# CONVENTION BETWEEN THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG AND THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA FOR THE ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME AND ON CAPITAL AND THE PREVENTION OF TAX EVASION AND AVOIDANCE

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Republic of Colombia,

Desiring to further develop their economic relationship and to enhance their cooperation in tax matters,

Intending to conclude a Convention for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance (including through treaty-shopping arrangements aimed at obtaining reliefs provided in this Convention for the indirect benefit of residents of third States).

Have agreed as follows:

## CHAPTER I SCOPE OF THE CONVENTION

## Article 1 PERSONS COVERED

- 1. This Convention shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.
- 2. For the purposes of this Convention, income derived by or through an entity or arrangement that is treated as wholly or partly fiscally transparent under the tax law of either Contracting State shall be considered to be income of a resident of a Contracting State but only to the extent that the income is treated, for purposes of taxation by that State, as the income of a resident of that State.
- 3. This Convention shall not affect the taxation, by a Contracting State, of its residents except with respect to the benefits granted under paragraph 3 of Article 7, paragraph 2 of Article 9 and Articles 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 and 28.

#### Article 2 TAXES COVERED

- 1. This Convention shall apply to taxes on income and on capital imposed on behalf of a Contracting State and, in the case of Luxembourg, on behalf of its local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
- 2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income and on capital all taxes imposed on total income, on total capital, or on elements of income or of capital, 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 the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg:
    - (i) the income tax on individuals (l'impôt sur le revenu des personnes physiques);
    - (ii) the corporation tax (l'impôt sur le revenu des collectivités);
    - (iii) the capital tax (l'impôt sur la fortune); and
    - (iv) the communal trade tax (l'impôt commercial communal);(hereinafter referred to as "Luxembourg tax");
  - b) in the Republic of Colombia:
    - (i) income tax and its complementary taxes (el impuesto sobre la renta y complementarios) (hereinafter referred to as "Colombian tax").
- 4. The Convention shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed after the date of signature of the Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes that have been made in their respective taxation laws.

#### CHAPTER II DEFINITIONS

#### Article 3 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

- 1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - a) the term "Luxembourg" means the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and, when used in a geographical sense, means the territory of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg;
  - b) the term "Colombia" designates the Republic of Colombia and, used in its geographical sense, includes its land territory, both continental and insular, its airspace, its maritime and submarine areas, and any other areas, which form part of its territory, where it exercises sovereignty, sovereign rights and/or jurisdiction, according to its Political Constitution;
  - c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Colombia or Luxembourg, as the context requires;
  - d) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;
  - e) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;
  - f) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the 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 a ship or aircraft except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in a Contracting State and the enterprise that operates the ship or aircraft is not an enterprise of that State;
  - h) the term "competent authority" means:
    - (i) in Luxembourg, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;
    - (ii) in Colombia, the Minister of Finance and Public Credit, the General Commissioner of the Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales (DIAN), or their authorised representatives;
  - i) the term "national", in relation to a Contracting State, means:
    - (i) any individual possessing the nationality of that Contracting State; and
    - (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in that Contracting State;
  - j) the term "recognised pension fund" of a State means an entity or arrangement established in that State that is treated as a separate person under the taxation laws of that State and:
    - (i) that is established and operated exclusively or almost exclusively to administer or provide pensions or retirement benefits and ancillary, incidental or severance benefits to individuals and that is regulated as such by that State; or
    - (ii) that is established and operated exclusively or almost exclusively to invest funds for the benefit of entities or arrangements referred to in subdivision (i).

Where an arrangement established in a Contracting State would constitute a recognised pension fund under subdivision (i) or (ii) if it were treated as a separate person under the taxation law of that Contracting State, it shall be considered, for the purposes of this Convention, as a separate person treated as such under the taxation law of that Contracting State and all the assets and income to which the arrangement applies shall be treated as assets held and income derived by that separate person and not by another person.

2. As regards the application of the Convention at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires or the competent authorities agree to a different meaning pursuant to the provisions of Article 26, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Convention applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

#### Article 4 RESIDENT

- 1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management, incorporation or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof as well as a recognised pension fund of that State. This term, however, does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State or capital situated therein.
- 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 only 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 only 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 has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only 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 only 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, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to determine by mutual agreement the Contracting State of which such person shall be deemed to be a resident for the purposes of the Convention, having regard to its place of effective management, the place where it is incorporated or otherwise constituted and any other relevant factors. In the absence of such agreement, such person shall not be entitled to any relief or exemption from tax provided by this Convention except to the extent and in such manner as may be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting States.

