

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SULTANATE OF OMAN  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN  
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION  
AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION  
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

The Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Government of Japan,  
Desiring to conclude an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation  
and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income,  
Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

**Persons Covered**

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 the following taxes:

a - in the case of Japan:

- i - the income tax;
- ii - the corporation tax;
- iii - the special income tax for reconstruction;
- iv - the special corporation tax for reconstruction; and
- v - the local inhabitant taxes

(hereinafter referred to as “Japanese tax”); and

b - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman:

the income tax (hereinafter referred to as “Omani tax”).

- 2 - This Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, those referred to in paragraph (1). The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes that have been made in their respective taxation laws, within a reasonable period of time after such changes.

### **Article 3**

#### **General Definitions**

- 1 - For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
- a - the term “Japan”, when used in a geographical sense, means all the territory of Japan, including its territorial sea, in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force, and all the area beyond its territorial sea, including the seabed and subsoil thereof, over which Japan has sovereign rights in accordance with international law and in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force;
  - b - the term “Sultanate of Oman” means the territory of the Sultanate of Oman and the islands belonging thereto, including the territorial waters and any area outside the territorial waters over which the Sultanate of Oman may, in accordance with international law and the laws of the Sultanate of Oman, exercise sovereign rights with respect to the exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of the seabed and the subsoil and the superjacent waters;
  - c - the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean the Sultanate of Oman or Japan, as the context requires;
  - d - the term “tax” means Omani tax or Japanese tax, as the context requires;
  - e - the term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
  - f - the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

- g - the 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;
  - h - 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;
  - i - the term “national” means:
    - i - in the case of Japan, any individual possessing the nationality of Japan, any juridical person created or organised under the laws of Japan and any organisation without juridical personality treated for the purposes of Japanese tax as a juridical person created or organised under the laws of Japan; and
    - ii - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman, any individual possessing the nationality of the Sultanate of Oman and any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in the Sultanate of Oman; and
  - j - the term “competent authority” means:
    - i - in the case of Japan, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative; and
    - ii - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman, the Ministry of Finance or its authorised representative.
- 2 - As regards the application of this Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the laws of that Contracting State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Contracting State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Contracting State.

## **Article 4**

### **Resident**

- 1- For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means any person who, under the laws of that Contracting State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, place of head or main office or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that Contracting State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that Contracting State in respect only of income from sources in that Contracting State.
- 2 - Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph (1) an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:
  - a - he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both Contracting States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
  - b - if the Contracting State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either Contracting State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State in which he has an habitual abode;
  - c - if he has an habitual abode in both Contracting States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the Contracting State of which he is a national;
  - d - if his status cannot be determined in accordance with the provisions of subparagraphs (a) to (c), 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 to be a resident only of the Contracting State in which its place of head or main office is situated.

## **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 - The term “permanent establishment” also encompasses a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities last more than nine months.
- 4 - Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term “permanent establishment” shall be deemed not to include:
- a - the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;
  - b - the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;
  - c - the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;

- d - the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;
  - e - the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of carrying on, for the enterprise, any other activity of a preparatory or auxiliary character;
  - f - the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs (a) to (e), 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 the provisions of paragraph (6) apply - 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 Contracting State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph (4) which, if exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.
- 6 - An enterprise shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in a Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that Contracting State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.
- 7 - The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other Contracting State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

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

## **Article 7**

### **Business Profits**

- 1- The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in that other Contracting State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.
- 2 - Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each

Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

- 3 - In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.
- 4 - 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.
- 5 - For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs of this Article, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.
- 6 - Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

## **Article 8**

### **Shipping and Air Transport**

- 1 - Profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic carried on by an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
- 2 - Notwithstanding the provisions of Article (2), where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic, that enterprise, if an enterprise of the Sultanate of Oman, shall be exempt from the enterprise tax of Japan, and, if an enterprise of Japan, shall be exempt from any tax similar to the enterprise tax of Japan which may hereafter be imposed in the Sultanate of Oman.

- 3 - The provisions of the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

## **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 accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1), in the profits of an enterprise of that Contracting State - and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other Contracting State and where the competent authorities of the Contracting States agree, upon consultation, that all or part of the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned Contracting State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other Contracting State shall make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those agreed

profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

- 3 - Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), a Contracting State shall not change the profits of an enterprise of that Contracting State in the circumstances referred to in that paragraph after ten years from the end of the taxable year in which the profits that would be subjected to such change would, but for the conditions referred to in that paragraph, have accrued to that enterprise. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the case of fraud or wilful default.

