
General

Treaty rules on double tax relief



Exemption systems typically only
certain types of income/ e.g./ income
permanent establishment located in

- Amount to be exempted is determined under residence country law. Commentary on Article 23, para 16
- Source state must be taxing "in accordance with the treaty"
- Classification issues

The residence state may take the exemption into account in calculating the amount of income tax with progressive

- Various ways of calculating the impact of the exemption

Consideration of the effect of foreign losses on the computation of tax on domestic income - here foreign income should have been exempt

- Country practices vary

Basic features of a "re

There are typically limits on the amount of foreign tax credit that can be claimed against the domestic tax liability.

Basic limit is based on the amount of domestic tax paid on the income: ordinary credit

No credit for foreign taxes in excess of domestic tax on foreign income; foreign tax credits cannot reduce tax on domestic source income

Various other forms of limitation on the credit possible and much variety in domestic systems



Limitations on the foreign tax credit Per item limitation

1 Per item limitation: only "credit for the foreign tax credit" (partially) for item of income

Example \$: Company ' of Country ' has 1% of income from Country . taxable at 8% and 1% of royalties from Country . taxable at 10% The tax rate in Country ' is 10%

- 10% Country (tax) 30% + 10% , 10% - .6%
- 2 foreign tax credit on the business profits) limited to 3%
- 2 foreign tax credit on the royalties) 2% , additional Country (tax on the royalties, 1%
- 10% total tax) 3%
- 40% averaging of "foreign taxes on business profits and royalties.

Limitations on the foreign tax credit Per Country limitation

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- 2 foreign tax credit on the business profits "from Country S) limited to 3%
- 2 foreign tax credit on the business profits "from Country &) 2% , additional Country (tax on the business profits, 1%
- 10% total tax) 3%
- 40% averaging between the business profits "from Country S and Country &

Comparison of exemption systems

In a "credit system/ the effective rate applied to the foreign source income is the higher of the domestic rate or the foreign rate

- Capital export neutrality

A "credit system - with an overall limitation is relatively simple BUT may allow - inappropriate averaging/ averaging of passive foreign source income/ etc

> other limitations vary in complexity

A "credit system can eliminate the advantages of a source country tax holiday: good or bad

Tax sparing

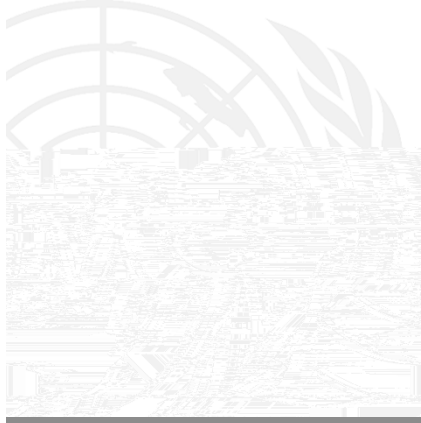
Exemption or Credit

Example 8: Company ' of Country ' has 1% of income from Country . taxed at 20% The tax rate in Country ' is 10%

- If Country (has an exemption system as described in Article 23 8, and the income qualifies for the exemption, there would be no additional Country (tax liability. However, the exempt income might affect the rate of tax on other income - exemption with progression!
- If Country (had a credit system as described in Article 23 8, there would be a credit of 2% for the Country S tax and 1% of additional tax in Country (
- If the tax rate in Country S was 10%, there would be no change under an exemption system. If Country (had a credit system, all of the Country (tax would be eliminated by a credit of 3% and the result would be the same as under an exemption system

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Involuntary displacement: need to offer
foreign workers some form of compensation if not displaced



