Multilateral Convention (MLI) – South Africa Publishes English Synthesized Text of Qatar-South Africa Treaty

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Report from IBFD Tax Treaties Unit

On 27 January 2023, the South African Revenue Service published the English synthesized text of the Qatar - South Africa Income Tax Treaty (2015), displaying the modifications made to the treaty by the MLI.

South Africa and Qatar deposited their instrument of ratification of the MLI on, respectively, 30 September 2022 and 23 December 2019. The MLI therefore entered into force for South Africa on 1 January 2023 and for Qatar on 1 April 2020.

Qatar expanded the application of the Multilateral BEPS Convention on its existing treaties on 25 November 2021 (see Multilateral Instrument (MLI) – Qatar Extends List of Treaties To Be Covered by MLI (26 November 2021)).

Unless stated otherwise in the synthesized text, articles 6 and 7 of the MLI will generally have effect with respect to the Qatar - South Africa Income Tax Treaty (2015):

In South Africa and Qatar:

- with respect to taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or credited to non-residents, where the event giving rise to such taxes occurs on or after 1 January 2023; and
- with respect to all other taxes levied by each contracting state, for taxes levied with respect to taxable periods beginning on or after 1 July 2023.

The purpose of the synthesized text is to facilitate the understanding of the application of the MLI but it is not in itself a source of law.

South Africa; Qatar; G20; OECD - Multilateral Convention (MLI) – South Africa Publishes English Synthesized Text of Qatar-South Africa Treaty (02 Feb. 2023), News IBFD.

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