

Annex 1

Multilateral Model Competent Authority Agreement

1. This document is a multilateral version of the Model Competent Authority Agreement. The legal basis is Article 6 of the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters which specifically provides that two or more Parties can mutually agree to exchange information automatically. The actual exchange of the information itself will be on a bilateral basis.
2. The main changes to adapt the bilateral Model CAA to a multilateral model are additions to the preamble, generic definitions for Jurisdiction and the term “Common Reporting Standard”, the effective date in paragraph 1 of Section 7 including a procedure for jurisdictions to join after the Agreement is in effect, and sending notices to the Secretariat of the Co-ordinating Body of the Convention. In addition the multilateral model contemplates jurisdictions participating on both a reciprocal and nonreciprocal basis (see paragraph 1 of Section 2). Jurisdictions sending information but not receiving information would be listed in Annex A.

MODEL AGREEMENT ON THE AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION TO IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL TAX COMPLIANCE

Whereas, the Jurisdictions are Parties of, or territories covered by, the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (the “Convention”) and have a longstanding and close relationship with respect to mutual assistance in tax matters and desire to improve international tax compliance by further building on that relationship;

Whereas, the laws of their respective Jurisdictions [are expected to require]/[require]/require or are expected to require] financial institutions to report information regarding certain accounts and follow related due diligence procedures, consistent with the scope of exchange contemplated by Section 2 of this Agreement and the reporting and due diligence procedures set out in the Common Reporting Standard;

Whereas, it is expected that the laws of the Jurisdictions would be amended from time to time to reflect updates to the Common Reporting Standard and once such changes are enacted by a Jurisdiction the definition of “Common Reporting Standard” would be deemed to refer to the updated version in respect of that Jurisdiction;

Whereas, Chapter III of the Convention authorises the exchange of information for tax purposes, including the exchange of information on an automatic basis, and allows the competent authorities of the Jurisdictions (the “Competent Authorities”) to agree the scope and modalities of such automatic exchanges;

Whereas Article 6 of the Convention provides that two or more Parties can mutually agree to exchange information automatically, the actual exchange of the information will be on a bilateral basis;

Whereas the Competent Authorities of Jurisdictions or territories listed in Annex A to this Agreement will send information under Section 2, the Competent Authorities will not receive such information;

Whereas, the Jurisdictions have in place *(i)* appropriate safeguards to ensure that the information received pursuant to this Agreement remains confidential and is used solely for the purposes set out in the Convention, and *(ii)* the infrastructure for an effective exchange relationship (including established processes for ensuring timely, accurate, and confidential information exchanges, effective and reliable communications, and capabilities to promptly resolve questions and concerns about exchanges or requests for exchanges and to administer the provisions of Section 4 of this Agreement);

Whereas, the Competent Authorities of the Jurisdictions desire to conclude an agreement to improve international tax compliance based on automatic exchange pursuant to the Convention, and subject to the confidentiality and other protections provided for therein, including the provisions limiting the use of the information exchanged under the Convention;

Now, therefore, the Competent Authorities have agreed as follows:

SECTION 1

Definitions

1. For the purposes of this agreement (“Agreement”), the following terms have the following meanings:
 - a) the term “**Jurisdiction**” means a jurisdiction that is a Party to, or a territory covered by, the Convention and the Competent Authority of which is a signatory to this Agreement.
 - b) the term “**Competent Authority**” means, for each respective Jurisdiction, the persons and authorities listed in Annex B of the Convention.
 - c) the term “**Jurisdiction Financial Institution**” means, for each respective Jurisdiction, (i) any Financial Institution that is resident in the Jurisdiction, but excludes any branch of that Financial Institution that is located outside the Jurisdiction, and (ii) any branch of a Financial Institution that is not resident in the Jurisdiction, if that branch is located in the Jurisdiction.
 - d) the term “**Reporting Financial Institution**” means any Jurisdiction Financial Institution that is not a Non-Reporting Financial Institution.
 - e) the term “**Reportable Account**” means a Financial Account that is maintained by a Reporting Financial Institution and that, pursuant to due diligence procedures consistent with the Common Reporting Standard, has been identified as an account that is held by one or more persons that are Reportable Persons with respect to another Jurisdiction or by a Passive NFE with one or more Controlling Persons that are Reportable Persons with respect to another Jurisdiction.
 - f) the term “**Common Reporting Standard**” means the standard for automatic exchange of financial account information developed by the OECD, with G20 countries, presented to the G20 in 2014 and published on the OECD website.
 - g) the term “**CB Secretariat**” means the OECD Secretariat that, pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 24 of the Convention, provides support to the co-ordinating body that is composed of representatives of the competent authorities of the Parties to the Convention.
2. Any capitalised term not otherwise defined in this Agreement will have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of the Jurisdiction applying the Agreement, such meaning being consistent with the meaning set

