

**Income Tax (Singapore — Bahrain) (Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement)
Order 2004**

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Enacting Formula

THE SCHEDULE

No. S 806

**INCOME TAX ACT
(CHAPTER 134)**

**INCOME TAX (SINGAPORE — BAHRAIN) (AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE
TAXATION AGREEMENT) ORDER 2004**

WHEREAS it is provided by section 49 of the Income Tax Act that if the Minister by order declares that arrangements specified in the order have been made with the Government of any country outside Singapore with a view to affording relief from double taxation in relation to tax under the Act and any tax of a similar character imposed by the laws of that country, and that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect, the arrangements shall have effect in relation to tax under the Act notwithstanding anything in any written law:

AND WHEREAS by an Agreement dated the 18th day of February 2004, between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain, arrangements were made, amongst other things, for the avoidance of double taxation:

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby declared by the Minister for Finance —

- (a) that the arrangements specified in the Schedule to this Order have been made with the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain; and
- (b) that it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect notwithstanding anything in any written law.

THE SCHEDULE
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
FOR
THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION
AND
THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION
WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain,
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 taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property.
3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular:
 - (a) in Bahrain:
— the income tax law (Amiri Decree No. 22/1979)

(hereinafter referred to as “Bahrain tax”);

(b) in Singapore:

— the income tax

(hereinafter referred to as “Singapore tax”).

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

ARTICLE 3

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the term “Bahrain” means, the territory of the Kingdom of Bahrain as well as the maritime areas, seabed and subsoil over which Bahrain exercises, in accordance with international law, sovereign rights and jurisdiction;
- (b) the term “Singapore” means the Republic of Singapore and when used in a geographical sense, the term “Singapore” includes the territorial waters of Singapore and any area extending beyond the limits of the territorial waters of Singapore, and the sea-bed and subsoil of any such area, which has been or may hereafter be designated under the laws of Singapore and in accordance with international law as an area over which Singapore has sovereign rights for the purposes of exploring and exploiting the natural resources, whether living or non-living;
- (c) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean the Kingdom of Bahrain or Singapore as the context requires;
- (d) the term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
- (e) the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity incorporated or recognised under the laws of one or other of the Contracting States or that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
- (f) the terms “enterprise of a Contracting State” and “enterprise of the other Contracting State” mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;
- (g) the term “international traffic” means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;
- (h) the term “competent authority” means:
 - (i) in the case of Bahrain, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, or his authorised representative; and

- (ii) in Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorised representative;
- (i) the term “national” means:
 - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;
 - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State.

2. As regards the application of the Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

ARTICLE 4

RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means:
 - (a) in the case of Singapore, a person who is a resident for the purpose of Singapore income tax and also includes the State and any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof; and
 - (b) in the case of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Bahrain, its local authorities, any statutory body thereof and any person who under the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain is domiciled or resident in, a citizen of, or having their place of incorporation or management within the Kingdom of Bahrain.
2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:
 - (a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);
 - (b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode;
 - (c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;
 - (d) in any other case, 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 State in which its place of effective management is situated. If its place of effective management cannot be determined, the

competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

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;
- (f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources;
- (g) a refinery;
- (h) a sales outlet; and
- (i) a warehouse in relation to a person providing storage facilities for others.

3. The term “permanent establishment” also includes:

- (a) a building site, a construction, installation or assembly project, or supervisory activities connected therewith, but only where such site, project or activities continue for a period of more than nine months;
- (b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only where activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days in any calendar year.

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