

Furthermore, all restrictions related to the transfer and sale of proceeds in the MULC resulting from the export of goods were lifted as of January 6, 2018. On January 6, 2018, the Public Emergency Law ceased to be in effect.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned, on September 1, 2019, after the PASO, Decree No. 609/2019 stipulated that, except otherwise established, until December 31, 2019 the value paid for the export of goods and services should be entered in the country in foreign currency and/or negotiated in the MULC in accordance with the requirements and time limits established by the Central Bank.

Within this context, the same day, on September 1, 2019, the Central Bank issued Communication "A" 6770 aiming to regulate the income and expenses in the exchange market in order to maintain exchange stability and protect international reserves against the high uncertainty and volatility of the exchange rate. Subsequently, the Central Bank issued certain communications modifying Communication "A" 6770, deepening exchange controls and restrictions on the entry and exit of foreign exchange. Also, on December 5, 2019, the Central Bank issued Communication "A" 6844, comprising in a single body the rules on foreign exchange (together with its amendments, the "T.O. on Foreign Exchange").

Among the most important obligations, restrictions and limitations found in the T.O. on Foreign Exchange, the following is worth highlighting:

- (i) the obligation to enter and liquidate in the MULC currencies resulting from: (a) the export of goods and services by residents, (b) the perception of amounts in foreign currency resulting from the trade of non-produced and non-financial assets by residents to non-residents, (c) the disbursements resulting from financial debts with non-residents as from the issuance of Communication "A" 6770, as a requirement for being able to access the MULC to pay the due capital and interests, (d) the amounts resulting from the issuance of securities denominated and subscribed in foreign currency with public registry in Argentina as from November 29, 2019, as a requirement for being able to access the MULC to pay the due capital and interests;
- (ii) restrictions to access the MULC for the payment of imports of goods and services (including debts from imports) to non-residents;
- (iii) requirement to obtain the Central Bank's prior authorization in order to access the MULC: (a) by non-residents, with certain exceptions, (b) for the transfer of foreign currency abroad resulting from profits and dividends, to the extent that the exchange control requirements allowing the transfer are not met, (c) for the creation of external assets and the creation of all types of guaranties related to derivatives transactions by legal entities, the same restriction applies to individuals whenever the transaction equals or exceeds US\$200 per month, (d) for accelerated payments of capital and interests on financial debts owed to non-residents (at least three business days prior to the due date), and (e) for accelerated payments of debt related to the import of goods and services; and
- (iv) the prohibition to access the MULC for the payment of debts and other obligations in foreign currency between residents as of the date of the issuance of Communication "A" 6770, with certain exceptions.

On December 27 and 30, 2019, the Central Bank, through communications "A" 6854, "A" 6855 and "A" 6856, extended the validity of the T.O. on Foreign Exchange as of December 31, 2019.

For more information regarding Argentina's foreign exchange policies, you should seek advice from your legal counsel and read the applicable rules mentioned herein, including their amendments, which can be found at the following websites: www.infoleg.gov.ar and the Central Bank's website: www.bcra.gov.ar. The information contained on these websites is not part and shall not be deemed incorporated into, this annual report.

TAXATION

The following summary contains a description of the principal Argentine and U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to purchase common shares or ADSs. The summary is based upon the tax laws of Argentina and regulations thereunder and on the tax laws of the United States and regulations thereunder as in effect on the date hereof, which are subject to change. Investors should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of the Acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs.

Although there is at present no income tax treaty between Argentina and the United States, the tax authorities of the two countries have had discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether or when a treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. holders of common shares or ADSs.

Argentine Tax Considerations Capital gains tax

Resident individuals

The Law No. 27,430 provides for the taxation of Argentine resident individuals' income from the sale, exchange or other disposition of shares will be subject to income tax rate of 15%.

The Tax Reform establishes an exemption for individuals tax residents on the sale of shares that are publicly traded in stock exchanges under the supervision of the Argentine Securities and Exchange Commission (CNV).

