

**CONVENTION BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON
INCOME AND FOR THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION**

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Desiring to promote and strengthen the economic relations between the two countries to avoid double taxation with respect to taxes on income and prevent fiscal evasion,

Have agreed as follows:

Art. 1. Personal scope. - *This Convention shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.*

Art. 2. Taxes covered. - *1) This Convention shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of each Contracting State or of its political or administrative subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.*

2) There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, 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 the Convention shall apply are in particular:

a) in Italy:

(i) the individual income tax (imposta sul reddito delle persone fisiche); and

*(ii) the corporate income tax (imposta sul reddito delle giuridiche);
whether or not collected by withholding at source (hereinafter referred to as “Italian tax”); and*

b) in South Africa:

(i) the normal tax;

(ii) the non-resident shareholders' tax; and

*(iii) the secondary tax on companies;
whether or not collected by withholding at source (hereinafter referred to as “South African tax”).*

4) The Convention shall also apply to any other taxes of an identical or substantially similar character which are imposed after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes referred to in this Article.

5) The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

Art. 3. General definitions. - 1) In this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

a) the term "Italy" means the Italian Republic and includes any area beyond the territorial waters of Italy which, in accordance with the laws of Italy concerning the exploration and exploitation of natural resources, may be designated as an area within which the rights of Italy, with respect to the seabed and subsoil and natural resources, may be exercised;

b) the term "South Africa" means the Republic of South Africa and, when used in geographical sense, includes the territorial sea thereof as well as any area outside the territorial sea, including the continental shelf, which has been or may hereafter be designated, under the laws of South Africa, as an area within which South Africa may exercise sovereign rights;

c) the terms "Contracting State", "one of the Contracting States" and the "other Contracting State" mean Italy or South Africa, 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;

e) the term "competent authority" means:

(i) in Italy, the Ministry of Finance; and

(ii) in South Africa, the Commissioner for Inland Revenue or his authorised representative;

f) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of 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 ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise which 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 "nationals" means all individuals possessing the nationality of a Contracting State and all legal persons, partnerships, associations and other entities deriving their status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;

i) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons which is treated as an entity for tax purposes.

2) In the application of the provisions of this Convention by a Contracting State, any term not otherwise defined herein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning which it has under the laws of that Contracting State concerning the taxes which are the subject of this Convention.

Art. 4. Resident. - 1) For the purposes of this Convention the term "resident of a Contracting State" means:

a) In the case of Italy any person who, under the law of Italy, is liable to taxation therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature; but the term does not include any person who is liable to tax in Italy in respect only of income from sources in Italy; and

b) in the case of South Africa, any individual who is ordinarily resident in South Africa and any other person which has its place of effective management in South Africa:

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 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 does not have a permanent home available to him in either State he shall be deemed to be a resident 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 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 of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

Art. 5. Permanent establishment. - 1) For the purposes of this Convention, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business in which the business of the enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.

2) The term "permanent establishment" shall include especially:

a) a place of management;

b) a branch;

c) an office;

d) a factory;

e) a workshop;

f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources; and

g) a building site, or a construction, installation or assembly project and supervisory activities in connection therewith which exists for a period of more than twelve months.

3) The term “permanent establishment” shall be deemed not to include:

a) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;

b) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;

c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;

d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise, or for collecting information, the enterprise; and

e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character for the enterprise.

4) A person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State - other than an agent of independent status to whom paragraph 5 applies - shall be deemed to be a permanent establishment in the first-mentioned State if he has, and habitually exercises in that State, an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, unless his activities are limited to the purchase of good or merchandise for the enterprise.

5) 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 other State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided tha such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.

6) 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.

Art. 6. Income from immovable property. - 1) Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property, including income from agriculture or forestry, is taxable in the Contracting State in which such property is situated.

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 and 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 shall also be considered as immovable property. Ships, boats and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

3) The provisions of paragraph 1 shall 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.

Art. 7. Business profits. - 1) The profits of an enterprise 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 with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

3) In the determination of 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 State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4) Insofar 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.

Art. 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) 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.

3) The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

Art. 9. Associated enterprises. - Where

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.

Art. 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 recipient is the beneficial owner of the dividends 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 has owned at least 25 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends for a 12 month period ending on the date the dividend is declared;

b) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of these limitations.

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 participating in profits (not being debt-claims), as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the Contracting State of which the company making the distribution 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 dividends are taxable that other Contracting State according to its own law.

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 the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

11. 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 recipient is the beneficial owner of the interest, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.