forth in the Common Reporting Standard. Any term not otherwise defined in this Agreement or in the Common Reporting Standard will, unless the context otherwise requires or the Competent Authorities agree to a common meaning (as permitted by domestic law), have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of the Jurisdiction applying this Agreement, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Jurisdiction prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Jurisdiction.

SECTION 2

Exchange of Information with Respect to Reportable Accounts

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Article 6 and 22 of the Convention and subject to the applicable reporting and due diligence rules consistent with the Common Reporting Standard, each Competent Authority will annually exchange with the other Competent Authorities on an automatic basis the information obtained pursuant to such rules and specified in paragraph 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence the Competent Authorities of the Jurisdictions listed in Annex A will exchange, but not receive, the information specified in paragraph 2. Jurisdictions not listed in Annex A will always receive the information specified in paragraph 2 but will not exchange such information with the Jurisdictions listed in Annex A.

2. The information to be exchanged is, with respect to each Reportable Account of another Jurisdiction:

- a) the name, address, TIN(s) and date and place of birth (in the case of an individual) of each Reportable Person that is an Account Holder of the account and, in the case of any Entity that is an Account Holder and that, after application of due diligence procedures consistent with the Common Reporting Standard, is identified as having one or more Controlling Persons that is a Reportable Person, the name, address, and TIN(s) of the Entity and the name, address, TIN(s) and date and place of birth of each Reportable Person;
- b) the account number (or functional equivalent in the absence of an account number);
- c) the name and identifying number (if any) of the Reporting Financial Institution;
- d) the account balance or value (including, in the case of a Cash Value Insurance Contract or Annuity Contract, the Cash Value or surrender value) as of the end of the relevant calendar year or other appropriate reporting period or, if the account was closed during such year or period, the closure of the account;

- e) in the case of any Custodial Account:
- (1) the total gross amount of interest, the total gross amount of dividends, and the total gross amount of other income generated with respect to the assets held in the account, in each case paid or credited to the account (or with respect to the account) during the calendar year or other appropriate reporting period; and
 - (2) the total gross proceeds from the sale or redemption of Financial Assets paid or credited to the account during the calendar year or other appropriate reporting period with respect to which the Reporting Financial Institution acted as a custodian, broker, nominee, or otherwise as an agent for the Account Holder;
- f) in the case of any Depository Account, the total gross amount of interest paid or credited to the account during the calendar year or other appropriate reporting period; and
- g) in the case of any account not described in subparagraph 2(e) or (f), the total gross amount paid or credited to the Account Holder with respect to the account during the calendar year or other appropriate reporting period with respect to which the Reporting Financial Institution is the obligor or debtor, including the aggregate amount of any redemption payments made to the Account Holder during the calendar year or other appropriate reporting period.

SECTION 3

Time and Manner of Exchange of Information

1. For the purposes of the exchange of information in Section 2, the amount and characterisation of payments made with respect to a Reportable Account may be determined in accordance with the principles of the tax laws of the jurisdiction exchanging the information.
2. For the purposes of the exchange of information in Section 2, the information exchanged will identify the currency in which each relevant amount is denominated.
3. With respect to paragraph 2 of Section 2, information is to be exchanged with respect to [xxxx] and all subsequent years and will be exchanged within nine months after the end of the calendar year to which the information relates. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence information is only required to be exchanged with respect to a calendar year if both Jurisdictions have in effect legislation that requires reporting with respect to such calendar year that is consistent with the scope of exchange provided for

in Section 2 and the reporting and due diligence procedures contained in the Common Reporting Standard.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, the information to be exchanged with respect to [xxxx] is the information described in paragraph 2 of Section 2, except for gross proceeds described in subparagraph 2(e)(2) of Section 2.
5. The Competent Authorities will automatically exchange the information described in Section 2 in a common reporting standard schema in Extensible Markup Language.
6. The Competent Authorities will agree on one or more methods for data transmission including encryption standards.