Foreign beneficiaries

Pursuant to the Law No. 27,430, all income resulting from the purchase and sale, exchange or other disposition of shares and other securities earned by foreign beneficiaries will be exempt of the Income Tax, if they are (i) listed on stock exchanges or securities markets and/or have an authorization for public offering under the supervision of the CNV and (ii) the foreign beneficiaries do not reside in or the funds do not arise from "non-cooperating jurisdictions" (the "publicly traded exemption"). In case that the disposition do not meet such requirements, the income obtained by foreign individual and legal entities will be taxable at a 13,5% rate on the gross price or 15% rate on the net capital gain (with the possibility of adjusting the value of acquisitions from January 1, 2018 and onwards for the purpose of determining the net capital gain, taking into account the variation of the Internal Wholesale Price Index).

The non-cooperating jurisdictions list is prepared and published by the executive branch. The U.S. is currently not a non-cooperating jurisdiction.

The Tax Reform, effective as of January 1, 2018, specifies that in case of share certificates issued abroad that represent shares issued by Argentine companies (i.e., ADSs), the "source" is defined by the location of the original issuer of the shares. However, the tax will not be due if the publicly traded exemption, described above, applies in respect of the underlying shares.

Local entities

Capital gains obtained by Argentine entities in general, entities organized or incorporated under Argentine law, certain traders and intermediaries, local branches of non-Argentine entities, sole proprietorships and individuals carrying on certain commercial activities in Argentina derived from the sale, exchange or other disposition of our common shares or ADSs are subject to income tax at the rate of 30% for the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 and at the rate of 25% from 2022 and later. Losses arising from the sale of our common shares or ADSs can be applied to offset such income.

Additionally, a withholding of 7% or 13% is established for the periods mentioned above, on the dividends distributed by the capital companies in favor of their shareholders, when they are legal persons or undivided successions resident in the country, or are foreign beneficiaries.

Dividends tax

Pursuant to Law No. 26,893, dividends and other profits paid in cash or in kind –except for stock dividends–by companies and other entities incorporated in Argentina referred to in the Argentine Income Tax Law (the "Income Tax Law"), Sections 73 (a)(1), (2), (3), (6) and (7), and Section 69(b), were subject to income tax at a 10% rate except for those beneficiaries that were domestic corporate taxpayers. Law No. 27,260 repealed this withholding tax as of July 23, 2016. Consequently, no withholding tax is to levied on dividends distributed to either Argentine or non-Argentine resident shareholders since then. This treatment applies only to dividends to be distributed at any time out of retained earnings accumulated until the end of the last fiscal year starting before January 1, 2018.

Likewise, the portion of those dividends exceeding the company’s accumulated net taxable income (as determined by application of the Argentine Income Tax Law), if any, is subject to a 35% withholding tax on such excess (the “Equalization Tax”). For purpose of the Equalization Tax, the amount of accumulated net taxable income to be considered shall be determined by (1) deducting the income tax paid by the company, and (2) adding the dividends and profits not subject to tax received as distributions from other corporations. If the distribution is in-kind, then the corporation must pay the tax to the Argentine tax authorities and will be entitled to seek reimbursement from the shareholders.

Dividends to be distributed out of earnings accrued in fiscal years starting on or after January 1, 2018, are to be subject to a tax treatment different from the one previously described, based on the recent enactment of a comprehensive tax reform -Law No. 27,430-, published in the Official Gazette on December 29, 2017, and generally effective since January 1, 2018.

Pursuant to Law No. 27,430, dividends and other profits paid in cash or in kind –except for stock dividends–by companies and other entities incorporated in Argentina referred to in the Argentine Income Tax Law, Sections 73 (a)(1), (2), (3), (6), (7) and (8), and Section 73(b) out of retained earnings accumulated in fiscal years starting on or after January 1, 2018, will be subject to withholding tax at a 7% rate (on profits accrued during fiscal years starting January 1, 2018 to December 31 2021), and at a 13% rate (on profits accrued in fiscal years starting January 1, 2022 and onwards), provided that they are distributed to Argentine resident individuals and foreign shareholders (including holders of common shares or ADSs).

With respect to dividends paid to shareholders residing abroad, such withholding may be reduced by a tax treaty between Argentina and their country of residence. See “Tax Treaties” below.

