



## INCOME TAX ACT 2003

### INCOME TAX (CHINA) ORDER 2010

*Approved by Tynwald*  
*Coming into operation*

*18 January 2011*  
*21 January 2011*

The Council of Ministers makes this Order under section 19 of the Income Tax Act 2003<sup>1</sup>.

**1 Title**

The title of this Order is the Income Tax (China) Order 2010.

**2 Commencement**

If approved by Tynwald<sup>2</sup>, this Order comes into operation on 21 January 2011.

**3 Interpretation**

In this Order “applicable arrangements” means the arrangements for the exchange of information relating to taxes contained in an agreement between the Government of the Isle of Man and the Government of the People’s Republic of China signed in Douglas on 26 October 2010 and set out in Schedule 1.

**4 Information exchange arrangements**

The applicable arrangements have been made with the Government of the People’s Republic of China with a view to the exchange of information necessary or foreseeably relevant for carrying out —

- (a) the domestic laws of the Island concerning taxes on income or profit and VAT; and

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<sup>1</sup> 2003 c.11

<sup>2</sup> As required by section 19(3) Income Tax Act 2003

Price £3.90

- (b) the laws of the People's Republic of China concerning any taxes to which the arrangements relate,

and it is expedient that those arrangements have effect under section 19 of the Income Tax Act 2003.

## 5 **Modification of the effect of certain provisions of the Income Tax Act 1970**

- (1) The effect of the Income Tax Act 1970<sup>3</sup> is modified for the purpose of implementing or otherwise giving effect to the applicable arrangements as follows.
- (2) In section 105C(5) after "pending appeal" insert "either in the Island or the People's Republic of China".
- (3) In section 105D —
  - (a) in subsection (1) for the words after "the Assessor" substitute "believes it to be necessary for the purpose of responding to a request made by the Government of the People's Republic of China in accordance with the applicable arrangements"; and
  - (b) in subsection (6)(a) after "such form" insert "and authenticated in such manner".
- (4) In section 105E —
  - (a) after subsection (2) insert —

“(2A) In determining a reference under subsection (2), the Commissioners shall take account of the requirements of the applicable arrangements.”; and
  - (b) in subsection (6)(a) for "General Revenue" substitute "the Revenue of the Island or the People's Republic of China".
- (5) In section 105F(5)(a) after "such form" insert "and authenticated in such manner".
- (6) In section 105O insert the following definitions in the appropriate place in the alphabetical list —

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<sup>3</sup> XXI p.260

“‘applicable arrangements’ means the arrangements for the exchange of information relating to taxes contained in an agreement between the Government of the Isle of Man and the Government of the People’s Republic of China signed in Douglas on 26 October 2010;

‘income tax’ includes any tax of the People’s Republic of China to which the applicable arrangements relate, and ‘tax’, ‘liability to income tax’ and ‘liability’ shall be construed accordingly;

‘income tax Acts’ includes the laws of the People’s Republic of China that relate to any tax to which the applicable arrangements relate, and ‘this Act’ shall be construed accordingly;

‘taxpayer’ includes a person who is or may be liable to any tax to which the applicable arrangements relate;

‘the People’s Republic of China’ shall be construed in accordance with the applicable arrangements.”.

- (7) Schedule 2 contains the text of sections 105C to 105O of the Income Tax Act 1970, including any modifications made by this article.

MADE 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010

  
Chief Secretary

**AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLE OF MAN  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
FOR  
THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO TAXES**

The Government of the Isle of Man and the Government of the People's Republic of China ("the Contracting Parties");

Acknowledging that the Contracting Parties are competent to negotiate and conclude a tax information exchange agreement;

Desiring to provide a framework for cooperation and exchange of information in tax matters;

Agree to conclude the following Agreement which contains obligations on the Contracting Parties only:

**ARTICLE 1**  
**SCOPE OF AGREEMENT**

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall provide assistance through exchange of information that is foreseeably relevant to the administration and enforcement of the domestic laws of the Contracting Parties concerning taxes covered by this Agreement. Such information shall include information that is foreseeably relevant to the determination, assessment, or collection of such taxes, the recovery and enforcement of tax claims, and the investigation or prosecution of tax matters.

2. Information shall be exchanged in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and shall be treated as confidential in the manner provided in Article 8.

**ARTICLE 2**  
**JURISDICTION**

The Requested Party is not obligated to provide information which is neither held by its authorities nor in the possession or control of persons who are within its jurisdiction.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **TAXES COVERED**

1. The taxes covered by this Agreement are:
  - (a) In the case of the People's Republic of China,
    - (i) Enterprise Income Tax;
    - (ii) Individual Income Tax;
    - (iii) Land Appreciation Tax;
    - (iv) Value Added Tax;
    - (v) Excise Tax; and
    - (vi) Business Tax;
  - (b) in the case of the Isle of Man, taxes on income or profit and VAT.
  
