# **CONVENTION**

# **BETWEEN**

# THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

#### **AND**

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION

AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION

WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL

# CONVENTION BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND

# THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA 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 KINGDOM OF BELGIUM |
|--|
| AND                                      |
| THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA |

**DESIRING** to promote and strengthen the economic relations between the two countries, and 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,

**HAVE** agreed as follows:

#### 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 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 all taxes imposed on total income or 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 this Convention shall apply are in particular:
  - a) in the case of Belgium:
    - (i) the individual income tax;
    - (ii) the corporate income tax;
    - (iii) the income tax on legal entities;
    - (iv) the income tax on non-residents;
    - (v) the supplementary crisis contribution,

including the prepayments and the surcharges on these taxes and prepayments,

(hereinafter referred to as "the Belgian tax");

b) in the case of Uganda, the income tax, (hereinafter referred to as "the Ugandan tax").

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

#### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **General Definitions**

- 1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires :
  - a) the term "Belgium" means the Kingdom of Belgium; used in the geographical sense, it means the territory of the Kingdom of Belgium, including the territorial sea and any other area in the sea and in the air within which the Kingdom of Belgium, in accordance with international law, exercises sovereign rights or jurisdiction;

- b) the term "Uganda" means the Republic of Uganda;
- c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean the Kingdom of Belgium or Uganda, as the context requires;
- d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity which is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes in the Contracting State of which it is a resident;
- e) the term "competent authority" means:
  - (i) in the case of Belgium, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative;
  - (ii) in the case of Uganda, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative;
- 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 that has its place of effective management in 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) any individual possessing the nationality or citizenship of a Contracting State;
  - (ii) any legal person, partnership and association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State; and
- i) the term "person" includes an individual, a company, a partnership and any other body of persons.
- 2. As regards the application of the Convention at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has at that

time under the laws of that State concerning the taxes to which the Convention applies with 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 Convention, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, 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 from sources in that State or capital situated therein.
- 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) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.
- 3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1, a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

#### **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) any premises used as a sales outlet or for receiving or soliciting orders;
  - g) a warehouse in relation to a person whose business is the provision of storage facilities for others;
  - h) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and

|   |    | i)             | an installation or structure used for the exploitation of natural resources.   |
|---|----|----------------|--|
| : | 3. | super<br>a per | ilding site, a construction, assembly or installation project or a rvisory or consultancy activity connected therewith constitutes manent establishment only if such site, project or activity lasts period of more than six months. |
|   | 4. |                | withstanding the provisions of this Article, the term "permanent dishment" 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 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 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 of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other 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. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 5 and 6, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except with regard to reinsurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other State if it collects premiums in that other State, or insures risks situated therein, through an agent established there but not including an agent of an independent status mentioned in paragraph 6 unless he has, and habitually exercises, an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise.
- 8. 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.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

#### **Income from Immovable Property**

- 1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to 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 also 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 enterprises of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to 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.
- 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. However, no such deduction shall be allowed in respect of amounts, if any, paid (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses) by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patents or other rights, or by way of commission, for specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the permanent establishment.

Likewise, no account shall be taken, in the determination of the profits of a permanent establishment, of amounts charged (otherwise than towards reimbursement of actual expenses), by the permanent establishment to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices, by way of royalties, fees or other similar payments in return for the use of patent or other rights, or by way of commission for the specific services performed or for management, or, except in the case of a banking enterprise, by way of interest on moneys lent to the head office of the enterprise or any of its other offices.

- 4. In so far 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 purposes 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. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Convention, 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 shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
- 2. For the purposes of this Article, profits from the operation of ships or aircraft used in international traffic shall include, in particular :
  - a) profits derived from the lease by the enterprise of ships or aircraft on charter fully equipped, manned and supplied;
  - b) profits derived from the lease by the enterprise on a bare boat charter basis of ships or aircraft used in international traffic where such a lease is ancillary to the transportation of passengers or cargo; and
  - c) profits derived from the lease of containers by the enterprise where such a lease is ancillary to the transportation of cargo.
- 3. If the place of effective management of a shipping enterprise is aboard a ship, then it shall be deemed to be situated in the Contracting State in which the home harbour of the ship is situated, or, if there is no such home harbour, in the Contracting State of which the operator of the ship is a resident.
- 4. The provisions of paragraph 1 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    |  |
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- a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or
- b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of a Contracting State and an enterprise of the other Contracting State.

and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but, by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly. 2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that State - and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State shall make such an adjustment as it considers appropriate to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits if that State considers the adjustment justified. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Convention and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall, if necessary, consult each other.

