Russia

## Dividends Received by Cypriot Resident Individual Taxable Under Tax Treaty If Distributed Before Suspension of Tax Treaty

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Report from our correspondent Kristina Trouch

The Ministry of Finance (MoF) has clarified that dividends distributed by a Russian resident limited liability company to a Cypriot resident shareholder are subject to withholding tax under the Cyprus-Russia Income and Capital Tax Treaty (1998), provided that the dividends were distributed before 8 August 2023, the date on which the Treaty was suspended.

The MoF explained that, since the Treaty was suspended effective from 8 August 2023 (Decree of the President No. 585), any profits of a Russian company distributed to a Cypriot shareholder before 8 August 2023 are subject to taxation in accordance with article 10, paragraph 2 of the Treaty. Dividends distributed after 8 August 2023 will be taxed in accordance with the provisions of the Russian Tax Code.

Also, the MoF clarified that after-tax profits distributed by a Russian company to a Cypriot shareholder that are not in proportion to the shareholder's stake in the authorized capital of the Russian company qualify as dividends.

The MoF published Guidance letter No. 03-04-05/82717 on 6 October 2023.

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