3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in that State if:

a) the payer of the interest is the Government of that Contracting State or a political or administrative subdivision or a local authority thereof., or

b) the interest is paid to the Government of the other Contracting State or a political or administrative subdivision or a local authority thereof or any agency or instrumentality (including a financial institution) wholly owned by that other State or subdivision or authority; or

c) the interest is paid to any other agency or instrumentality (including a financial institution) in relation to loans made in application of an agreement concluded between the Governments of the Contracting States.

4) The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from Government securities, bonds or debentures, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in profits, and debt-claims of every kind as well as all other income assimilated to income from money lent by the taxation law of the State in which the income arises.

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 interest is taxable in that other Contracting State according to its own law.

6) Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political or administrative subdivision, a local authority or 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 such 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 special 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 case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

Art. 12. Royalties. - 1) Royalties 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 royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise, and according to the law of that State, but if the recipient is the beneficial owner of the royalties, the tax so charged shall not exceed 6 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this limitation.

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 television or radio broadcasting) any patent, trade mark, design or model, computer programme, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

4) The provisions of paragraph 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 a case, the royalties are taxable in that other Contracting State according to its own law.

5) Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is that State itself, a political or administrative subdivision, a local authority of 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 paid, 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 the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

Art. 13. 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 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 together 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 from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

5) The provision of paragraph 4 of this Article shall not affect the right of a Contracting State to levy according to its law a tax on gains from the alienation of any property derived by an individual who:

- is a resident of the other Contracting State; and
- has been a resident of the first-mentioned Contracting State at any time during the five years immediately preceding the alienation of the property; and
- such property was acquired while the individual was a resident of the first mentioned State; and
- is not subject to tax on those gains in the other Contracting State.

Art. 14. 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 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 and accountants.

Art. 15. Dependent personal services. - 1) Subject to the provisions of Articles 16, 18, 19, 20 and 21 salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other State.

2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable 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 not a resident of the other State, 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.

Art. 16. Directors' fees - Directors' fees and similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

Art. 17. Entertainers and sportsmen. - 1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7, 14 and 15, income derived by entertainers, such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or by sportsmen, from his personal activities as such, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which these activities are exercised.

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, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

Art. 18. Pensions. - Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19, pensions and similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.

Art. 19. Government service. - 1) a) Remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political or administrative subdivision or a local authority thereof to any individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.

b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph 1 a) of this Article, such remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that other State and the recipient is a resident of that other State, who:

(i) is a national of that other State not being a national of the first-mentioned State; or

(ii) not being a national of the first-mentioned State did not become a resident of that other State solely for the purpose of performing the services.

2) a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political or administrative subdivision or a local authority thereof to any individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority thereof shall be taxable only in that State.

b) However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that State without having the nationality of the State from which the pension is derived.

3) The provisions of Articles 15, 16 and 18 shall apply to remunerations and pensions in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political or administrative subdivision or a local authority thereof.

Art. 20. Teachers. - 1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 15, a teacher who makes a temporary visit to one of the Contracting State for a period not exceeding two years for the purpose of teaching or engaging in research at a university, college, school or other recognised educational institution in that State and who is, or immediately before such visit was, a resident of the other Contracting State shall in respect of remuneration for such teaching, be exempt from tax in the first-mentioned State, provided that such remuneration is derived by him from outside that State and such remuneration is subject to tax in the other State.

2) This Article shall only apply to income from research if such research is undertaken by the individual in the public interest and not primarily for the benefit of a private person or persons.

Art. 21. Students and business apprentices- 1) 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 outside that first-mentioned State for the purposes of his maintenance, education or training.

Art. 22. 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) 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 items of income are taxable in that other State according to its own law.

3) Where, by reason of a special relationship between the persons who have carried on activities from which incomes referred to in paragraph 1, is derived, the payment for such activities exceed the amount which would have been agreed upon by independent persons, the provision of paragraph 1 shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payment shall remain taxable according to the law of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

Art. 23. Elimination of double taxation. - 1) Double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

1) In Italy, if a resident of Italy owns items of income which are taxable in South Africa, Italy, in determining its income taxes specified in Article 2 of this Convention, may include in the basis upon which such taxes are imposed the said items of income, unless specific provisions of this Convention otherwise provide. In such a case, Italy shall deduct from the taxes so calculated the tax on income paid in South Africa but in an amount not exceeding that proportion of the aforesaid Italian tax which such items of income bear to the entire income. However, no deduction will be granted if the item of income is subjected in Italy to a final withholding tax by request of the recipient of the said income in accordance with the Italian law.

2) In South Africa, taxes paid by South African resident in respect of income taxable in Italy, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, shall be deducted from the taxes due according to South African fiscal law but in an amount not exceeding that proportion of the South African tax which such items of income bear to the entire income.