#### Article 5 PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

- 1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.
- 2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:
  - a) a place of management;
  - b) a branch;
  - c) an office;
  - d) a factory;
  - e) a workshop, and
  - f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place relating to the exploration or exploitation of natural resources.
- 3. The term "permanent establishment" also encompasses:
  - a) A building site, a construction, assembly, installation or dredging project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities last more than 183 days;
  - b) The furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only if activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within a Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 120 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned.

The duration of activities under subparagraphs a) and b) shall be determined by aggregating the periods during which activities are carried on in a Contracting State by closely related enterprises, provided that the activities of such a closely related enterprise in that Contracting State are connected with the activities carried on in that Contracting State by its closely related enterprises. The period during which two or more closely related enterprises are carrying on concurrent activities shall be counted only once for the purpose of determining the duration of activities.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on activities, (including the operation of substantial equipment,) in the other State in the exploration for or exploitation of natural resources situated in that other State for a period or periods exceeding in the aggregate 120 days in any twelve-month period, such activities shall be deemed to be carried on through a permanent establishment of the enterprise situated in that other State, unless the activities are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 5 which, if exercised through a fixed place of

business, would not make this place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.

- 5. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:
  - a) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage or display 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 or display;
  - 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 of collecting information, for the enterprise;
  - e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of carrying on, for the enterprise, any other activity;
  - f) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs a) to e),

provided that such activity or, in the case of subparagraph f), the overall activity of the fixed place of business, is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.

- 6. Paragraph 5 shall not apply to a fixed place of business that is used or maintained by an enterprise if the same enterprise or a closely related enterprise carries on business activities at the same place or at another place in the same Contracting State and:
  - a) that place or other place constitutes a permanent establishment for the enterprise or the closely related enterprise under the provisions of this Article, or
  - b) the overall activity resulting from the combination of the activities carried on by the two enterprises at the same place, or by the same enterprise or closely related enterprises at the two places, is not of a preparatory or auxiliary character,

provided that the business activities carried on by the two enterprises at the same place, or by the same enterprise or closely related enterprises at the two places, constitute complementary functions that are part of a cohesive business operation.

- 7. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, but subject to the provisions of paragraph 9, where a person is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise and, in doing so, habitually concludes contracts, or habitually plays the principal role leading to the conclusion of contracts that are routinely concluded without material modification by the enterprise, and these contracts are:
  - a) in the name of the enterprise; or

- b) for the transfer of the ownership of, or for the granting of the right to use, property owned by that enterprise or that the enterprise has the right to use; or
- c) for the provision of services by that enterprise,

that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that Contracting State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 5 which, if exercised through a fixed place of business (other than a fixed place of business to which paragraph 6 would apply), would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.

- 8. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article but subject to the provisions of paragraph 9, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to re-insurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums in the territory of that other State or insures risks situated therein through a person.
- 9. Paragraphs 7 and 8 shall not apply where the person acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State carries on business in the first-mentioned Contracting State as an independent agent and acts for the enterprise in the ordinary course of that business. Where, however, a person acts exclusively or almost exclusively on behalf of one or more enterprises to which it is closely related, that person shall not be considered to be an independent agent within the meaning of this paragraph with respect to any such enterprise.
- 10. 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.
- 11. For the purposes of this Article, a person or enterprise is closely related to an enterprise if, based on all the relevant facts and circumstances, one has control of the other or both are under the control of the same persons or enterprises. In any case, a person or enterprise shall be considered to be closely related to an enterprise if one possesses directly or indirectly more than 50 per cent of the beneficial interest in the other (or, in the case of a company, more than 50 per cent of the aggregate vote and value of the company's shares or the beneficial equity interest in the company) or if another person or enterprise possesses directly or indirectly more than 50 per cent of the beneficial interest (or, in the case of a company, more than 50 per cent of the aggregate vote and value of the company's shares or the beneficial equity interest in the company) in the person and the enterprise or in the two enterprises.

