Draft Order laid before the House of Commons under section 788(10) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and section 173(7) of the Finance Act 2006 for approval by resolution of that House.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2006 No.

INCOME TAX
CORPORATION TAX
CAPITAL GAINS TAX

The Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Poland) Order 2006

Made - - - - **

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the * day of

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

A draft of this Order was laid before the House of Commons in accordance with section 788(10) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988(**1**) ("ICTA") and section 173(7) of the Finance Act 2006 ("FA 2006") and approved by a resolution of the House.

Accordingly, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred upon Her by section 788 of ICTA, and section 173(1) to (3) of FA 2006, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, orders as follows—

Citation

1. This Order may be cited as the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Poland) Order 2006.

Double taxation arrangements to have effect

2. It is declared that—

(a) the arrangements specified in the Convention set out in Part 1 of the Schedule to this Order have been made with the Government of the Republic of Poland with a view to affording

(**1**) 1988 c. 1. Section 788 is extended by section 277 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 (c. 12). It has also been amended: the relevant amendments are those made by section 198(1) and (2) of the Finance Act 2003 (c.14) and section 176 of the Finance Act 2006 (c. 25). Section 176 of the Finance Act 2006 substituted a new subsection (10) in section 788.

relief from double taxation in relation to income tax, corporation tax and capital gains tax and taxes of a similar character imposed by the laws of Poland;

(b) those arrangements include provisions with respect to the exchange of information foreseeably relevant to the administration, enforcement or recovery of the taxes, and debts relating to the taxes, covered by the arrangements including, in particular, provisions about the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to those taxes; and

(c) it is expedient that those arrangements should have effect.

Clerk of the Privy Council

SCHEDULE Article 2

PART 1

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL GAINS

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of Poland;

Desiring to conclude a Convention for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital gains;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Persons covered

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

ARTICLE 2

Taxes covered

(1) This Convention shall apply to taxes on income and on capital gains 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 and on capital gains 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 this Convention shall apply are in particular:

(a) in the case of the United Kingdom:

(i) the income tax;

(ii) the corporation tax; and

(iii) the capital gains tax;

(hereinafter referred to as "United Kingdom tax");

(b) in the case of Poland:

(i) the personal income tax; and

(ii) the corporate income tax;

(hereinafter referred to as "Polish tax").

(4) This Convention shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed by either Contracting State after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes that have been made in their taxation laws.

ARTICLE 3

General definitions

(1) For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) the term "United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including any area outside the territorial sea of the United Kingdom designated under its laws concerning the Continental Shelf and in accordance with international law as an area within which the rights of the United Kingdom with respect to the sea bed and sub-soil and their natural resources may be exercised;

(b) the term "Poland" means the Republic of Poland, including any area outside the territorial sea of the Republic of Poland designated under its laws and in accordance with international law as an area within which the rights of the Republic of Poland with respect to the sea bed and sub-soil and their natural resources may be exercised;

(c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean the United Kingdom or Poland, as the context requires;

(d) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons, and does not include a partnership;

(e) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

(f) the term "enterprise" applies to the carrying on of any business;

(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 "competent authority" means:

(i) in the case of the United Kingdom, the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs or their authorised representative;

(ii) in the case of Poland, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;

(j) the term "national" means:

(i) in relation to the United Kingdom, any British citizen, or any British subject not possessing the citizenship of any other Commonwealth country or territory, provided he has the right of abode in the United Kingdom; and any legal person, partnership, association or other entity deriving its status as such from the law in force in the United Kingdom;

(ii) in relation to Poland, any individual possessing Polish nationality and any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in Poland;

(k) the term "business" includes the performance of professional services and of other activities of an independent character.

(2) As regards the application of this Convention 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 State for the purposes of the taxes to which this Convention 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

Residence

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

(2) Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined in accordance with the following rules:

(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 States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);

(b) if the Contracting State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he does not have 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 Contracting States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national;

(d) if he is a national of both Contracting 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) of this Article 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.

ARTICLE 5

Permanent establishment

(1) For the purposes of this Convention, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of 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.

(3) A building site or construction or installation project constitutes a permanent establishment only if it lasts more than twelve 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;