## **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 Contracting State.
- 2 - However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:
  - a - five per cent (5%) of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company that has owned directly or indirectly, for the period of six months ending on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined, at least ten per cent (10%) of the voting shares of the company paying the dividends; or
  - b - ten per cent (10%) of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

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

- 4 - The term “dividends” as used in this Article means income from shares or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the tax laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.
- 5 - 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 Contracting 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 (14), as the case may be, shall apply.
- 6 - Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other Contracting State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other Contracting State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other Contracting State, nor subject the company’s undistributed profits to a tax on the company’s undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other Contracting 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 Contracting State.
- 2 - However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed ten per cent (10%) of the gross amount of the interest.

- 3 - Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2), interest arising in a Contracting State shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if:
- a - the interest is beneficially owned by the Government of that other Contracting State, a political subdivision or local authority thereof, or the central bank of that other Contracting State or any institution wholly owned by that Government; or
  - b - the interest is beneficially owned by a resident of that other Contracting State with respect to debt-claims guaranteed, insured or indirectly financed by the Government of that other Contracting State, a political subdivision or local authority thereof, or the central bank of that other Contracting State or any institution wholly owned by that Government.
- 4 - For the purposes of paragraph (3), the terms “the central bank” and “institution wholly owned by that Government” mean:
- a - in the case of Japan:
    - i - the Bank of Japan;
    - ii - the Japan Bank for International Cooperation;
    - iii - the Japan International Cooperation Agency;
    - iv - the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance; and
    - v - such other similar institution the capital of which is wholly owned by the Government of Japan as may be agreed upon from time to time between the Governments of the Contracting States through an exchange of diplomatic notes; and
  - b - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman:
    - i - the Central Bank of Oman;
    - ii - the State General Reserve Fund;
    - iii - the Omani Investment Fund;
    - iv - any retirement or pension fund organised under Omani laws; and

- v - such other similar statutory body or institution wholly owned by the Government of the Sultanate of Oman as may be agreed upon from time to time between the Governments of the Contracting States through an exchange of diplomatic notes.
- 5 - The term “interest” as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor’s profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures, and all other income that is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from money lent by the tax laws of the Contracting State in which the income arises. Income dealt with in Article (10) shall not be regarded as interest for the purposes of this Agreement.
- 6 - The provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting 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 (14), as the case may be, shall apply.
- 7 - Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether 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 Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

8 - Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, 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 Contracting State.
- 2 - However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed ten per cent (10%) of the gross amount of the royalties.
- 3 - The term “royalties” as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films and films or tapes for radio or television broadcasting, any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, or 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 Contracting 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 (14), as the case may be, shall apply.

- 5 - Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that Contracting State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the 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 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 referred to in Article (6) and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
- 2 - Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares or interests in a company, partnership or trust deriving at least fifty per cent (50%) of the value of its property directly or indirectly from

immovable property referred to in Article (6) and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State, unless the relevant class of the shares or the interests is traded on a recognised stock exchange and the resident and persons related or connected to that resident own in the aggregate five per cent (5%) or less of that class of the shares or the interests.

3 - Where

a - a Contracting State (including, for this purpose in the case of Japan, the Deposit Insurance Corporation of Japan) provides, pursuant to the laws or royal decisions of that Contracting State concerning failure resolution involving imminent insolvency of financial institutions, substantial financial assistance to a financial institution that is a resident of that Contracting State, and

b - a resident of the other Contracting State acquires shares in the financial institution from the first-mentioned Contracting State, the first-mentioned Contracting State may tax gains derived by the resident of the other Contracting State from the alienation of such shares, provided that the alienation is made within five years from the first date on which such financial assistance was provided.

4 - Gains from the alienation of any property, other than 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 any property, other than immovable 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 Contracting State.

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

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

#### **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 Contracting State unless he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities. If he has such a fixed base, the income may be taxed in that other Contracting State but only so much of it as is attributable to that fixed base.
- 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**

##### **Income from Employment**

- 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 Contracting State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
- 2 - Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned Contracting State if:
- a - the recipient is present in that other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve month period commencing or ending in the taxable year concerned;

- b - the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of that other Contracting State; and
  - c - the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in that other Contracting State.
- 3 - Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State may be taxed in that Contracting State.

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

### **Article 17**

#### **Artistes and Sportspersons**

- 1 - Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles (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 a sportsperson, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other Contracting State.
- 2 - Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsperson in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson 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 sportsperson are exercised.

### **Article 18**

#### **Pensions**

Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of Article (19), pensions and other similar remuneration beneficially owned by a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.