#### CHAPTER III TAXATION OF INCOME

## Article 6 INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

- 1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 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, 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; ships 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 or to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

#### Article 7 BUSINESS PROFITS

- 1. 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 that are attributable to the permanent establishment in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. For the purposes of this Article and Article 24, the profits that are attributable in each Contracting State to the permanent establishment referred to in paragraph 1 are the profits it might be expected to make, in particular in its dealings with other parts of the enterprise, if it were a separate and independent enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions, taking into account the functions performed, assets used and risks assumed by the enterprise through the permanent establishment and through the other parts of the enterprise.
- 3. Where, in accordance with paragraph 2, a Contracting State adjusts the profits that are attributable to a permanent establishment of an enterprise of one of the Contracting States and taxes accordingly profits of the enterprise that have been charged to tax in the other State, the other State shall, to the extent necessary to eliminate double taxation on these profits, make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged on those profits. In determining such adjustment, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall if necessary consult each other.
- 4. 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.
- 5. The provisions of this Article shall not be construed so as to prevent Colombia from levying income tax on assigned reinsurance premiums.

# Article 8 SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1.	Profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international
traff	fic shall be taxable only in that State.

2.	The provisions of paragraph 1 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joi	nt
bus	ness or an international operating agency.	

#### Article 9 ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES

#### 1. 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.

- 2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that State and taxes accordingly profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State shall make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Convention and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall if necessary consult each other.
- 3. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not apply where judicial, administrative or other legal proceeding have resulted in a final ruling that by actions giving rise to an adjustment of profits under paragraph 1, one of the enterprises concerned is liable to penalty with respect to fraud, gross negligence or wilful default.

#### Article 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, dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State may also be taxed in that State according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:
  - a) 0 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a recognised pension fund resident in the other Contracting State;
  - b) 5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company (other than a partnership) which holds directly at least 20 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends throughout a 365 day period that includes the day of the payment of the dividend (for the purpose of computing that period, no account shall be taken of changes of ownership that would directly result from a corporate reorganisation, such as a merger or divisive reorganisation, of the company that holds the shares or that pays the dividend);
  - c) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

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, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, 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 State of which the company making the distribution is a resident. The term dividends also includes profits of a permanent establishment upon their transfer from a Contracting State to other parts of the enterprise located in the other Contracting State where the laws of the first-mentioned Contracting State treat such profits as income from shares.
- 4. The provisions of this Article shall not be construed as preventing a Contracting State from imposing a tax on dividends paid by a company resident in that Contracting State, or a permanent establishment situated in that Contracting State, out of profits that have not been subject to income tax at the level of the company or the permanent establishment according to the laws of that Contracting State. If the tax provided in this paragraph is applied, the provisions of paragraph 2 will apply to the dividend after deducting this tax.
- 5. 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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. 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.

## Article 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, interest arising in a Contracting State may also be taxed in that State according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest arising in a Contracting State and beneficially owned by a resident of the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the beneficial owner is a resident, if one of the following requirements is fulfilled:
  - a) the recipient of the interest is that Contracting State itself, a political subdivision or local authority thereof or the central bank of that Contracting State;
  - b) the interest is paid by the Contracting State in which the interest arises or by a political subdivision or local authority thereof or the central bank of that Contracting State;
  - c) the interest is paid in connection with a loan granted, approved, guaranteed or (re)insured by the Government of a Contracting State, the central bank of a Contracting State, a political subdivision or local authority thereof;
  - d) the interest is paid in connection with a loan granted by a financial institution to a financial institution;
  - e) the interest is paid to a recognised pension fund.
- 4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures as well as any other item which is treated as income from debt-claims by the taxation laws of the State of which the company making the payment is a resident. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.
- 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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

#### Article 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, royalties arising in a Contracting State may also be taxed in that Contracting State according to the laws of that Contracting State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.
- 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, any patent, trade mark, design or model, 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 paragraphs 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 case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is 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 in connection with which the obligation to pay the royalties was incurred, 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, 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 case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