#### **ARTICLE 10**

#### **Dividends**

- 1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:
  - a) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company which holds directly at least 10 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends; or
  - b) 15 per cent 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 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 – even paid in the form of interest - which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the tax legislation of the Contracting State of which the paying company is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such a case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be shall apply.

5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

#### 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 beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest shall be exempted from tax in the Contracting State in which it arises if it is:
  - a) interest paid in respect of a loan granted, guaranteed or insured or a credit extended, guaranteed or insured under a scheme organised by a Contracting State or one of its political subdivisions or local authorities in order to promote exports;
  - b) interest on debt-claims or loans of any nature -not represented by bearer instruments- paid by an enterprise to a banking enterprise;
  - c) interest paid to the other Contracting State or one of its political subdivisions or local authorities.
- 4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debtclaims 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. However the term interest shall not include, for the purposes of this Article, penalty charges for late payment or interest regarded as dividends under paragraph 3 of Article 10.
- 5. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 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 a case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 that 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 personal 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 a case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

#### **Royalties**

- 1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and beneficially owned by 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 beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent 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, tapes or discs for radio or television broadcasting), any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, 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 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 with which the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected, 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.

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 a case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

#### **ARTICLE 13**

# **Administration and Management Fees**

1. Administration and management fees 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 administration and management fees may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the fees is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the administration and management fees. But, upon request of the beneficial owner of the administration and management fees, such fees shall be taxed according to the laws of that State, as if they were profits attributable to a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in the Contracting State in which they arise.
- 3. The term "administration and management fees" as used in this Article means payments of any kind to any person, other than to an employee, director or company manager of the person making the payments, in consideration for any service of an administrative or managerial nature but only to the extent that the services are performed for a period of at least three months in any period of twelve months.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the administration and management fees, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the administration and management fees arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed based situated therein, and the administration and management fees are effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. Administration and management fees shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the administration and management fees, 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 administration and management fees was incurred, and such fees are borne by that permanent establishment or fixed base, then such administration and management fees 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 administration and management fees 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 a case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

#### **ARTICLE 14**

# **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 State.
- 2. Gains from the alienation of 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 of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.

- 3. Gains from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
- 4. Gains derived from the alienation of containers to which the provisions of Article 8 apply shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
- 5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

#### **Independent Personal Services**

- 1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State 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 the other 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, economists and accountants.

#### **ARTICLE 16**

**Dependent Personal Services** 

| 1. | and<br>Contin the<br>Cont | ect to the provisions of Articles 17,19 and 20, salaries, wages other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a racting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only nat State unless the employment is exercised in the other racting State. If the employment is so exercised, such neration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other. |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 2. | deriv<br>empl             | withstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration red by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an oyment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be all only in the first-mentioned state if:   |
|    | a)                        | the recipient is present in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; and   |
|    | b)                        | the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is a resident of the State of which the recipient is a resident; and  |
|    | c)                        | the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in the other State.   |
|    |                           |   |

3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

#### **ARTICLE 17**

#### **Directors and Company Managers**

1. Directors' fees and similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors or of a similar organ of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

The preceding provision shall also apply to payments derived in respect of the discharge of functions which, under the laws of the Contracting State of which the company is a resident, are regarded as functions of a similar nature as those exercised by a person referred to in the said provision.