Capital reductions and other distributions

Capital reductions and redemptions of our common shares and ADSs are not subject to income tax up to an amount equivalent to the contributed capital corresponding to the common shares and ADSs to be redeemed. Any distribution exceeding this amount, however, will be considered as a dividend for tax purposes and subject to withholding tax as described above.

Other Income Tax provisions

Transfer pricing

The Transfer Pricing regime includes import and export controls of any product with the intervention of an international intermediary, that is not the importer at destination or exporter at origin, respectively.

In addition, for exports of goods with known prices and with the intervention of an intermediary (either related, or located in “non-cooperating” or low or no tax jurisdictions), the Law requires the Argentine exporter to file with AFIP the agreements supporting the transactions.

Equalization income tax

Equalization income tax -established by Income Law, art. 74- will not be applicable on profits generated on or after January 1, 2018.

Upgrade

The Tax Reform re-establishes the adjustment for inflation procedures in the Income Tax Law with the following rules: (i) inflation adjustment of new acquisitions and investments carried out from January 1, 2018 and onwards, considering the variation of the Internal Wholesale Price Index (in Spanish, Índice de Precios Internos al Consumidor Nivel General or IPC) supplied by the INDEC; and (ii) the application of an integral inflation adjustment mechanism when, the variation of the IPC is higher than 100% for the 36-month period before the end of the fiscal period or else, with respect to the first, second and third fiscal year of effectiveness, this procedure will be applicable in case the accumulated variation of the IPC, calculated from the beginning of the first of them and until the end of each year, exceeds fifty-five percent (55%), thirty percent (30%) and fifteen percent (15%) for the first, second and third year of application, respectively.

Tax and accounting revaluation

Tax Reform established the possibility of upgrading certain assets that are part of the assets of taxpayers, in order to update their value, since the period of acquisition until December 31, 2017.

This revaluation was optional, and the amount of revaluation was taxable at special rate 8% to 15%, depending on the type of property to be revalued. We paid an special revaluation tax of Ps. 1.495 million and have updated the value of certain assets for an amount of Ps.15,311 million.

Personal assets tax

Argentine entities, such as us, are required to pay the personal assets tax corresponding to Argentine and foreign individuals and foreign entities for the holding of our shares at December 31 of each year. The applicable tax rate is 0.5% and is levied on the equity value, or the book value, of the shares arising from the last balance sheet. Pursuant to the Personal Assets Tax Law, the Argentine company is entitled to seek reimbursement of such paid tax from the applicable Argentine individuals and/or foreign shareholders or by withholding dividend payments.

Gross Income Tax

The gross income tax is a local tax; therefore, the rules of the relevant provincial jurisdiction should be considered, which may levy this tax on the customary purchase and sale, exchange or other disposition of common shares and ADSs, and/or the collection of dividends at an average rate between 6% and 10%, unless an exemption is applicable. In the particular case of the City of Buenos Aires, any transaction involving common shares and/or the collection of dividends and revaluations is exempt from this tax. To date, there is no withholding regime provided for foreign holders of common shares and ADSs.

Value added tax

The sale, exchange or other disposition of our common shares or ADSs and the distribution of dividends are exempted from the value added tax.

Transfer taxes

The sale, exchange or other disposition of our common shares or ADSs is not subject to transfer taxes.

Stamp taxes

Stamp taxes may apply in the City of Buenos Aires and in certain Argentine provinces in case transfer of our common shares or ADSs is performed or executed in such jurisdictions by means of written agreements.

Other taxes

Commissions paid on brokerage transactions for the sale of our common shares on the BCBA are subject to VAT at a rate of 21%.

There is no inheritance, gift, succession or VAT applicable to the ownership, transfer, exchange or disposition of our common shares or ADSs, except for the inheritance tax applicable only to corporations or individuals with tax domicile in the Province of Buenos Aires with a fixed amount tax plus a tax rate between 1% and 9% depending on the relationship and the amount of inheritance).