SECTION 4

Collaboration on Compliance and Enforcement

A Competent Authority will notify the other Competent Authority when the first-mentioned Competent Authority has reason to believe that an error may have led to incorrect or incomplete information reporting or there is non-compliance by a Reporting Financial Institution with the applicable reporting requirements and due diligence procedures consistent with the Common Reporting Standard. The notified Competent Authority will take all appropriate measures available under its domestic law to address the errors or non-compliance described in the notice.

SECTION 5

Confidentiality and Data Safeguards

1. All information exchanged is subject to the confidentiality rules and other safeguards provided for in the Convention, including the provisions limiting the use of the information exchanged and, to the extent needed to ensure the necessary level of protection of personal data, in accordance with the safeguards which may be specified by the supplying Competent Authority as required under its domestic law.
2. A Competent Authority will notify the CB Secretariat immediately regarding any breach of confidentiality or failure of safeguards and any sanctions and remedial actions consequently imposed.

SECTION 6

Consultations and Amendments

1. If any difficulties in the implementation or interpretation of this Agreement arise, a Competent Authority may request consultations with one or more of the Competent Authorities to develop appropriate measures to ensure that this Agreement is fulfilled. The Competent Authority that requested the consultations shall ensure that the CB Secretariat is notified of any appropriate measures that were developed and the CB Secretariat will notify all Competent Authorities, even those that did not participate in the consultations, of any measures that were developed.
2. This Agreement may be amended by consensus by written agreement of all of the Competent Authorities. Unless otherwise agreed upon, such an amendment is effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of one month after the date of the last signature of such written agreement.

SECTION 7

Term of Agreement

1. This Agreement will come into effect on the date two or more Competent Authorities have provided notice to, and it has been received by, the CB Secretariat that its Jurisdiction has the necessary laws in place to implement the Agreement. After the effective date a Competent Authority may make a request to sign the Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, a Competent Authority that wants to sign the Agreement before it has come into effect, but after it has been signed by a group of Competent Authorities that are the first signatories to the Agreement, the first-mentioned Competent Authority must make a request to sign the Agreement.
2. The decision to invite a Competent Authority, and whether the Competent Authority will be listed in Annex A, will be taken by consensus of the Competent Authorities that have signed the Agreement. Following signature the Competent Authority must notify the CB Secretariat that its Jurisdiction has the necessary laws in place to implement the Agreement. The Agreement will become effective with respect to the notifying Competent Authority on the date its notification is received by the CB Secretariat.
3. A Competent Authority may suspend the exchange of information under this Agreement by giving notice in writing to another Competent Authority that it has determined that there is or has been significant non-compliance by the second-mentioned Competent Authority with this

Agreement. Such suspension will have immediate effect. For the purposes of this paragraph, significant non-compliance includes, but is not limited to, non-compliance with the confidentiality and data safeguard provisions of this Agreement and the Convention, a failure by the Competent Authority to provide timely or adequate information as required under this Agreement or defining the status of Entities or accounts as Non-Reporting Financial Institutions and Excluded Accounts in a manner that frustrates the purposes of the Common Reporting Standard.

4. A Competent Authority may terminate its participation in this Agreement by giving notice of termination in writing to the CB Secretariat. Such termination will become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 12 months after the date of the notice of termination. In the event of termination, all information previously received under this Agreement will remain confidential and subject to the terms of the Convention.

SECTION 8

Notices Received by the CB Secretariat

Unless otherwise provided for in the Agreement, the CB Secretariat will notify all Competent Authorities of any notice that it has received under this Agreement.

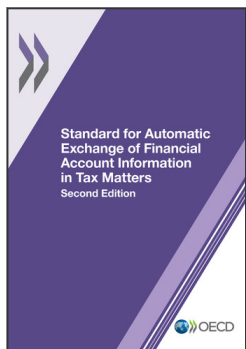
Signed in [...] on [...].
Competent Authority for
[Jurisdiction]:

Signed in [...] on [...].
Competent Authority for
[Jurisdiction]:

ANNEX A: LIST OF JURISDICTIONS

[Jurisdiction]

[Jurisdiction]



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