- 2. a) Remuneration derived by a person referred to in paragraph 1 from a company which is a resident of a Contracting State in respect of the discharge of day-to-day functions of a managerial, technical, commercial or financial nature, may be taxed in accordance with the provisions of Article 16, as if such remuneration were remuneration derived by an employee in respect of an employment and as if references to the "employer" were references to the company;
  - b) The preceding provision shall also apply to remuneration received by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of his day-to-day activity as a partner of a company, other than a company with share capital, which is a resident of a Contracting State.

#### **ARTICLE 18**

# **Artistes and Sportsmen**

| 1. | Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, income            |
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|    | derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an artiste such as a    |
|    | theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or |
|    | as a sportsman, 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 a sportsman in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsman himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 15 and 16, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to income derived from activities performed in a Contracting State by entertainers or sportsmen if the visit to that State is substantially supported by public funds of the other Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof. In such a case the income shall be taxable only in the State of which the entertainer or sportsman is a resident.

#### **Pensions**

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise. This provision shall also apply to pensions and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State under its social security legislation or under a public scheme organised by that State in order to supplement the benefits of its social security legislation.

#### **ARTICLE 20**

#### **Government Services**

- 1. a) Salaries, wages and other similar 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 salaries, wages and other similar 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. Any pension paid by, or out of funds created 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.
- 3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply to salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, and to pensions, in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a

Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

# **ARTICLE 21**

**Students and Apprentices** 

A student or business apprentice who is present in a Contracting State solely for the purpose of his education or training and who is, or immediately before being so present was, a resident of the other Contracting State, shall be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned State on payments received from sources outside that first-mentioned State for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training.

#### Other Income

- 1. Items of income of a resident of a Contracting State, wherever arising, not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Convention shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. However, any such income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from sources in the other Contracting State may also be taxed in that other State.
- 3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply to income, other than income from immovable property as defined in paragraph 2 of Article 6, if the recipient of such 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 State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the income is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

#### **ARTICLE 23**

# Capital

- 1. Capital represented by immovable property referred to in Article 6, 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 in international    |
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|    | traffic, and by movable property pertaining to the operation of such   |
|    | ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in   |
|    | which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated. |

| 4. | All other elements of capital of a resident of a Contracting State shal |
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|    | be taxable only in that State.  |

#### **Elimination of Double Taxation**

1. In Uganda, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

Where a resident of Uganda derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in Belgium, Uganda shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident an amount equal to the Belgium tax paid. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the income tax as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable, as the case may be, to the income which may be taxed in Belgium; and

- 2. In Belgium, double taxation shall be avoided as follows:
  - a) Where a resident of Belgium derives income, not being dividends, interest or royalties, or owns elements of capital which may be taxed in Uganda in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, and which are taxed there, Belgium shall exempt such income or such elements of capital from tax but may, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of that resident, apply the rate of tax which would have been applicable if such income or elements of capital had not been exempted.

However, where the Ugandan tax is less than 15 per cent of the net amount of the income referred to in this provision, Belgium shall not exempt that income but shall reduce to a half the Belgian tax which is proportionally relating to that income, calculated as if that income was income from Belgian sources.

- b) Dividends derived by a company which is a resident of Belgium from a company which is a resident of Uganda, shall be exempt from the corporate income tax in Belgium under the conditions and within the limits provided for in Belgian law.
- c) Subject to the provisions of Belgian law regarding the deduction from Belgian tax of taxes paid abroad, where a resident of Belgium derives items of his aggregate income for Belgian tax purposes which are interest or royalties, the Ugandan tax levied on that income shall be allowed as a credit against Belgian tax relating to such income.
- d) Where, in accordance with Belgian law, losses incurred by an enterprise carried on by a resident of Belgium in a permanent establishment situated in Uganda, have been effectively deducted from the profits of that enterprise for its taxation in Belgium, the exemption provided for in sub-paragraph a) shall not apply in Belgium to the profits of other taxable periods attributable to that establishment to the extent that those profits have also been exempted from tax in Uganda by reason of compensation for the said losses.