2. This Agreement shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes imposed by either Contracting Party after the date of signature of this Agreement in addition to, or in place of, any of the taxes listed in paragraph 1.
  
3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other of any relevant changes to the taxation and related information gathering measures covered by this Agreement.

4. The taxes covered by this Agreement may be expanded or modified by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties in the form agreed upon by both Contracting Parties.



## **ARTICLE 4**

### **DEFINITIONS**

1. In this Agreement:
  - (a) "the People's Republic of China", when used in a geographical sense, means all the territory of the People's Republic of China, including its territorial sea, in which the Chinese laws relating to taxation apply, and any area beyond its territorial sea, within which the People's Republic of China has sovereign rights of exploration for and exploitation of resources of the seabed and its sub-soil and superjacent water resources in accordance with international law and its domestic law;
  - (b) "Isle of Man" means the Island of the Isle of Man, including its territorial sea, in accordance with international law;
  - (c) "collective investment fund or scheme" means any pooled investment vehicle irrespective of legal form;
  - (d) "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
  - (e) "competent authority" means,
    - (i) In the case of the People's Republic of China, the State Administration of Taxation or its authorised representative; and
    - (ii) in the case of Isle of Man, the Assessor of Income Tax or his or her delegate;

- (f) "information" means any fact, statement, document or record in whatever form;
- (g) "information gathering measures" means laws and administrative or judicial procedures that enable a Contracting Party to obtain and provide the requested information;
- (h) "national" means,
  - (i) in relation to the Isle of Man, any individual who is an ordinary resident of the Isle of Man;
  - (ii) in relation to the People's Republic of China, any individual possessing the nationality of the People's Republic of China;
  - (iii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting Party;
- (i) "person" includes an individual, a company or any other body or group of persons;
- (j) "public collective investment fund or scheme" means any collective investment fund or scheme, in which the purchase, sale or redemption of units, shares or other interests is not implicitly or explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors;
- (k) "publicly traded company" means any company whose principal class of shares is listed on a recognised stock exchange provided its listed shares can be readily purchased or sold by the public. Shares can be purchased or sold "by the public" if the purchase or sale of shares is not implicitly or

explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors; and for this purpose, the term "principal class of shares" means the class or classes of shares representing a majority of the voting power and value of the company. The term "recognised stock exchange" means any stock exchange agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties;

- (l) "requested party" means the party to this Agreement which is requested to provide or has provided information in response to a request;
- (m) "requesting party" means the party to this Agreement submitting a request for or having received information from the requested party;
- (n) "tax" means any tax covered by this Agreement.

2. As regards the application of this Agreement at any time by a Contracting Party, 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 Contracting Party, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that Contracting Party prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that Contracting Party.

**ARTICLE 5**  
**EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION UPON REQUEST**

1. The competent authority of a requested party shall provide upon request information for the purposes referred to in Article 1. Such information shall be exchanged without regard to whether the requested party needs such information for its own purposes or the conduct being investigated would constitute a tax offence under the laws of the requested party if it occurred in the jurisdiction of the requested party.

2. If the information in the possession of the competent authority of the requested party is not sufficient to enable it to comply with the request for the information, the requested party shall use all relevant information gathering measures necessary to provide the requesting party with the information requested, notwithstanding that the requested party may not need such information for its own tax purposes.

3. If specifically requested by the competent authority of the requesting party, the competent authority of the requested party shall provide information under this Article, to the extent allowable under its domestic laws, in the form of depositions of witnesses and authenticated copies of original records.

4. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that its competent authorities, for the purposes specified in Article 1 of the Agreement, have the authority to obtain and provide upon request:

- (a) information held by banks, other financial institutions, and any person, including nominees and trustees, acting in an agency or fiduciary capacity;
- (b) (i) information regarding the legal and beneficial ownership of companies, partnerships, foundations, "Anstalten" and other persons, and within the constraints of Article 2 any other persons in an ownership chain, including in the case of collective investment schemes, information on shares, units and other interests;
- (ii) in the case of trusts, information on settlors, trustees, protectors and beneficiaries; and
- (iii) in the case of foundations, information on founders, members of the foundation council and beneficiaries.

5. This Agreement does not create an obligation for a Party to obtain or provide ownership information with respect to publicly traded companies or public collective investment funds or schemes, unless such information can be obtained without giving rise to disproportionate difficulties.

