Section I – Criteria for Individuals to be considered a tax resident

According to Article 1, paragraph 1 of the State Ordinance Income Tax a natural person is considered subject to income tax when he can be considered a resident in Aruba. Article 1, paragraph 2, of the State Ordinance Income Tax and Article 4, paragraph 1 of the General Tax Ordinance states that the place of tax residency of a natural person is based on facts and circumstances of each case. Residency is determined by applying a closer connection test, in other words, a taxpayer is considered as a resident if the center of the taxpayer’s vital interest is in Aruba and if the closest social and economic ties the taxpayer has are with Aruba. The criteria used to determine the closer connection test are:
Where a person:
• spends the greatest amount of time;
• maintains a permanent home;
• supports a spouse and children/ his children receive an education;
• is employed;
• is registered with the local authorities and/or bank.

Section II – Criteria for Entities to be considered a tax resident

According to Article 1, paragraph 1 of the State Ordinance Profit Tax an entity is subject to Aruban profit tax if the entity resides in Aruba. Article 1, paragraph 3 of the State Ordinance Profit Tax states that an entity is considered to be a resident of Aruba if it is incorporated under Aruba law or if it is actually established in Aruba. Furthermore Article 4, paragraph 1 of the General Tax Ordinance states that residency depends on the specific facts and circumstances of each case. The place of effective management is the most important factor.
The criteria to determine the place of effective management are:
The place where:
• the important business decisions are made, and;
• where the directors work and meet, and;
• the business records are kept and the financial statements are prepared.
The following circumstances can also be indications of the place of effective management:
• the place where the shareholders live and meet;
• the place where the entity is registered;
• the place of incorporation or organization.

Section III – Entity types that are as a rule not considered tax residents

The following entities organized under Aruban law are considered fiscally transparent in the Netherlands:
• ‘Maatschap’ (partnership);
• ‘Vennootschap onder firma’ (general partnership);
• ‘Commanditaire vennootschap’ (limited partnership);
• ‘Transparante vennootschap’ (transparent company).

Section IV – Contact point for further information

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