## **Article 19**

### **Government Service**

- 1- a - Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or political subdivision or local authority shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
  - b - However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other Contracting State and the individual is a resident of that other Contracting State who:
    - i - is a national of that other Contracting State; or
    - ii - did not become a resident of that other Contracting State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
- 2 - a - Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds to which contributions are made or created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that Contracting State or political subdivision or local authority shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
  - b - However, such pensions and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that other Contracting State.
- 3 - The provisions of Articles (15), (16), (17) and (18) shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions, and other similar remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or local authority thereof.

## **Article 20**

### **Students and Business Apprentices**

Payments which a student or business apprentice who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting

State and who is present in the first-mentioned Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in the first-mentioned Contracting State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside the first-mentioned Contracting State.

## **Article 21**

### **Other Income**

- 1 - Items of income beneficially owned by a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “other income” in this Article) shall be taxable only in that Contracting State.
- 2 - The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply to other income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph (2) of Article (6), if the beneficial owner of such other income, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the other income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article (7) or (14), as the case may be, shall apply.
- 3 - Where, by reason of a special relationship between the resident referred to in paragraph (1) and the payer or between both of them and some other person, the amount of other income exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon between them in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

## **Article 22**

### **Elimination of Double Taxation**

- 1 - In the case of Japan, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:  
Subject to the provisions of the laws of Japan regarding the allowance as a credit against Japanese tax of tax payable in any country other than Japan, where a resident of Japan derives income from the Sultanate of Oman which may be taxed in the Sultanate of Oman in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, the amount of the Omani tax payable in respect of that income shall be allowed as a credit against the Japanese tax imposed on that resident. The amount of credit, however, shall not exceed that part of the Japanese tax which is appropriate to that income.
- 2 - In the case of the Sultanate of Oman, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
  - a - Where a resident of the Sultanate of Oman derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Japan, the Sultanate of Oman shall allow as a deduction from the Omani tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the Japanese tax paid in Japan whether directly or by withholding at source. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Omani tax (as computed before the deduction is given) which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in Japan.
  - b - Where, in accordance with any provisions of this Agreement, income derived by a resident of the Sultanate of Oman is exempt from tax in the Sultanate of Oman, the Sultanate of Oman may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

## **Article 23**

### **Non-Discrimination**

- 1 - Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected there-

with, which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other Contracting State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected. The provisions of this paragraph shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article (1), also apply to persons who are not residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

- 2 - The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other Contracting State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other Contracting State carrying on the same activities. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.
- 3 - Except where the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article(9), paragraph (8) of Article (11), paragraph (6) of Article (12) or paragraph (3) of Article (21) 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 purposes 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 Contracting State.
- 4 - Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned Contracting State are or may be subjected.
- 5 - The provisions of this Article shall apply to taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

## **Article 24**

### **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 Contracting States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph (1) of Article (23), to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.
- 2 - The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.
- 3 - The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of this Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.
- 4 - The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs of this Article.

## **Article 25**

### **Exchange of Information**

- 1 - The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf

of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles (1) and (2).

- 2 - Any information received under paragraph (1) by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that Contracting State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph (1), or the oversight of the above. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.
- 3 - In no case shall the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:
  - a - to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
  - b - to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
  - c - to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy.
- 4 - If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other Contracting State may not need such information for its own

tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph (3) but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.

- 5 - In no case shall the provisions of paragraph (3) be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

#### **Article 26**

#### **Members of Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts**

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

#### **Article 27**

#### **Headings**

The headings of the Articles of this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of the Agreement.

#### **Article 28**

#### **Entry into Force**

- 1- Each of the Contracting States shall send through diplomatic channels to the other the written notification confirming that its internal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement have been completed. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the next month following the date of receipt of the latter notification.

2 - This Agreement shall be applicable:

a - in the case of Japan:

- i - with respect to taxes withheld at source, for amounts taxable on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following that in which the Agreement enters into force;
- ii - with respect to taxes on income which are not withheld at source, as regards income for any taxable year beginning on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following that in which the Agreement enters into force; and
- iii - with respect to other taxes, as regards taxes for any taxable year beginning on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following that in which the Agreement enters into force; and

b - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman:

- i - in respect of taxes withheld at source, for amounts paid or credited on or after 1 of January in the calendar year next following the date on which this Agreement enters into force; and
- ii - in respect of other taxes, for any tax year commencing on or after 1 of January in the calendar year next following the date on which this Agreement enters into force.