6. The competent authority of the requesting party shall provide the following information to the competent authority of the requested party when making a request for information under this Agreement in order to demonstrate the foreseeable relevance of the information to the request:

- (a) the identity of the person under examination or investigation;
- (b) the period for which the information is requested;
- (c) a statement of the information sought including its nature and the form in which the requesting party would prefer to receive the information;
- (d) the tax purpose for which the information is sought;
- (e) grounds for believing that the information requested is held in the territory of the requested party or is in the possession or control of a person subject to the jurisdiction of the requested party;
- (f) to the extent known, the name and address of any person believed to be in possession or control of the information requested;
- (g) a statement that the request is in conformity with this Agreement and the laws and administrative practices of the requesting party, and that if the requested information were within the jurisdiction of the requesting party then the competent authority of the requesting party would be able to obtain the information under the laws of the requesting party or in the normal course of administrative practice;

- (h) a statement that the requesting party has pursued all means available in its own territory to obtain the information, except those that would give rise to disproportionate difficulties.

7. The competent authority of the requested party shall forward the requested information as promptly as possible to the competent authority of the requesting party. To ensure a prompt response, the competent authority of the requested party shall:

- (a) confirm the receipt of a request in writing to the competent authority of the requesting party and shall notify the competent authority of the requesting party of any deficiencies in the request, if any, within 60 days of receipt of the request; and
- (b) if the competent authority of the requested party has been unable to obtain and provide the information requested within 90 days of receipt of the request, including if obstacles are encountered in furnishing the information, or if the competent authority of the requested party refuses to provide the information, it shall immediately inform the competent authority of the requesting party to explain the reasons for its inability or the obstacles or its refusal.

**ARTICLE 6**  
**TAX EXAMINATIONS ABROAD**

1. The requested party may, in accordance with its domestic laws, following receipt of notice of at least 14 working days from the requesting party, allow representatives of the competent authority of the requesting party to enter the territory of the requested party in connection with a request to interview persons and examine records with the prior written consent of the persons concerned. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree on the time and place of the intended meeting with the persons concerned.

2. At the request of the competent authority of the requesting party, and in accordance with its domestic laws, the competent authority of the requested party may permit representatives of the competent authority of the requesting party to be present at the tax examination in the territory of the requested party.

3. If the request referred to in paragraph 2 is granted, the competent authority of the requested party conducting the examination shall, as soon as possible, notify the competent authority of the requesting party of the time and place of the examination, the authority or person authorised to carry out the examination and the procedures and conditions required by the requested party for the conduct of the examination. All decisions regarding the conduct of the examination shall be made by the requested party conducting the examination in accordance with its domestic laws.



**ARTICLE 7**  
**POSSIBILITY OF DECLINING A REQUEST**

1. The competent authority of the requested party may decline to assist:
  - (a) where the request is not made in conformity with this Agreement;
  - (b) where the requesting party has not pursued all means available in its own territory to obtain the information, except where recourse to such means would give rise to disproportionate difficulty; or
  - (c) where the disclosure of the information requested would be contrary to the public policy (ordre public) of the requested party.
  
2. This Agreement shall not impose upon a Contracting Party any obligation to provide information subject to legal privilege as provided for under the domestic law of that Party or information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process. Information described in paragraph 4 of Article 5 shall not by reason of that fact alone constitute such a secret or process.
  
3. A request for information shall not be refused on the ground that the tax claim giving rise to the request is disputed.
  
4. The requested party shall not be required to obtain and provide information which, if the requested information was within the jurisdiction of the requesting party,

the competent authority of the requesting party would not be able to obtain under its laws or in the normal course of administrative practice.

5. The requested party may decline a request for information if the information is requested by the requesting party to administer or enforce a provision of the tax law of the requesting party, or any requirement connected therewith, which discriminates against a national of the requested party as compared with a national of the requesting party in the same circumstances.

**ARTICLE 8**  
**CONFIDENTIALITY**

1. All information provided and received by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall be kept confidential and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the purposes specified in Article 1 and used by such persons or authorities only for such purposes, including the determination of any appeal. For these purposes, Information may be disclosed in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

2. The information may not be used for any purpose other than for the purposes stated in Article 1 and may not be disclosed to any other person or entity or authority without the express written consent of the competent authority of the requested party.

3. Information provided to a requesting party shall not be disclosed to any other jurisdiction.

**ARTICLE 9**  
**SAFEGUARDS**

The rights and safeguards secured to persons by the laws or administrative practice of the Requested Party remain applicable to the extent that they do not unduly prevent or delay effective exchange of information.

**ARTICLE 10**  
**IMPLEMENTATION LEGISLATION**

The Contracting Parties shall enact any legislation necessary to comply with, and give effect to, the terms of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **COSTS**

1. Costs that would be incurred in the ordinary course of administering the domestic tax laws of the requested party will be borne by the requested party when such costs are incurred for the purpose of responding to a request for information. Such ordinary costs would normally cover internal administration costs and any minor external costs.