#### Article 13 FEES FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

- 1. Fees for technical services arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. However, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 15 and subject to the provisions of Articles 8, 17 and 18, fees for technical services arising in a Contracting State may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the fees is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the fees.
- 3. The term "fees for technical services" as used in this Article means any payment in consideration for any service of a managerial, technical, technical assistance or consultancy nature, unless the payment is made:
  - a) to an employee of the person making the payment;
  - b) for teaching in an educational institution or for teaching by an educational institution; or
  - c) by an individual for services for the personal use of an individual.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of fees for technical services, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the fees for technical services arise through a permanent establishment situated in that other State, or performs in the other Contracting State independent personal services from a fixed base situated in that other State, and the fees for technical services are effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such cases the provisions of Article 7 or Article 15, as the case may be, shall apply.
- 5. For the purposes of this Article, subject to paragraph 6, fees for technical services shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State if the payer is a resident of that State or if the person paying the fees, whether that person 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 obligation to pay the fees was incurred, and such fees are borne by the permanent establishment or fixed base.
- 6. For the purposes of this Article, fees for technical services shall be deemed not to arise in a Contracting State if the payer is a resident of that State and carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated in that other State, or performs independent personal services through a fixed base situated in that other State and such fees are borne by that permanent establishment or fixed base.
- 7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner of the fees for technical services or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the fees,

II apply only to the ble according to the Convention.		

#### Article 14 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 the other Contracting State may be taxed 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 for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.
- 3. Gains that an enterprise of a Contracting State that operates ships or aircraft in international traffic derives from the alienation of such ships or aircraft, or of movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.
- 4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares or comparable interests, such as interests in a partnership or trust, may be taxed in the other Contracting State if, at any time during the 365 days preceding the alienation, these shares or comparable interests derived more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property, as defined in Article 6, situated in that other State.
- 5. Gains, other than those to which paragraph 4 applies, derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares of a company, or comparable interests or other rights, such as interests in a partnership or trust, may be taxed in the other Contracting State if the alienator at any time during the 365 days preceding such alienation owned, directly or indirectly, shares, comparable interests or other rights representing 20 per cent or more of the capital of a company that is a resident of that other Contracting State, or of the interests in a partnership or a trust located in that other Contracting State, but the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the amount of the gains. However, this paragraph does not apply to:
  - a) gains derived from changes of ownership that would directly result from a tax-free corporate reorganisation, such as a merger or a demerger, of that company; or
  - b) gains derived by a recognised pension fund of the first-mentioned Contracting State.
- 6. Gains from the alienation of any property, other than that referred to in the previous paragraphs, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

#### Article 15 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 except in the following circumstances, when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State:
  - a) If he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other Contracting State; or
  - b) If his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods amounting to or exceeding in the aggregate 120 days in any twelve-month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.
- 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.

#### Article 16 DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

- 1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 19 and 20, 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:
  - 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 calendar 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 by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment, as a member of the regular complement of a ship or aircraft, that is exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic shall be taxable only in that State. Where, however, the ship or aircraft is operated by an enterprise of the other Contracting State, such remuneration may also be taxed in the other State.

	Article 17 DIRECTORS' FEES
a n	rectors' fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as member of the board of directors or a similar body of a company which is a resident of the other ontracting State may be taxed in that other State.

#### Article 18 ENTERTAINERS AND SPORTSPERSONS

- 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 15 and 16, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsperson, from that resident's personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State. Income referred to in this paragraph includes income derived by such resident from any personal activity exercised in the other Contracting State related to his reputation as an entertainer or as a sportsperson.
- 2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsperson acting as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsperson but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7,15, and 16, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsperson are exercised.

## Article 19 PENSIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS

- 1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 20, pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.
- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions paid and other payments made under the provisions of the social security legislation of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in the first-mentioned State.

#### Article 20 GOVERNMENT SERVICE

- 1. a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.
  - b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that State and the individual is a resident of that State who:
    - i) is a national of that State; or
    - ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
- a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions and other similar remuneration paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision or authority shall be taxable only in that State.
  - b) However, such pensions and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that State.
- 3. The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply to salaries, wages, pensions, and other similar remuneration in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

## Article 21 STUDENTS

Payments which a student or business apprentice who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

#### Article 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 provisions of Article 7 or Article 15 as the case may be, shall apply.
- 3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, items of income of a resident of a Contracting State not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Convention and arising in the other Contracting State may also be taxed in that other State.