## **Article 29**

### **Termination**

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

- a - in the case of Japan:
- i - with respect to taxes withheld at source, for amounts taxable on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following the expiration of the six month period;
  - ii - with respect to taxes on income which are not withheld at source, as regards income for any taxable year beginning on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following the expiration of the six month period; and
  - iii - with respect to other taxes, as regards taxes for any taxable year beginning on or after 1 January in the calendar year next following the expiration of the six month period; and
- b - in the case of the Sultanate of Oman:
- i - in respect of taxes withheld at source, for amounts paid or credited on or after 1 of January in the calendar year immediately following that in which the notice of such termination is given; and
  - ii - in respect of other taxes, for any tax year commencing on or after 1 of January in the calendar year immediately following that in which the notice of such termination is given.

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

**DONE** in duplicate at Muscat this 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2014, in the Arabic, Japanese and English languages, all three texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For the Government of the  
Sultanate of Oman**

**For the Government of Japan**

## Protocol

At the signing of the Agreement between the Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Government of Japan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”), the Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Government of Japan have agreed upon the following provisions, which shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

1 - With reference to paragraph (1) of Article (2) of the Agreement:

The term “Omani tax” shall not include any amount which is payable in respect of any default or omission in relation to the taxes to which the Agreement applies or which represents a penalty imposed relating to the taxes to which the Agreement applies.

2 - For the purposes of the Agreement:

It is understood that the term “resident of a Contracting State” includes any “statutory body”. The term “statutory body” means a body constituted under the royal decree of the Sultanate of Oman and wholly owned by the Government of the Sultanate of Oman.

3 - With reference to paragraph (2) of Article (6) of the Agreement:

It is understood that the term “agriculture” shall include the breeding and cultivation of fish.

4 - With reference to paragraph (3) of Article (7) of the Agreement:

It is understood that the provisions of that paragraph do not prevent the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated from applying the provisions of laws and regulations of that Contracting State relating to deductions when determining the taxable income of the permanent establishment for the tax purposes of that Contracting State.

5 - With reference to Article (8) of the Agreement, it is understood that:

- a - interest on funds temporarily deposited in banks in connection with the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be regarded as profits from the operation of ships or aircraft referred to in Article (8) and not as interest referred to in Article (11) of the Agreement; and
  - b - profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall include profits from:
    - i - the rental of ships or aircraft on a full basis in international traffic;
    - ii - the rental of ships or aircraft on a bare-boat basis, where such rental is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic;
    - iii - the use, maintenance or rental of containers (including trailers and related equipment used for transport of containers), where such use, maintenance or rental, as the case may be, is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic; and
    - iv - the sale of tickets for international traffic on behalf of other enterprises, where such sale is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic.
- 6 - With reference to Articles (10), (11), (12), (13) and (21) of the Agreement:  
It is understood that no relief shall be available under the provisions of these Articles if the main purpose or one of the main purposes of any person concerned with the creation or assignment of any shares, debt-claims or other rights or properties in respect of which income arises was to take advantage of these Articles by means of that creation or assignment.
- 7 - With reference to Article (11) of the Agreement:  
Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of that Article, interest arising in the Sultanate of Oman and beneficially owned by a pension fund established under the laws of Japan shall be taxable only in Japan.
- 8 - With reference to paragraph (2) of Article (13) of the Agreement:  
It is understood that the term “recognised stock exchange” means:

- a - any stock exchange established by a Financial Instruments Exchange or an approved-type financial instruments firms association under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law (Law No. 25 of 1948) of Japan;
  - b - the Muscat Securities Market of the Sultanate of Oman; and
  - c - any other stock exchange which the competent authorities of the Contracting States agree to recognise for the purposes of that paragraph.
- 9 - With reference to Article (16) of the Agreement:  
It is understood that the term “a member of the board of directors of a company” includes a member of the managerial board or any other similar body of a company which is a resident of the Sultanate of Oman as provided for in the relevant Omani laws.
- 10 - Nothing in the Agreement shall prevent Japan from imposing tax at source, in accordance with its laws, on any income and gains derived by a person pursuant to a silent partnership (Tokumei Kumiai) contract or other similar contract.
- 11 - With reference to paragraph (5) of Article (25) of the Agreement:  
A Contracting State may decline to supply information relating to confidential communications between attorneys, solicitors or other admitted legal representatives in their role as such and their clients to the extent that the communications are protected from disclosure under the domestic law of that Contracting State.

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

**DONE** in duplicate at Muscat this 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2014, in the Arabic, Japanese and English languages, all three texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For the Government of the  
Sultanate of Oman**

**For the Government of Japan**