2. All other costs that are not ordinary costs are considered extraordinary costs and will be borne by the requesting party. Examples of extraordinary costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) reasonable fees charged by third parties for carrying out research;
- (b) reasonable fees charged by third parties for copying and transporting documents;
- (c) reasonable costs of engaging experts, interpreters, or translators;
- (d) reasonable litigation costs of the requested party in relation to a specific request for information; and
- (e) reasonable costs for obtaining depositions or testimony.

3. The Contracting Parties will consult each other in any particular case where extraordinary costs are likely to exceed \$US1000 to determine whether the requesting party will continue to pursue the request and bear the cost.

**ARTICLE 12**  
**LANGUAGE**

Requests for assistance and responses thereto shall be in English.

**ARTICLE 13**  
**MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE**

1. Where difficulties or doubts arise between the Contracting Parties regarding the implementation or interpretation of this Agreement, the competent authorities shall use their best efforts to resolve the matter by mutual agreement.
  
2. In addition to the agreements referred to in paragraph 1, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may mutually agree on the procedures to be used under Articles 5, 6 and 11.
  
3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may communicate with each other directly for the purposes of this Article.
  
4. The Contracting Parties may also agree on other forms of dispute resolution.



**ARTICLE 14**  
**ENTRY INTO FORCE**

The Contracting Parties shall notify each other in writing that they have completed the internal legal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the receipt of the latter notification. This Agreement shall have effect in respect of taxable periods beginning on or after the date of entry into force or, where there is no taxable period, all charges to tax arising on or after the date of signature.

**ARTICLE 15**  
**TERMINATION**

1. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by either Contracting Party.
  
2. Either Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement by giving notice of termination in writing. Such termination shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of notice of termination by the other Contracting Party.
  
3. If the Agreement is terminated, the Contracting Parties shall remain bound by the provisions of Article 8 with respect to any information obtained under this Agreement. All requests received up to the effective date of termination shall be dealt with in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

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

**DONE** at *Douglas* in duplicate this *26<sup>th</sup>* day of *October* 2010, in two originals in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**For the Government of the  
Isle of Man**

*Jane Craine*

**For the Government of the  
People's Republic of China**

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## SECTIONS 105C TO 105O OF THE INCOME TAX ACT 1970 AS MODIFIED

(Modifications are shown in bold italic text)

**105C Power to call for documents, etc. of taxpayer**

- (1) Subject to this section, the Assessor may by notice in writing require a person-
  - (a) to deliver to him such documents as are in the person's possession or power and as (in the Assessor's reasonable opinion) contain, or may contain, information relevant to-
    - (i) any liability to income tax to which the person is or may be subject, or
    - (ii) the amount of any such liability;
  - (b) to furnish to him such particulars as the Assessor may reasonably require as being relevant to, or to the amount of, any such liability; or
  - (c) to furnish to him such evidence as the Assessor may reasonably require as being relevant to the person's residence status for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) Before a notice is given to a person by the Assessor under this section, the person must have been given a reasonable opportunity to deliver the documents in question, or to furnish the particulars in question.
- (3) When the Assessor gives a notice under subsection (1), he shall also give to the person to whom the notice applies a written summary of his reasons for the giving of the notice.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not require the disclosure of any information which would, or might, identify any person who has provided the Assessor with any information which he took into account in deciding whether to give the notice.
- (5) A notice under subsection (1) does not oblige a person to deliver documents or furnish particulars relating to the conduct of any pending appeal *either in the Island or the People's Republic of China* by him in respect of tax.
- (6) To comply with a notice under subsection (1), copies of documents may be delivered instead of the originals; but-
  - (a) the copies must be in such form as the Assessor may reasonably require; and
  - (b) if so required by the Assessor in the case of any documents specified in the requirement, the originals must be made available for inspection by the Assessor in accordance with the requirement,and failure to comply with a requirement under this subsection counts as failure to comply with the notice.

**105D Power to call for documents relating to taxpayer**

- (1) The powers conferred by this section may be used for the purpose of enquiring into the liability to income tax of any person ('the taxpayer') in any case in which the Assessor *believes it to be necessary for the purpose of responding to a request made by the Government of the People's Republic of China in accordance with the applicable arrangements*.
- (2) Subject to this section and section 105E, the Assessor may by notice in writing require any person other than the taxpayer to deliver to the Assessor or, if so required by the Assessor, to make available for inspection by the Assessor, such documents as are in his possession or power and as (in the Assessor's reasonable opinion) contain, or may contain, information relevant to-
  - (a) any liability to income tax to which the taxpayer is or may be subject;
  - (b) the amount of any such liability;
  - (c) the taxpayer's residence status for the purposes of this Act.
- (3) Before a notice is given to a person by the Assessor under this section, that person must have been given a reasonable opportunity to deliver or make available the documents in question.
- (4) Subject to section 105E(8) when the Assessor gives a notice under subsection (2), he shall also give to the taxpayer concerned-

- (a) a copy of the notice; and
- (b) a written summary of his reasons for the giving of the notice.