#### Non-discrimination

1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected. This provision 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 favorably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities. However, branch profits tax levied on income repatriated by a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be regarded as being contrary to the provisions of this paragraph. The tax so charged, however, shall not exceed 5 per cent of the repatriated income. This provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

- 3. 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 that first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.
- 4. Except where the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 7 of Article 11, paragraph 6 of Article 12 or paragraph 6 of Article 13 apply, interest, royalties, administration and management fees and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State. Similarly, any debts of an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable capital of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been contracted to a resident of the first-mentioned State.
- 5. In this Article the term "taxation" means the taxes to which this Convention applies.

#### **Mutual Agreement Procedure**

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 24, 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 Convention.

| 2. | The competent authority shall endeavor, if the objection appears to         |
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|    | it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory |
|    | solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the                  |
|    | competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to          |
|    | the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the               |
|    | Convention. 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 the Convention.

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall agree on administrative measures necessary to carry out the provisions of the Convention and particularly on the proofs to be furnished by residents of either Contracting State in order to benefit in the other State from the exemptions or reductions of tax provided for in the Convention.

5. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs. When it seems advisable in order to reach agreement to have an oral exchange of opinions, such exchange may take place through a commission consisting of representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

#### **Exchange of Information**

- The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange 1 such information as is relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention and established by the Contracting States in so far as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Convention, in particular for the prevention of fraud and evasion in relation to such taxes. The exchange of information is not restricted by Article 1. Any information received by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic law of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Convention. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.
- 2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation :
  - a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws 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 (ordre public).

**ARTICLE 28** 

# **Recovery of Taxes**

| 1. | The Contracting States undertake to lend assistance to each other in the collection of the taxes owed by a taxpayer to the extent that the amount thereof has been finally determined according to the laws of the Contracting State making the request for assistance.   |
|----|---|
| 2. | In the case of a request by a Contracting State for the collection of taxes which has been accepted for collection by the other Contracting State, such taxes shall be collected by that other State to the extent permitted by its domestic law.   |
| 3. | Claims which are the subject of requests for assistance shall not have priority over taxes owing in the Contracting State rendering assistance and the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 27 shall also apply to any information which, by virtue of this Article, is supplied to the competent authority of a Contracting State. |
| 4. | Any request for collection by a Contracting State shall be accompanied by such certificate as is required by the laws of that State to establish that the taxes owed by the taxpayer have been finally determined.  |

- 5. Where the tax claim of a Contracting State has not been finally determined by reason of it being subject to appeal or other proceedings, that State may, in order to protect its revenues, request the other Contracting State to take such protective measures for conservancy on its behalf as are available to the other State under the laws of that other State. If such request is accepted by the other State, such protective measures shall be taken by that other State to the extent permitted by its domestic law.
- 6. A request under paragraph 4 or 5 shall only be made by a Contracting State if that State has exhausted all remedies in its own territory for the recovery of its tax claim.
- 7. The Contracting State in which tax is recovered in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall forthwith remit to the Contracting State on behalf of which the tax was collected the amount so recovered minus, where appropriate, the amount of the extraordinary costs referred to in sub-paragraph b) of paragraph 8.
- 8. It is understood that, unless otherwise agreed by the competent authorities of both Contracting States,
  - a) ordinary costs incurred by a Contracting State in providing assistance shall be borne by that State,
  - b) extraordinary costs incurred by a Contracting State in providing assistance shall be borne by the other State and shall be payable regardless of the amount collected on its behalf by the first-mentioned State.

As soon as a Contracting State anticipates that extraordinary costs may be incurred, it shall so advise the other Contracting State and indicate the estimated amount of such costs. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may settle the mode of application of this paragraph.

9. In this Article, the term "taxes" means the taxes covered by Article 2 of this Convention and includes any interest and penalties relating thereto.

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

Nothing in this Convention 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 30**

# **Entry into Force**

1. Each of the Contracting States shall notify to the other the completion of the procedures required by its law for the bringing into force of this Convention. The Convention shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the later of these notifications.

- 2. The provisions of the Convention shall have effect:
  - a) with respect to taxes due at source on income credited or payable on or after January 1 2006;
  - b) with respect to other taxes charged on income of fiscal years beginning on or after January 1 2006;
  - c) with respect to taxes on capital charged on elements of capital existing on or after January 1 2006.