#### CHAPTER IV TAXATION OF CAPITAL

#### Article 23 CAPITAL

- 1. Capital represented by immovable property referred to in Article 6, owned by a resident of a Contracting State and situated in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.
- 2. Capital represented by 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 by 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, may be taxed in that other State.
- 3. Capital of a resident of a Contracting State represented by shares or comparable interests, such as interests in a partnership or trust, may be taxed in the other Contracting State if these shares or comparable interests derive more than 50 per cent of their value directly or indirectly from immovable property, as defined in Article 6, situated in that other State.
- 4. Capital of a resident of a Contracting State represented by shares, comparable interests or other rights, representing 20 per cent or more of the capital of a company that is a resident of that other Contracting State or of the interests in a partnership or a trust located in that other Contracting State, may be taxed in the other Contracting State.
- 5. Capital of an enterprise of a Contracting State that operates ships or aircraft in international traffic represented by such ships or aircraft, and by movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.
- 6. All other elements of capital of a resident of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

#### CHAPTER V METHODS FOR ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

#### Article 24 ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

- 1. Subject to the provisions of the law of Luxembourg regarding the elimination of double taxation which shall not affect the general principle hereof, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:
  - a) Where a resident of Luxembourg derives income or owns capital which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in Colombia, Luxembourg shall, subject to the provisions of subparagraphs b) and c), exempt such income or capital from tax, but may, in order to calculate the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of the resident, apply the same rates of tax as if the income or capital had not been exempted.
  - b) Where a resident of Luxembourg derives income which, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 10, 11, 12, 13, paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 14, Article 18 and paragraph 3 of Article 22 may be taxed in Colombia, Luxembourg shall allow as a deduction from the income tax on individuals or from the corporation tax of that resident an amount equal to the tax paid in Colombia. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to such items of income derived from Colombia.
  - c) The provisions of subparagraph a) shall not apply to income derived or capital owned by a resident of Luxembourg where Colombia applies the provisions of this Convention to exempt such income or capital from tax or applies the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 10, 11, 12 or 13 to such income.
- 2. Subject to the provisions of the law of Colombia, where a resident of Colombia derives income or owns capital which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in Luxembourg, Colombia shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income or capital of that resident, an amount equal to the tax paid in Luxembourg, due regard being had to the limitations provided by and the requirements set under the tax laws of Colombia. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Colombian tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income or capital which may be taxed in Luxembourg. Where in accordance with any provision of the Convention income derived or capital owned by a resident of Colombia is exempt from tax in Colombia, Colombia may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income or capital of such resident, take into account the exempted income or capital.
- 3. For the purposes of paragraph 2, profits, income, gains and capital owned by a resident of Colombia which may be taxed in Luxembourg in accordance with this Convention shall be deemed to arise from sources in Luxembourg.

#### CHAPTER VI SPECIAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 25 NON-DISCRIMINATION

- 1. 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, in particular with respect to residence, 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 or a fixed base 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 provision shall not be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs 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 paragraph 1 of Article 9, paragraph 7 of Article 11, paragraph 6 of Article 12 or paragraph 7 of Article 13 apply, interest, royalties, fees for technical services 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. Similarly, any debts of an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable capital of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been contracted 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. The provisions of this Article shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, apply to taxes of every kind and description.

#### Article 26 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 the provisions of this Convention, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of either Contracting State. 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 the 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 a satisfactory 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 which is not in accordance with the Convention. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.
- 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 this Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Convention.
- 4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly, including through a joint commission consisting of themselves or their representatives, for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.
- 5. Where,
  - a) under paragraph 1, a person has presented a case to the competent authority of a Contracting State on the basis that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States have resulted for that person in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, and
  - b) the competent authorities are unable to reach an agreement to resolve that case pursuant to paragraph 2 within two years from the date when all the information required by the competent authorities in order to address the case has been provided to both competent authorities,

any unresolved issues arising from the case shall be submitted to arbitration if the person so requests in writing. These unresolved issues shall not, however, be submitted to arbitration if a decision on these issues has already been rendered by a court or administrative tribunal of either State. Unless a person directly affected by the case does not accept the mutual agreement that implements the arbitration decision, that decision shall be binding on both Contracting States and shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic laws of these States. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of this paragraph.

## Article 27 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

- 1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities, insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Convention. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.
- 2. Any information received under paragraph 1 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) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above. 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, information received by a Contracting State may be used for other purposes when such information may be used for such other purposes under the laws of both States and the competent authority of the supplying State authorises such use.
- 3. In no case shall the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:
  - a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
  - b) 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;
  - c) 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*).
- 4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.
- 5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interests in a person.