(5) Subsection (4) does not require the disclosure of any information which would, or might, identify any person who has provided the Assessor with any information which he took into account in deciding whether to give the notice.

(6) As an alternative to delivering documents to comply with a notice under subsection (2), copies of documents may be delivered instead of the originals; but-

- (a) the copies must be in such form *and authenticated in such manner* as the Assessor may reasonably require; and
- (b) if so required by the Assessor in the case of any documents specified in the requirement, the originals must be made available for inspection by the Assessor in accordance with the requirement,

and failure to comply with a requirement under this subsection counts as failure to comply with the notice.

#### **105E Notices under s 105D: further provisions**

(1) A notice under section 105D(2) shall name the taxpayer with whose liability the Assessor is concerned unless the Assessor is satisfied-

- (a) that the notice relates to a taxpayer whose identity is not known to the Assessor or to a class of taxpayers whose individual identities are not so known;
- (b) that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the taxpayer or any of the class of taxpayers to whom the notice relates may have failed or may fail to comply with any provision of the Income Tax Acts;
- (c) that any such failure is likely to have led or to lead to serious prejudice to the proper assessment or collection of tax; and
- (d) that the information which is likely to be contained in the documents to which the notice relates is not readily available from another source.

(2) A person to whom a notice under section 105D(2) is given may, if, in accordance with subsection (1), the notice does not name the taxpayer concerned, by notice in writing given to the Assessor within 30 days after the date of the notice under that section, object to that notice on the ground that it would be onerous for him to comply with it, and if the matter is not resolved by agreement, it shall be referred to the Commissioners, who may confirm, vary or cancel that notice.

*(2A) In determining a reference under subsection (2), the Commissioners shall take account of the requirements of the applicable arrangements.*

(3) The Treasury may by order declare that information of a particular description is not to be subject to the obligation imposed by section 105C(3) or 105D(4) if it is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting the taxpayer of fraud or disclosure of information of that description would prejudice the assessment or collection of tax.

(4) An order under subsection (3) shall not come into operation unless it is approved by Tynwald.

(5) A notice under section 105D(2), does not oblige a person to deliver or make available any document the whole of which originates more than 6 years before the date of the notice.

(6) Subsection (5) does not apply where-

- (a) the Assessor is satisfied that there is reasonable ground for believing that tax has, or may have been, lost to *the Revenue of the Island or the People's Republic of China* owing to the fraud of the taxpayer; and
- (b) the notice is so expressed as to exclude the restrictions of that subsection.

(7) A notice under section 105D(2) in relation to a taxpayer who has died cannot be given if more than 6 years have elapsed since the death.

(8) Subject to subsection (9), if, on the application of the Assessor, 2 members of the Income Tax Commissioners panel give their written consent, the copy and summary under section 105D(4) need not be given to the taxpayer to whom they relate.

(9) Consent shall not be given under subsection (8) unless both Commissioners are satisfied that the Assessor has reasonable grounds for suspecting the taxpayer of fraud.

(10) A Commissioner who gives a consent under subsection (8) shall not be liable in damages for, or in respect of, the consent nor any act or matter done or omitted to be done in relation to the consent unless the act or matter done or omitted to be done is shown to have been in bad faith.

(11) Subsection (10) does not apply so as to prevent the award of damages made in respect of an act or omission on the ground that the act or omission was unlawful as a result of section 6(1) of the Human Rights Act 2001 .

(12) Where a consent has been given by the Commissioners under subsection (8), the person to whom the notice is given under section 105D(2) shall not—

- (a) inform the taxpayer, or cause or permit the taxpayer to be informed, that the notice has been given, or
- (b) disclose to any person, or cause or permit to be disclosed to any person (including the taxpayer), any information or matter which is likely to prejudice the inquiry to which the notice relates or the performance of the Assessor's functions.

(13) Subject to the defences in subsection (16), a person who fails to comply with subsection (12) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to fine not exceeding £5,000 or to custody for a term of 6 months, or to both.

(14) If an offence under subsection (13) is committed by a body corporate and is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to neglect on the part of, a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate or a person who was purporting to act in such a capacity, that person, as well as the body corporate, is guilty of the same offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(15) Where the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members or by agents, subsection (14) applies in relation to the acts and defaults of a member or an agent in connection with the functions of management as if that person were a director of the body corporate.

