

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE ISLE OF MAN AND
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION
RELATING TO TAX MATTERS

Whereas the Isle of Man and the Republic of Poland recognise that present legislation already provides for cooperation and the exchange of information in criminal tax matters;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have long been active in international efforts in the fight against financial and other crimes, including the targeting of terrorist financing;

Whereas it is acknowledged that the Isle of Man under the terms of its Entrustment from the United Kingdom has the right to negotiate, conclude, perform and, subject to the terms of this Agreement, terminate a tax information exchange agreement with the Republic of Poland;

Whereas the Isle of Man on the 13th December 2000 entered into a political commitment to the OECD's principles of effective exchange of information and actively

participated in the drafting of the OECD Model Agreement on Exchange of Information in Tax Matters;

Whereas the Contracting Parties wish to enhance and facilitate the terms and conditions governing the exchange of information with respect to taxes;

Now, therefore, the Contracting Parties have agreed to conclude the following Agreement, which contains obligations on the part of the Contracting Parties only:

ARTICLE 1
OBJECT AND SCOPE OF THIS AGREEMENT

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, including information that is foreseeably relevant to the determination, assessment and collection of tax with respect to persons subject to such taxes, the recovery and enforcement of tax claims, or the investigation of tax matters or prosecution of criminal tax matters in relation to such persons. 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. 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 2
JURISDICTION

A 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 which are the subject of this Agreement are:
 - (a) in the Isle of Man, taxes on income or profit; and
 - (b) in Poland:
 - (i) personal income tax;
 - (ii) corporate income tax.

- 2 This Agreement shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes imposed after the date of signature of this Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other of any substantial changes to the taxation and related information gathering measures covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

DEFINITIONS

- 1 For the purposes of this Agreement, unless otherwise defined:
 - (a) the term "Isle of Man" means the island of the Isle of Man, including its territorial sea, in accordance with international law;
 - (b) the term "Poland" means the Republic of Poland and, when used in a geographical sense, means the territory of the Republic of Poland, and any area adjacent to the territorial waters of the Republic of Poland within which, under the laws of Poland and in accordance with international law, the rights of Poland with respect to the exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of the seabed and its sub-soil may be exercised;
 - (c) the term "collective investment fund or scheme" means any pooled investment vehicle, irrespective of legal form. The term "public collective investment fund or scheme" means any collective investment fund or scheme provided the units, shares or other interests in the fund or scheme can be readily purchased, sold or redeemed by the public. Units, shares or other interests in the fund or scheme can be readily purchased, sold or redeemed "by the public" if the purchase, sale or redemption is not implicitly or explicitly restricted to a limited group of investors;
 - (d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

- (e) the term "competent authority" means in the case of the Isle of Man, the Assessor of Income Tax or his delegate and, in the case of Poland, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
- (f) the term "criminal laws" means all criminal laws designated as such under domestic law irrespective of whether contained in the tax laws, the criminal code or other statutes;
- (g) the term "criminal tax matters" means tax matters involving intentional conduct which is liable to prosecution under the criminal laws of the Requesting Party, and includes fraud and wilful default;
- (h) the term "information" means any fact, statement or record in any form whatever;
- (i) the term "information gathering measures" means laws and administrative or judicial procedures that enable a Contracting Party to obtain and provide the requested information;
- (j) the term "Contracting Party" means the Isle of Man or the Republic of Poland as the context requires;
- (k) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
- (l) 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;
- (m) the term "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;

- (n) the term "recognised stock exchange" means any stock exchange agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties;
- (o) the term "Requested Party" means the Contracting Party requested to provide information;
- (p) the term "Requesting Party" means the Contracting Party requesting information; and
- (q) the term "tax" means any tax to which this Agreement applies.

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 the 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 tax purposes or the conduct being investigated would constitute a crime under the laws of the Requested Party if such conduct occurred in the territory 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 information, that 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, 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) information regarding the composition of partnerships, the legal and beneficial ownership of companies, collective investment schemes, trusts, foundations and other persons, including information on all such persons in an ownership chain, in particular:
 - (i) in the case of collective investment schemes, information on shares, units and other interests;
 - (ii) in the case of foundations, information on founders, members of the foundation council and beneficiaries;
 - (iii) in the case of trusts, information on settlors, trustees, protectors and beneficiaries;
 - (iv) in the case of persons that are neither collective investment schemes, trusts or foundations, equivalent information to the information in subparagraphs (i) to (iii).

5 This Agreement does not create an obligation for a Contracting 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 Any request for information shall be formulated with the greatest possible detail and shall specify in writing:

- (a) the identity of the person under examination or investigation;

- (b) the period for which the information is requested;
- (c) the nature of the information requested;
- (d) the tax purpose for which the information is sought;
- (e) the 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 within the jurisdiction of the Requested Party;
- (f) to the extent known, the name and address of any person believed to be in possession of the requested information;
- (g) a statement that the request is in conformity with the law and administrative practices of the Requesting Party, that if the requested information was 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 and that it is in conformity with this Agreement;
- (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 soon as reasonably possible to the Requesting Party. To ensure a prompt response, the competent authority of the Requested Party shall:

- (a) confirm 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 deficiencies in the request, if any, within 60 days of the receipt of the request; and

- (b) if the competent authority of the Requested Party has been unable to obtain and provide the information within 90 days of receipt of the request, including if it encounters obstacles in furnishing the information or it refuses to furnish the information, it shall immediately inform the Requesting Party, explaining the reason for its inability, the nature of the obstacles or the reasons for its refusal.

