the date of the request for arbitration under paragraph 1 of Article 19 [*of the MLI*]. The two panel members so appointed shall, within 60 days of the latter of their appointments, appoint a third member who shall serve as Chair of the arbitration panel. The Chair shall not be a national or resident of either [*Contracting State*].
  - c) Each member appointed to the arbitration panel must be impartial and independent of the competent authorities, tax administrations, and ministries of finance of the [*Contracting*]

*States*] and of all persons directly affected by the case (as well as their advisors) at the time of accepting an appointment, maintain his or her impartiality and independence throughout the proceedings, and avoid any conduct for a reasonable period of time thereafter which may damage the appearance of impartiality and independence of the arbitrators with respect to the proceedings.

3. In the event that the competent authority of a [*Contracting State*] fails to appoint a member of the arbitration panel in the manner and within the time periods specified in paragraph 2 [*of Article 20 of the MLI*] or agreed to by the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*], a member shall be appointed on behalf of that competent authority by the highest ranking official of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development that is not a national of either [*Contracting State*].

4. If the two initial members of the arbitration panel fail to appoint the Chair in the manner and within the time periods specified in paragraph 2 [of Article 20 of the MLI] or agreed to by the competent authorities of the [Contracting States], the Chair shall be appointed by the highest ranking official of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development that is not a national of either [Contracting States].

# Article 21 (Confidentiality of Arbitration Proceedings) of the MLI

1. Solely for the purposes of the application of the provisions of this Part and of the provisions of [*the Agreement*] and of the domestic laws of the [*Contracting States*] related to the exchange of information, confidentiality, and administrative assistance, members of the arbitration panel and a maximum of three staff per member (and prospective arbitrators solely to the extent necessary to verify their ability to fulfil the requirements of arbitrators) shall be considered to be persons or authorities to whom information may be disclosed. Information received by the arbitration panel or prospective arbitrators and information that the competent authorities receive from the arbitration panel shall be considered information that is exchanged under the provisions of [*the Agreement*] related to the exchange of information and administrative assistance.

2. The competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] shall ensure that members of the arbitration panel and their staff agree in writing, prior to their acting in an arbitration proceeding, to treat any information relating to the arbitration proceeding consistently with the confidentiality and nondisclosure obligations described in the provisions of [*the Agreement*] related to exchange of information and administrative assistance and under the applicable laws of the [*Contracting States*].

# Article 22 (Resolution of a Case Prior to the Conclusion of the Arbitration) of the MLI

For the purposes of this Part and the provisions of [*the Agreement*] that provide for resolution of cases through mutual agreement, the mutual agreement procedure, as well as the arbitration proceeding, with respect to a case shall terminate if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*]:

- a) the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] reach a mutual agreement to resolve the case; or
- b) the person who presented the case withdraws the request for arbitration or the request for a mutual agreement procedure.

# Paragraphs 3 and 5 of Article 23 (Type of Arbitration Process) of the MLI

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to reach agreement on the type of arbitration process that shall apply with respect to [*the Agreement*]. Until such an agreement is reached, Article 19 (Mandatory Binding Arbitration) shall not apply with respect to [*the Agreement*].

5. Prior to the beginning of arbitration proceedings, the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*] shall ensure that each person that presented the case and their advisors agree in writing not to disclose to any other person any information received during the course of the arbitration proceedings from either competent authority or the arbitration panel. The mutual agreement procedure under [*the Agreement*], as well as the arbitration proceeding under [*Part VI of the MLI*], with respect to the case shall terminate if, at any time after a request for arbitration has been made and before the arbitration panel has delivered its decision to the competent authorities of the [*Contracting States*], a person that presented the case or one of that person's advisors materially breaches that agreement.

# Article 25 (Costs of Arbitration Proceedings) of the MLI

In an arbitration proceeding under this Part, the fees and expenses of the members of the arbitration panel, as well as any costs incurred in connection with the arbitration proceedings by the [Contracting States], shall be borne by the [Contracting States] in a manner to be settled by mutual agreement between the competent authorities of the [Contracting States]. In the absence of such agreement, each [Contracting State] shall bear its own expenses and those of its appointed panel member. The cost of the chair of the arbitration panel and other expenses associated with the conduct of the arbitration proceedings shall be borne by the [Contracting States] in equal shares.

# Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 26 (Compatibility) of the MLI

2. Any unresolved issue arising from a mutual agreement procedure case otherwise within the scope of the arbitration process provided for in this Part shall not be submitted to arbitration if the issue falls within the scope of a case with respect to which an arbitration panel or similar body has previously been set up in accordance with a bilateral or multilateral convention that provides for mandatory binding arbitration of unresolved issues arising from a mutual agreement procedure case.

3. [Nothing] in this Part shall affect the fulfilment of wider obligations with respect to the arbitration of unresolved issues arising in the context of a mutual agreement procedure resulting from other conventions to which the [*Contracting States*] are or will become parties.

# Article 28 (Reservations) of the MLI

Pursuant to Article 28(2)(a) of the MLI, Malta makes the below reservation with respect to the scope of cases that shall be eligible for arbitration under the provisions of Part VI:

Where a reservation made by the other [*Contracting State*] to a Covered Tax Agreement pursuant to Article 28(2)(a) refers exclusively to its domestic law (including legislative provisions, case law, judicial doctrines and penalties), Malta reserves the right to exclude from the scope of Part VI those cases that would be excluded from the scope of Part VI if the other [*Contracting State's*] reservation were formulated with reference to any analogous provisions of Malta's domestic law or any subsequent provisions which replace, amend or update those provisions. The competent authority of Malta will consult with the competent authority of the other Contracting State in order to specify any such analogous provisions which exist in Malta's domestic law in the agreement concluded pursuant to Article 19(10).