(16) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence under subsection (13) for the person concerned to satisfy the court —

- (a) that all reasonable precautions were taken and all due diligence was exercised to avoid the commission of the offence by the person concerned and by any person under his control, or
- (b) in the case of an offence in respect of an alleged contravention of subsection (12)(b), that the person concerned did not know or suspect that the disclosure was likely to be prejudicial to the inquiry or to the performance of the Assessor's functions.

#### **105F S 105D: auditors and tax advisers**

(1) Subject to subsection (3), a notice under section 105D(2)—

- (a) does not oblige a person who has been appointed as an auditor for the purposes of any enactment to deliver or make available documents which are his property and were created by him or on his behalf for or in connection with the performance of his functions under that enactment, and
- (b) does not oblige a tax adviser to deliver or make available documents which are his property and consist of relevant communications.

(2) In subsection (1)—

'relevant communications' means communications between the tax adviser and—

- (a) a person in relation to whose tax affairs he has been appointed, or
- (b) any other tax adviser of such a person,

the purpose of which is the giving or obtaining of advice about any of those tax affairs.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), if, in accordance with section 105E(1), a notice does not name the taxpayer concerned, subsection (1) shall not have effect in relation to any document which contains information giving

the identity or address of any taxpayer to whom the notice relates or of any person who has acted on behalf of any such person.

- (4) Subsection (1) is not disapplied by subsection (3) in the case of any document if
  - (a) the information within subsection (3) is contained in some other document, and
  - (b) either-
    - (i) that other document, or a copy of it, has been delivered to the Assessor, or
    - (ii) that other document has been inspected by the Assessor.

(5) Where subsection (1) is disapplied by subsection (3) in the case of a document, the person to whom the notice is given either shall deliver the document to the Assessor or make it available for inspection by the Assessor or shall-

- (a) deliver to the Assessor a copy (in such form *and authenticated in such manner* as the Assessor may reasonably require) of any parts of the document which contain the information within subsection (3), and
- (b) if so required by the Assessor, make available such parts of the document as contain that information for inspection by the Assessor in accordance with the requirement;

and failure to comply with any requirement under paragraph (b) above shall constitute a failure to comply with the notice.

#### **105G Ss 105C - 105F : supplementary**

(1) The persons who may be treated as 'the taxpayer' for the purposes of sections 105C to 105E include a company which has ceased to exist and an individual who has died.

- (2) In sections 105C to 105E references to documents do not include-
  - (a) personal records, or
  - (b) journalistic material, or
  - (c) items subject to legal privilege,

and references to particulars do not include particulars contained in such personal records, journalistic material or items.

(3) Subject to subsection (2), references in sections 105C to 105F to documents and particulars are to those specified or described in the notice in question; and-

- (a) the notice shall require documents to be delivered (or delivered or made available), or particulars to be furnished, within such time (which shall not be less than 30 days after the date of the notice) as may be specified in the notice; and
- (b) the person to whom they are delivered, made available or furnished may take copies of them or of extracts from them.

#### *Court orders to deliver documents, etc.*

#### **105H Orders for the delivery of taxpayer's documents**

(1) The High Court may make an order under this section if satisfied on information on oath given by the Assessor-

- (a) that a notice under section 105C(1) has not been complied with; or
- (b) that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that such a notice will not be complied with.

(2) An order under this section is an order requiring the person to whom the notice is given to-

- (a) deliver to the Assessor such documents as are in the person's possession or power and as (in the Court's opinion) contain, or may contain, information relevant to-
  - (i) any liability to income tax which the person is or may be subject, or
  - (ii) the amount of any such liability;

- (b) furnish to the Assessor such particulars as the Court may specify as being relevant to, or to the amount of, any such liability; or
- (c) furnish to the Assessor such evidence of residence as the Court may specify.

#### **105I Orders for the delivery of documents relating to taxpayer**

(1) The High Court may make an order under this section if satisfied on information on oath given by the Assessor-

- (a) that a notice under section 105D(2) has not been complied with; or
- (b) that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that such a notice will not be complied with; or
- (c) that the taxpayer concerned may have failed or may fail to comply with any provision of the Income Tax Acts, and that any such failure is likely to have led or to lead to serious prejudice to the proper assessment or collection of tax.

(2) An order under this section is an order requiring the person who appears to the Court to have in his possession or power the documents specified or described in the order to deliver them to the Assessor.

#### **105J Ss 105H and 105I : supplementary**

(1) An order under section 105H or 105I shall require compliance within-

- (a) 7 days after the day on which notice of the order is served on him, or
- (b) such shorter or longer period as may be specified in the order.