ARTICLE 6

TAX EXAMINATIONS ABROAD

1 With reasonable notice, the Requesting Party may request that the Requested Party allow representatives of the competent authority of the Requesting Party to enter the territory of the Requested Party, to the extent permitted under its domestic laws, to interview individuals and examine records with the prior written consent of the individuals or other persons concerned. The competent authority of the Requesting Party shall notify the competent authority of the Requested Party of the time and place of the intended meeting with the individuals concerned.

2 At the request of the competent authority of the Requesting Party, the competent authority of the Requested Party may permit representatives of the competent authority of the Requesting Party to attend a 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.

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 public policy.

- 2 This Agreement shall not impose upon a Requested Party any obligation to provide items subject to any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, provided that information described in paragraph 4 of Article 5 shall not by reason of that fact alone be treated as such a secret or trade process.

- 3 The provisions of this Agreement shall not impose on a Contracting Party the obligation to obtain or provide information, which would reveal confidential communications between a client and an attorney, solicitor or other admitted legal representative where such communications are:
 - (a) produced for the purposes of seeking or providing legal advice; or
 - (b) produced for the purposes of use in existing or contemplated legal proceedings.

4 A request for information shall not be refused on the ground that the tax claim giving rise to the request is disputed.

5 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.

6 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.

2 Such information 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.

3 Such information may not be used for any purpose other than for the purposes stated in Article 1 without the express written consent of the competent authority of the Requested Party.

4 Information provided to a Requesting Party under this Agreement may not be disclosed to any other jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 9

COSTS

Unless the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties otherwise agree, ordinary costs incurred in providing assistance shall be borne by the Requested Party, and extraordinary costs incurred in providing assistance (including costs of engaging external advisers in connection with litigation or otherwise) shall be borne by the Requesting Party. The competent authorities shall consult from time to time with regard to this Article, and in particular the competent authority of the Requested Party shall consult with the competent authority of the Requesting Party in advance if the costs of providing information with respect to a specific request are expected to be extraordinary.

ARTICLE 10

LANGUAGE

Requests for assistance, the responses thereto and any other written communication between the competent authorities shall be drawn up in English. As regards other documents or files to be provided, the competent authorities shall consult whether and to what extent translation into the English language is indeed required.

ARTICLE 11

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 endeavour 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 9.

3 The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may communicate with each other directly for the purposes of reaching agreement under this Article.

ARTICLE 12
ENTRY INTO FORCE

1 This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the later of the dates on which each of the Parties has notified the other in writing that the procedures required by its law have been complied with.

2 Upon entry into force, the provisions of this Agreement shall have effect:

- (a) for criminal tax matters on that date; and
- (b) for all other matters covered in Article 1 on that date, but only in respect of taxable periods beginning on or after the date of signature of this Agreement or, where there is no taxable period, all charges to tax arising on or after the date of signature.

ARTICLE 13

TERMINATION

1 This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting Party. Either Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year beginning on or after the expiration of a period of two years from the date of its entry into force.

2 In such event, this Agreement shall cease to have effect the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given. All requests received up to the effective date of termination will be dealt with in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

3 Notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement the Contracting Parties shall remain bound by the provisions of Article 8 with respect to any information obtained under this Agreement.

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

DONE in duplicate at London, this 7th day of March, 2011, in two originals in the English and Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**FOR
THE ISLE OF MAN:**



**FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND:**



PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE ISLE OF MAN
AND
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO TAX
MATTERS

1 With respect to Article 9 of the Agreement the term "extraordinary costs" shall be interpreted as follows:

- (a) examples of extraordinary costs include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) reasonable costs of reproducing and transporting documents or records to the competent authority of the Requesting Party;
 - (ii) reasonable costs for stenographic reports and interviews, depositions or testimony;
 - (iii) reasonable fees and expenses, determined in accordance with amounts allowed under applicable law, of a person who voluntarily appears in the Isle of Man or the Republic of Poland for interview, deposition or testimony relating to a particular information request;

- (iv) reasonable fees for non-government counsel appointed or retained, with the approval of the competent authority of the Requesting Party, for litigation in the courts of the Requested Party related to a specific request for information;
- (b) extraordinary costs do not include ordinary administrative and overhead expenses incurred by the Requested Party in reviewing and responding to information requests submitted by the Requesting Party;
- (c) if the extraordinary costs pertaining to a particular request are expected to exceed 500 Euros or the sterling equivalent, the competent authority of the Requested Party shall contact the competent authority of the Requesting Party to determine whether the Requesting Party wants to pursue the request and bear the costs;
- (d) the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall consult not later than 12 months after the date that the Agreement enters into force, and upon the request of either competent authority thereafter, with respect to the costs incurred or potentially to be incurred under the Agreement and with a view to minimising such costs.

2 With respect to Article 12 of the Agreement, it is understood that the term "criminal tax matters" includes all cases where a person has been notified that administrative proceedings concerning fraud or wilful default have been initiated against that person.

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

DONE in duplicate at London, this 7th day of March, 2011, in two originals in the English and Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**FOR
THE ISLE OF MAN:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Corrie".

**FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anji Amisbe".