#### **Termination**

This Convention shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State but either Contracting State may terminate the Convention, through diplomatic channels, by giving to the other Contracting State, written notice of termination not later than the 30th June of any calendar year from the fifth year following that in which the Convention entered into force. In the event of termination before July 1 of such year, the Convention shall cease to have effect:

- a) with respect to taxes due at source on income credited or payable from January 1 of the year next following the year in which the notice of termination is given;
- b) with respect to other taxes charged on income of fiscal years beginning on or after January 1 of the year next following the year in which the notice of termination is given;
- c) with respect to taxes on capital charged on elements of capital existing on January 1 of any year following the year in which the notice of termination is given.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.

# FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM:

# FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA:

Landy.

Jan de BRUYNE, Ambassador

Ezra SURUMA, Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

#### **PROTOCOL**

On the signing of the Convention between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Republic of Uganda for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital, the undersigned have agreed upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Convention.

# 1. Ad Article 3, paragraph 2:

In the interpretation of the provisions of the Convention which are identical or in substance similar to the provisions of the OECD Model Tax Convention, the tax administrations of the Contracting States shall follow the general principles of the commentary of the Model Convention provided the Contracting States did not include in that commentary any observations expressing a disagreement with those principles and to the extent the Contracting States do not agree on a divergent interpretation in special circumstances.

# 2. Ad Article 7, paragraphs 1 and 2:

With respect to contracts with respect to the study, the supply, the installation or the construction of industrial, commercial or scientific equipment or premises or of public works, it is understood that the profits attributable to a permanent establishment situated in a Contracting State through which an enterprise of the other Contracting State carries on business, are determined solely on the basis of the part of the contract which has effectively been executed by the permanent establishment in the Contracting State in which it is situated.

# 3. Ad Article 11, paragraph 3:

With respect to Belgium, it is understood that the provision of subparagraph a) shall apply in any case :

- to interest of a loan or a credit for which financial support is granted after advice of the Committee for financial support to export ("Finexpo");

- to interest of a loan or a credit granted by the Association for the coordination of medium-term financing of Belgian exports ("Creditexport");
- to interest of a loan or a credit insured by the National Office of Del Credere.

# 4. Ad Article 12, paragraph 3:

In applying Article 12, paragraph 3 of the Convention payments constituting consideration for technical assistance or technical services shall not be considered to be payments for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience, but shall be taxable in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be.

# 5. Ad Article 15, paragraph 1:

An employment is exercised in a Contracting State when the activity in respect of which the salaries, wages and other similar remuneration are paid, is effectively carried on in that State. This means that the employee is physically present in that State for carrying on the activity there.

6. Ad Article 16, paragraph 2, Article 30, paragraph 2 and Article 31:

With respect to Belgium, it is understood that the term "fiscal year" means "taxable period".

# 7. Ad Article 16, paragraph 2 sub-paragraph b):

In the case of hiring out of labor it is understood that the hirer shall be considered to be the employer only if he has rights on the work produced and if he bears the responsibility and risks on that work.

# 8. Ad Article 24, paragraph 2:

For the application by Belgium of sub-paragraph a) of paragraph 2 of Article 24, income is taxed in Uganda when it is effectively included in the taxable base by reference to which the Ugandan tax is computed. Income is therefore not taxed in Uganda when, being subject to the tax treatment normally applicable to such income under Ugandan law, it is either not taxable or exempted from tax in Uganda.

# 9. Ad Article 25, paragraph 2:

If, and so long as, a Convention for the avoidance of double taxation is effective between Uganda and a member of the OECD, which Convention does not provide for branch profits tax such as referred to in the second sentence of paragraph 2 of Article 25 of this Convention, the branch profits tax mentioned therein shall not be levied upon enterprises of Belgium.

# 10. Ad Article 27, paragraph 1

The Contracting States also undertake to lend assistance to each other to notify taxpayers about tax that is due.

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

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA:

landy.

Jan de BRUYNE, Ambassador Ezra SURUMA, Minister of Finance,

Planning and Economic Development