(2) If a person fails to comply with an order made under section 105H or 105I, he may be dealt with as if he had committed a contempt of the court.

(3) Where an order under section 105H or 105I applies to a document in electronic or magnetic form, the order shall be taken to require the person to deliver the information recorded in the document in a form in which it is visible and legible.

(4) Sections 105H or 105I do not apply to-

- (a) personal records, or
- (b) journalistic material, or
- (c) items subject to legal privilege.

#### **105K Ss 105H and 105I : notices and procedures**

(1) A person is entitled-

- (a) to at least 14 days notice of the intention to apply for an order against him under section 105H or 105I, and
- (b) to appear and be heard at the hearing of the application,

unless the High Court is satisfied that this would seriously prejudice the investigation of the offence.

(2) A person who has been given notice of intention to apply for an order under section 105H or 105I shall not-

- (a) conceal, destroy, alter or dispose of any document to which the application relates, or
- (b) disclose to any person (other than his professional legal adviser or tax adviser) information or any other matter likely to prejudice the investigation of the offence to which the application relates.

(3) Subsection (2)(a) does not prevent anything being done-

- (a) with the leave of the Court,
- (b) with the written permission of the Assessor authorised for the purpose,
- (c) after the application has been dismissed or abandoned, or
- (d) after any order made on the application has been complied with.

(4) Subsection (2)(b) does not prevent a professional legal adviser from disclosing any information or other matter-

- (a) to, or to a representative of, a client of his in connection with the giving by the adviser of legal advice to the client; or
- (b) to any person-
  - (i) in contemplation of, or in connection with, legal proceedings; and
  - (ii) for the purpose of those proceedings.

(5) Subsection (2)(b) does not prevent a tax adviser from disclosing any information or other matter to, or to a representative of, a client of his in connection with the giving by the adviser of tax advice to the client

(6) Subsections (4) and (5) do not apply in relation to any information or other matter which is disclosed with a view to furthering a criminal purpose.

(7) A person who fails to comply with the obligation in subsection (2)(a) or (b) may be dealt with as if he had failed to comply with an order under section 105H or 105I as the case requires.

#### **105L Falsification etc. of documents**

(1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), a person is guilty of an offence if he intentionally falsifies, conceals, destroys or otherwise disposes of, or causes or permits the falsification, concealment, destruction or disposal of, a document which-

- (a) he has been required by a notice under section 105C or 105D or an order under section 105H or 105I, or
- (b) he has been given an opportunity in accordance with section 105C(2) or 105D(3),

to deliver, or to deliver or make available for inspection.

(2) A person does not commit an offence under subsection (1) if he acts-

- (a) with the written permission of the Assessor authorised for the purpose; or
- (b) after the document has been delivered or, in a case within section 105C, inspected, or
- (c) after a copy has been delivered in accordance with section 105C(1) or 105D(2) and the original has been inspected.

(3) A person does not commit an offence under subsection (1)(a) if he acts after the end of the period of 2 years beginning with the date on which the notice is given or the order is made, unless before the end of that period the Assessor has notified the person in writing that the notice or order has not been complied with to his satisfaction.

(4) A person does not commit an offence under subsection (1)(b) if he acts after an application for consent to a notice being given in relation to the document has been refused.

(5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) shall be liable-

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £5,000;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to custody for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine or to both.

#### **105M Entry with warrant to obtain material**

(1) If a Deemster is satisfied on information on oath given by the Assessor that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that-

- (a) an offence involving fraud in connection with, or in relation to, income tax is being, has been or is about to be committed; and
- (b) that evidence of it is to be found on premises specified in the information,

the Deemster may issue a warrant in writing authorising the Assessor to enter the premises, if necessary by force, at any time within 14 days from the time of issue of the warrant, and search them.

(2) An application for a warrant under this section shall not be approved under subsection (1)(b) unless there are reasonable grounds for believing that use of the procedure under section 105H or 105I (order for production of documents) might seriously prejudice the investigation.

(3) The powers conferred by a warrant under this section shall not be exercisable-

- (a) outside such times of day as may be so specified;



- (b) if the warrant so provides, otherwise than in the presence of a constable in uniform.
- (4) When entering the premises under the authority of a warrant under this section the Assessor may-
  - (a) take with him such other persons as appear to him to be necessary;
  - (b) seize and remove any thing whatsoever found there which he has reasonable cause to believe may be required as evidence for the purposes of proceedings in respect of such an offence as is mentioned in subsection (1); and
  - (c) search or cause to be searched any person found on the premises whom he has reasonable cause to believe to be in possession of any such things;

but no person shall be searched except by a person of the same sex.