Tax treaties

Argentina has signed tax treaties for the avoidance of double taxation with Australia, Belgium, Spain, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Swiss, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. In addition, Argentina has signed tax treaties with Turkey, Qatar, Luxembourg, Japan, Austria and China but to date they are pending ratification in Argentine Congress for its entry into force. There is currently no tax treaty or convention in effect between Argentina and the United States. It is not clear when, if ever, a treaty will be ratified or entered into effect. As a result, the Argentine tax consequences described in this section will apply, without modification, to a holder of our common shares or ADSs that is a U.S. resident. Foreign shareholders located in certain jurisdictions with a tax treaty in force with Argentina may be exempted from the payment of the personal asset tax.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

Investments Tax Returns

The return of tax credits originated in investments in fixed assets will be given, in case that, six months after their payment, have not been absorbed by fiscal debits generated by the activity.

Tax on Fuels

The Fuel tax scheme is modified, incorporating a tax on carbon dioxide emissions. The same tax pressure existing before the reform will be maintained.

United States Federal Income Tax Considerations

This summary describes certain U.S. federal income tax consequences for a U.S. holder (as defined below) of acquiring, owning, and disposing of ADSs. This summary applies to a holder only if such holder holds the ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. This summary does not address the Medicare tax on net investment income or the alternative minimum tax and does not apply to investors that are members of a class of holders subject to special rules, such as:

- a dealer in securities or currencies;
- a trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings;
- a bank;
- a life insurance company;
- a tax-exempt organization;
- an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, or a partner therein;
- a person that holds ADSs that are a hedge or that are hedged against interest rate or currency risks;
- a person that holds ADSs as part of a straddle or conversion transaction for tax purposes;
- a person whose functional currency for U.S. tax purposes is not the U.S. Dollar; or
- a person that owns or is deemed to own 10% or more of any class of our stock.

This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations promulgated thereunder, published rulings and court decisions, all as currently in effect. These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. Investors should consult their own tax advisors concerning the consequences of purchasing, owning, and disposing of ADSs in their particular circumstances, including the possible application of state, local, non-U.S. or other tax laws. For purposes of this summary, an investor is a “U.S. holder” if such investor is a beneficial owner of an ADS and is:

- a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a U.S. domestic corporation; or
- otherwise subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis with respect to income from the ADS.

In general, if a U.S. holder is the beneficial owner of ADSs, such U.S. holder will be treated as the beneficial owner of the common shares represented by those ADSs for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and no gain or loss will be recognized if such U.S. holder exchanges an ADS for the common shares represented by that ADS.

Dividends

The gross amount of distributions that U.S. holders receive (prior to deduction of Argentine taxes) generally will be subject to U.S. federal income taxation as foreign source dividend income, to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. We do not expect to maintain calculations of our earnings and profits in accordance with U.S. federal income tax principles. U.S. Holders therefore should expect that distributions generally will be treated as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Dividends paid in Argentine Pesos will be included in a U.S. holder's income in a U.S. Dollars amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date of the depository's receipt of the dividend, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. Dollars. A U.S. holder will have a tax basis in such Pesos for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the U.S. Dollars value on the date of such receipt. Any subsequent gain or loss in respect of such Pesos arising from exchange rate fluctuations will be ordinary income or loss and will be treated as income from U.S. sources for foreign tax credit purposes. If such a dividend is converted into U.S. Dollars on the date of receipt, investors generally should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. Subject to certain exceptions for short-term (60 days or less) positions, the U.S. Dollars amount of dividends received by an individual U.S. holder in respect of ADSs generally will be subject to taxation at a maximum rate of 20% if the dividends are "qualified dividends." Dividends paid on the ADSs will be treated as qualified dividends if (1) the ADSs are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States and (2) we were not, in the year prior to the year in which the dividend was paid, and are not, in the year in which the dividend is paid, a passive foreign investment company (a "PFIC"). The ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and will qualify as readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States so long as they are so listed. Based on our Consolidated Financial Statements and relevant market and shareholder data, we believe that we were not treated as a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes with respect to our 2018 and 2019 taxable years. In addition, based on our current expectations regarding the value and nature of our assets, the sources and nature of our income, and relevant market and shareholder data, we do not anticipate becoming a PFIC for our 2020 taxable year.