Art. 24. Non-discrimination. - 1) The 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 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 favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities. This provisions shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, relief and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

3) Except where the provisions of Article 9, paragraph 7 of Article 11, or paragraph 6 of Article 12, apply, interest, royalties 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.

4) 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 the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.

5) In this Article the term “taxation” means the taxes which are the subject of this Convention.

Art. 25. 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 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 this Convention.

2) The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at an appropriate 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 not in accordance with the Convention.

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. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in this Convention.

4) The competent authorities of the Contracting States may 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.

Art. 26. Exchange of information. - 1) The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Convention, in particular, to prevent fiscal evasion or fraud to facilitate the administration of statutory provisions against legal avoidance. 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 laws 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) The competent authorities shall, through consultation, develop appropriate condition, methods and techniques concerning the matters in respect of which such exchanges of information shall be made, including, where appropriate, exchanges of information regarding tax avoidance.

3) In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on one of Contracting State obligation:

- to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and the administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- 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;
- 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).

Art. 27. Diplomatic agents and consular officers. – Nothing in this Convention shall affect the fiscal privileges of diplomatic agents or consular officers under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

Art. 28. Refunds. – 1) Taxes withheld at the source in a Contracting State shall be refunded at the request of the taxpayer of the State of which he is a resident if the right to collect the said taxes is affected by the provisions of this Convention.

2) Any claim for refund shall be lodged within the time limit fixed by the law of the Contracting State which is obliged to make the refund, and shall be accompanied by an official certificate of the Contracting State of which the taxpayer is a resident certifying the existence of the conditions required for being entitled to the application of the benefits provided for by this Convention.

3) The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this Article, in accordance with the provisions of Article 25 of this Convention.

Art. 29. Entry into force. - 1) Each of the Contracting Parties 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 the later of these notifications.

2) The provisions of this Convention shall apply:

a) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited on or after the first day of January next following the date upon which this Convention enters into force; and

b) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning on or after the first day of January next following the date upon which this Convention enters into force.

3) The existing Agreement between the Italian Republic and the Union of South Africa constituted by Exchange of Notes, dated 26 June 1953, for the avoidance of double taxation on income derived from the business of sea and air transport shall terminate and cease to be effective from the commencement of any year of assessment or period to which the provisions of this Convention apply.

Art. 30. Termination. - 1) This Convention shall remain in force indefinitely but either of the Contracting States may terminate the Convention, through the diplomatic channel, by giving to the other Contracting State written notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year after the period of five years from the date on which the Convention enters into force.

2) In such event, the Convention shall cease to have effect:

a) with regard to taxes withheld at source, in respect of amounts paid or credited after the end of the calendar year in which such notice is given; and

b) with regard to other taxes, in respect of taxable years beginning after the end of the calendar year in which such notice is given.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Convention.

Done at Rome, in duplicate, this 16th day of November of the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety five, in the English and Italian languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL

To the Convention between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of South Africa for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and the prevention of fiscal evasion.

At the signing of the Convention concluded today between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of South Africa for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and the prevention of fiscal evasion, the undersigned have agreed upon the following additional provisions which shall form an integral part of the said Convention.

It is understood that:

1) with reference to paragraph 3 of Article 7, the term "expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment" means the expenses directly connected with the activity of the permanent establishment.

2) with reference to Article 8, profits from the operation in international traffic of ships or aircraft shall include:

a) profits derived from the rental on a bare boat basis of ships or aircraft used in international traffic,

b) profits derived from the use of rental of containers if such profits are incidental to the other profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic.

3) If, in accordance with Article 9, a redetermination has been made by one Contracting State with respect to a person, the other Contracting State shall, to the extent it agrees that such redetermination reflects arrangements or conditions which would be made between independent persons, make appropriate adjustments with respect to persons who are related to such person and are subject to the taxing jurisdiction of the State. Any such adjustment shall be made only in accordance with the mutual agreement procedure provided for by Article 25 and with paragraph 5 of this Additional Protocol.

4) With reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 19, remuneration paid to an individual in respect of services rendered to the Italian Foreign Trade Institution (I.C.E.) and to the Italian National Tourist Office (E.N.I.T.), as well as to the corresponding South African institutions, are covered by the provisions concerning government service.

5) With respect to Article 25, an adjustment of taxes pursuant to that Article may be made only prior to the final determination of such taxes.

It is further understood that, the preceding sentence means that invoking the mutual agreement procedure does not relieve a taxpayer of the obligation to initiate the procedure of domestic law for solving tax disputes.

6) The provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 28 shall not prevent the competent authorities of the Contracting States from the carrying out, by mutual agreement, of other practices for the application of the limitations provided for in this Convention.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Additional Protocol.

Done in duplicate at Rome this 16th day of November 1995, in the English and Italian languages, both texts being equally authentic.