(5) In the case of any information contained in a computer stored in any electronic form which is information that-

- (a) the Assessor has reasonable cause to believe may be required as evidence for the purposes mentioned in subsection (4)(b); and
- (b) is accessible from the premises,

the power of seizure under that subsection includes a power to require the information to be produced in a form in which it can be taken away and in which it is visible and legible or from which it can readily be produced in a visible and legible form.

(6) Nothing in subsection (4) authorises the seizure and removal of items subject to legal privilege.

(7) Items held with the intention of furthering a criminal purpose are not subject to legal privilege.

(8) A person seeking to exercise the powers conferred by a warrant under this section or, if there is more than one person, that one of them who is in charge of the search-

- (a) if the occupier of the premises concerned is present at the time the search is to begin, shall supply a copy of the warrant endorsed with his name to the occupier;
- (b) if at that time the occupier is not present but a person who appears to the Assessor to be in charge of the premises is present, shall supply such a copy to that person; and
- (c) if neither paragraph (a) nor paragraph (b) applies, shall leave such a copy in a prominent place on the premises.

(9) Where entry to premises has been made with a warrant under this section, and the person making the entry has seized any things under the authority of the warrant, he shall endorse on or attach to the warrant a list of the things seized.

#### **105N Procedure where documents etc. are removed**

(1) A person who removes anything in the exercise of the power conferred by section 105M shall, if so requested by a person showing himself-

- (a) to be the occupier of premises from which it was removed, or
- (b) to have had custody or control of it immediately before the removal,

provide that person with a record of what has been removed.

(2) The record shall be provided within a reasonable time from the making of the request for it.

(3) Where anything that has been removed by the Assessor as mentioned in subsection (1) is of such a nature that a photograph or copy of it would be sufficient-

- (a) for use as evidence at a trial for an offence, or
- (b) for forensic examination or for investigation in connection with an offence,

it shall not be retained longer than is necessary to establish that fact and to obtain the photograph or copy.

(4) Subject to subsection (8), if a request for permission to be granted access to anything which-

- (a) has been removed, and
- (b) is retained for the purpose of investigating an offence,

is made to the Assessor by a person who had custody or control of the thing immediately before it was so removed, or by someone acting on behalf of any such person, the Assessor shall allow the person who made the request access to it under the supervision of the Assessor.

(5) Subject to subsection (8), if a request for a photograph or copy of any such thing is made to the Assessor by a person who had custody or control of the thing immediately before it was so removed, or by someone acting on behalf of any such person, the Assessor shall-

- (a) allow the person who made the request access to it under the supervision of the Assessor for the purpose of photographing it or copying it, or
- (b) photograph or copy it, or cause it to be photographed or copied.

(6) Where anything is photographed or copied under subsection (5)(b) the photograph or copy shall be supplied to the person who made the request.

(7) The photograph or copy shall be supplied within a reasonable time from the making of the request.

(8) There is no duty under this section to grant access to, or to supply a photograph or copy of, anything if the Assessor has reasonable grounds for believing that to do so would prejudice-

- (a) the investigation of an offence for the purposes of which the thing was removed;
- (b) the investigation of another offence; or
- (c) any criminal proceedings which may be brought as a result of any investigation mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b).

#### **105O Interpretation of ss 105C to 105N**

In sections 105C to 105N-

*'applicable arrangements' means the arrangements for the exchange of information relating to taxes contained in an agreement between the Government of the Isle of Man and the Government of the People's Republic of China signed in Douglas on 26 October 2010;*

*'document' means anything in which information of any description is recorded but without prejudice to the definition of that word in the Interpretation Act 1976;*

*'income tax' includes any tax of the People's Republic of China to which the applicable arrangements relate, and 'tax', 'liability to income tax' and 'liability' shall be construed accordingly;*

*'income tax Acts' includes the laws of the People's Republic of China that relate to any tax to which the applicable arrangements relate, and 'this Act' shall be construed accordingly;*

*'items subject to legal privilege' has the same meaning as in the Police Powers and Procedures Act 1998;*

*'journalistic material' has the same meaning as in the Police Powers and Procedures Act 1998;*

*'personal records' has the same meaning as in the Police Powers and Procedures Act 1998;*

*'tax adviser' means a person who-*

- (a) in the ordinary course of his business, gives, and holds himself out as giving, advice to others about their tax affairs; and
- (b) has been appointed to give such advice either by the person in relation to whose tax affairs he has been appointed or by another tax adviser of that person;

*'taxpayer' includes a person who is or may be liable to any tax to which the applicable arrangements relate;*

*'the People's Republic of China' shall be construed in accordance with the applicable arrangements.*

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**  
*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order is made under section 19 of the Income Tax Act 2003. It implements arrangements negotiated between the Government of the Isle of Man and the Government of the People's Republic of China for the exchange of information relating to tax matters.