Because the common shares are not themselves listed on a U.S. exchange, dividends received with respect to the common shares may not be treated as qualified dividends. U.S. holders of should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of the reduced dividend tax rate in the light of their own particular circumstances.

Distributions of additional shares in respect of ADSs that are made as part of a pro-rata distribution to all of our shareholders generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax, unless a U.S. Holder that receives the distribution has the right to receive cash or property, in which case the U.S. Holder will be treated as if it received cash equal to the fair market value of the distribution.

Sale or other disposition

Upon a sale or other disposition of ADSs, a U.S. holder will recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. Dollars value of the amount realized and such U.S. holder's tax basis, determined in U.S. Dollars, in the ADSs. Generally, such gain or loss realized on the sale or other disposition of ADSs will be treated as U.S. source capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the ADSs were held for more than one year. The ability to offset capital losses against ordinary income is limited. Long-term capital gain recognized by an individual U.S. holder, generally is subject to taxation at a reduced rate.

Foreign tax credit considerations

Investors should consult their own tax advisors to determine whether they are subject to any special rules that limit their ability to make effective use of foreign tax credits. If no such rules apply, a U.S. holder may be able to claim a credit against its U.S. federal income tax liability for Argentine income taxes withheld at the appropriate rate applicable to the U.S. holder from cash dividends on the ADSs, if the tax is treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as imposed on the U.S. holder, so long as the U.S. holders has owned the ADSs (and not entered into specified kind of hedging transactions) for at least a 16-day period that includes the ex-dividend date. Dividend distributions with respect to the ADSs generally will be treated as “passive category” income from sources outside the United States for purposes of determining a U.S. Holder’s U.S. foreign tax credit limitation. If a gain realized on the sale or other disposition of ADSs is subject to withholding tax, a U.S. holder may not be able to credit the tax against its U.S. federal income tax liability unless such credit can be applied (subject to applicable conditions and limitations) against tax due on other income treated as derived from foreign sources. It is unclear whether the Argentine personal assets tax (as described in “~Argentine Tax Considerations”) is treated as an income tax for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Argentine personal assets tax is not treated as an income tax for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. holder would be unable to claim a foreign tax credit for any Argentine personal assets tax withheld. A U.S. holder may be able to deduct such tax in computing its U.S. federal income tax liability, subject to applicable limitations. The calculation of foreign tax credits and, in the case of a U.S. holder that elects to deduct foreign taxes, the availability of deductions, involve the application of complex rules that depend on a U.S. holder’s particular circumstances. Investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the creditability or deductibility of such taxes.

U.S. information reporting and backup withholding rules

Payments of dividends and sales proceeds that are made within the United States or through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries are subject to information reporting unless the holder is an exempt recipient and may also be subject to backup withholding unless the holder (1) provides its taxpayer identification number and certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding or (2) otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding. Investors may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules by timely filing the appropriate claim or refund with the Internal Revenue Service and filing any required information.

A holder that is a foreign corporation or a non-resident alien individual may be required to comply with certification and identification procedures in order to establish its exemption from information reporting and backup withholding.

Specified Foreign Financial Assets

Certain U.S. holders that own “specified foreign financial assets” with an aggregate value in excess of US\$50,000 on the last day of the taxable year or \$75,000 at any time during the taxable year are generally required to file an information statement along with their tax returns, currently on Form 8938, with respect to such assets. “Specified foreign financial assets” include any financial accounts held at a non-U.S. financial institution, as well as securities issued by a non-U.S. issuer that are not held in accounts maintained by financial institutions. Higher reporting thresholds apply to certain individuals living abroad and to certain married individuals. Regulations extend this reporting requirement to certain entities that are treated as formed or availed of to hold direct or indirect interests in specified foreign financial assets based on certain objective criteria. U.S. holders who fail to report the required information could be subject to substantial penalties. In addition, the statute of limitations for assessment of tax would be suspended, in whole or part. Investors should consult their own tax advisors concerning the application of these rules to their particular circumstances.

DOCUMENTS ON DISPLAY

The materials included in this annual report on Form F-20, and exhibits therein, may be inspected and copied at the Securities and Exchange Commission’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549.