Pursuant to subparagraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 28 of the MLI, Canada formulates the following reservation with respect to the scope of cases that shall be eligible for arbitration under the provisions of Part VI of the MLI:

1. Canada reserves the right to limit the scope of issues eligible for arbitration to the following:

(a) Issues arising under provisions akin to Article 4 (Resident) of the OECD Model Tax Convention, but only insofar as the issue relates to the residence of an individual;

(b) Issues arising under provisions akin to Article 5 (Permanent Establishment) of the OECD Model Tax Convention;

(c) Issues arising under provisions akin to Article 7 (Business Profits) of the OECD Model Tax Convention;

(d) Issues arising under provisions akin to Article 9 (Associated Enterprises) of the OECD Model Tax Convention;

(e) Issues arising under provisions akin to Article 12 (Royalties) of the OECD Model Tax Convention, but only insofar as such a provision might apply in transactions involving related persons to which provisions akin to Article 9 of the OECD Model Tax Convention might apply; and

(f) Any other provisions subsequently agreed by the Contracting [States] through an exchange of diplomatic notes.

2. Canada reserves the right to exclude from the scope of the arbitration provisions issues pertaining to the application of anti-abuse provisions whether contained in the [MLI], [the Agreement], or the domestic law of a Contracting [State].

## 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 Agreement or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Agreement insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. Any information received 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) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement in respect of,

or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Agreement. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes.

(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 public policy (ordre public).

## ARTICLE 27

#### Diplomatic Agents and Consular Officers

(1) Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the fiscal privileges of diplomatic agents or consular officers under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

(2) Notwithstanding Article 4, an individual who is a member of a diplomatic mission, consular post or permanent mission of a Contracting State which is situated in the other Contracting State or in a third State shall be deemed for the purposes of the Agreement to be a resident of the sending State if he is liable in the sending State to the same obligations in relation to tax on his total income as are residents of that sending State.

(3) The Agreement shall not apply to International Organizations, to organs or officials thereof and to persons who are members of a diplomatic mission, consular post or permanent mission of a third State, being present in a Contracting State and who are not liable in either Contracting State to the same obligations in relation to tax on their total income as are residents thereof.

## ARTICLE 28

#### **Miscellaneous** Provisions

(1) The provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed to restrict in any manner any exclusion, exemption, deduction, credit, or other allowance now or hereafter accorded by the laws of a Contracting State in the determination of the tax imposed by that State.

- (2) Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed as preventing -
  - (a) Canada from imposing a tax on amounts included in the income of a resident of Canada according to article 91 of the Canadian Income Tax Act;
  - (b) Malta from applying the provisions of Article 12(2) of the Income Tax Act.

(3) Where the Agreement provides that income arising in a Contracting State shall be relieved from tax in that State, either in full or in part, and, under the law in force in the other Contracting State, such income is subject to tax by reference to the amount thereof which is remitted to or received in that other State and not by reference to the full amount thereof, then the relief to be allowed in the first-mentioned State shall apply only to so much of income as is remitted to or received in the other State.

(4) This Agreement shall not apply to any company, trust or partnership that is a resident of a Contracting State and is beneficially owned or controlled directly or indirectly by one or more persons who are not residents of that State, if the amount of the tax imposed on the income or capital of the company, trust or partnership by that State is substantially lower than the amount that would be imposed by that State if all of

the shares of the capital stock of the company or all of the interests in the trust or partnership, as the case may be, were beneficially owned by one or more residents of that State.

The following paragraph 1 of Article 7 of the MLI applies to this Agreement: <sup>5</sup>

## ARTICLE 7 OF THE MLI – PREVENTION OF TREATY ABUSE

(Principal purposes test provision)

Notwithstanding any provisions of [*the Agreement*], a benefit under [*the 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 [*the Agreement*].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Malta:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021.

In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the MLI, paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the MLI has effect with respect to the application of this Agreement by Canada:

a) For taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2020; and

b) For all other taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020.

## VII. Final Provisions

## ARTICLE 29

## Entry into Force

(1) This Agreement shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Valletta, Malta.

(2) The Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the exchange of instruments of ratification and its provisions shall have effect:

- (a) in Canada:
  - (i) in respect of tax withheld at the source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents on or after the first day of January in the calendar year in which the exchange of instruments of ratification takes place; and
  - (ii) in respect of other Canadian tax for taxation years beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year in which the exchange of instruments of ratification takes place;
- (b) in Malta, in respect of taxes which are levied for any year of assessment beginning on the first day of January in the calendar year immediately following that in which the exchange of instruments of ratification takes place.

## ARTICLE 30

## **Termination**

This Agreement shall continue in effect indefinitely but either Contracting State may, on or before June 30 in any calendar year after the year of the exchange of instruments of ratification, give to the other Contracting State a notice of termination in writing through diplomatic channels; in such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect:

- (a) in Canada:
  - (i) in respect of tax withheld at the source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents on or after the first day of January in the calendar year immediately following that in which the notice is given; and
  - (ii) in respect of other Canadian tax for taxation years beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year immediately following that in which the notice is given;
- (b) in Malta, in respect of taxes which are levied for the year of assessment beginning on the first day of January in the second year following that in which the notice is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorised to that effect, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Valletta, this 25th day of July, 1986, in the English and French languages, each version being equally authentic.

(sgd.) Robert J. Stivala	(sgd.) Claude T. Charland
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF	FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA	CANADA