# Article 28

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#### Article 29 ENTITLEMENT TO BENEFITS

- 1. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Convention, a benefit under this Convention shall not be granted in respect of an item of income or capital if it is reasonable to conclude, having regard to all relevant facts and circumstances, that obtaining that benefit was one of the principal purposes of any arrangement or transaction that resulted directly or indirectly in that benefit, unless it is established that granting that benefit in these circumstances would be in accordance with the object and purpose of the relevant provisions of this Convention.
- 2. Where a benefit under this Convention is denied to a person under paragraph 1, the competent authority of the Contracting State that would otherwise have granted this benefit shall nevertheless treat that person as being entitled to this benefit, or to different benefits with respect to a specific item of income or capital, if such competent authority, upon request from that person and after consideration of the relevant facts and circumstances, determines that such benefits would have been granted to that person in the absence of the transaction or arrangement referred to in paragraph 1. The competent authority of the Contracting State to which the request has been made will consult with the competent authority of the other State before rejecting a request made under this paragraph by a resident of that other State.

#### CHAPTER VII FINAL PROVISIONS

## Article 30 ENTRY INTO FORCE

- 1. The Contracting States shall notify each other in writing, through diplomatic channels, that the procedures required by its law for the entry into force of this Convention have been satisfied. The Convention shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last notification.
- 2. The Convention shall have effect:
  - a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, to income derived on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Convention enters into force;
  - b) in respect of other taxes on income, and taxes on capital, to taxes chargeable for any taxable year beginning on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Convention enters into force.

#### Article 31 TERMINATION

- 1. This Convention shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Convention, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year beginning after the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force. Notice of termination shall be regarded as having been given by a Contracting State on the date of receipt of such notice by the other Contracting State.
- 2. In such event, the Convention shall cease to have effect:
  - a) in respect of taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, after the end of the calendar year in which the notice is given, and
  - b) in respect of all other taxes, for any taxable year beginning on or after the 1st of January of the calendar year next following the year in which the notice is given.
- 3. In the event of termination, the Contracting States shall remain bound by the provisions of Article 27 with respect to any information obtained under this Convention.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Convention.

DONE in duplicate at Luxembourg, this 19th day of January 2024, in the English, French and Spanish languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Gilles Roth

Minister of Finance

For the Republic of Colombia

Ricardo Bonilla González

Minister of Finance and Public Credit

#### **PROTOCOL**

At the moment of signing the Convention between the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Republic of Colombia for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital and the prevention of tax evasion and avoidance, the undersigned have agreed upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Convention.

#### 1. With reference to subparagraphj) of paragraph 1 of Article 3:

It is understood that the term "recognised pension fund " includes:

- a) in the case of Colombia, pension funds regulated by Law 100 of 1993 (mandatory pension funds) and the provisions that modify or substitute it, administered or managed by "Sociedades Administradoras de Fondos de Pensiones y Cesantías" who are subject to the surveillance of the Superintendencia Financiera de Colombia and subject to the rules provided for in Part 2 of Decree 2555 of 2010 and the provisions that modify or substitute them.
- b) in the case of Luxembourg:
  - (i) Pension-savings companies with variable capital (sociétés d'épargne-pension à capital variable: SEPCAV);
  - (ii) Pension-savings associations (associations d'épargne-pension: ASSEP);
  - (iii) Pension funds subject to supervision and regulation by the Insurance Commissioner (Commissariat aux assurances); and
  - (iv) the Social Security Compensation Fund (*Fonds de Compensation de la Sécurité Sociale*) SICAV-FIS.

#### 2. With reference to Article 4:

A collective investment vehicle which is established in a Contracting State and that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes in this Contracting State shall be considered as a resident of the Contracting State in which it is established and as the beneficial owner of the income it receives.

#### 3. With reference to Article 14:

The provisions of this Convention shall not prevent a Contracting State from applying its domestic legislation in regard to indirect transfer of property located in that Contracting State.

#### 4. Nothing in this Convention shall prevent:

a) Luxembourg from applying the provisions of Article 164ter of the income tax law or any other similar provision that amends or replaces the above-mentioned Article.

b) Colombia from applying the controlled foreign entities regime provided in Chapter 1 of Title 7 of the Colombian Tax Code and regulatory dispositions, or any other similar provision that amends or replaces the above-mentioned provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Protocol.

DONE in duplicate at Luxembourg, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024, in the English, French and Spanish languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

For the Republic of Colombia

**Gilles Roth**Minister of Finance

Ricardo Bonilla González

Minister of Finance and Public Credit