Information on Residency for tax purposes

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

Please list the domestic legal provisions that determine whether an Individual is to be considered a tax resident of that jurisdictions. Such legal provisions may be articles of the relevant tax code (with hyperlinks to the provisions themselves, where possible), as well as any further regulations specifying the residency criteria (if available, with hyperlinks).

This section should ideally also provide further guidance for Individuals to determine whether they are a resident for tax purposes in the jurisdiction, presented either in narrative form or by means of hyperlinks to the relevant sections of the government or tax authority website or publications.

**Income Tax Act 1997**

**Section 82(1)**

82. *Place of residence, how determined* - (1) For the purposes of this Part, a natural person is deemed to be resident in the Cook Islands if-

(a) the person’s home is in the Cook Islands; and

(b) the person is personally present in the Cook Islands for more than 183 days in a 12-month period.

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

Please list the domestic legal provisions that determine whether an Entity is to be considered a tax resident of that jurisdiction. Such legal provisions may be articles of the relevant tax code, as well as any further regulations specifying the residency criteria. Ideally, also a list of domestic Entity types that are in principle considered tax residents of the jurisdiction should be included (if available, with hyperlinks).

This section should ideally also provide further guidance for the different types of Entities to determine whether they are a resident for tax purposes in the jurisdiction. It can be presented either in narrative form or by means of hyperlinks to the relevant sections of the government or tax authority website or publications.

**Income Tax Act 1997**

**Section 2 Definitions**

"Entity" means-

(a) a government (whether state, regional, or local); and

(b) a company, partnership, trust, or similar body or association;
Section 82(2)

(2) A company shall be deemed to be resident in the Cook Islands within the meaning of this Part if the company -

(a) is incorporated in the Cook Islands, or

(b) has its head office in the Cook Islands.

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

This item should ideally provide a list of entity types that are considered fiscally transparent by the jurisdiction or are considered to have no tax residence by the jurisdiction based on other criteria, including a particular legal status or tax regime (such as trusts, foundations, partnerships, investment funds etc.), but are considered to have a nexus with the jurisdiction, in particular due to the fact that the entity was incorporated or is organised under the laws of the jurisdiction or has its place of effective management within the jurisdiction. Jurisdictions may wish to complement this section with further guidance on their domestic rules on the topic, either in narrative form or by inserting relevant hyperlinks.

Income Tax Act 1997

Section 80

80. Liability for assessment of income derived from the Cook Islands and abroad -

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, all income derived by any person who is resident in the Cook Islands at the time when the person derives that income shall be assessable for income tax, whether it is derived from the Cook Islands or from elsewhere.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, all income derived from the Cook Islands shall be assessable for income tax, whether the person deriving that income is resident in the Cook Islands or elsewhere.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, no income which is neither derived from the Cook Islands nor derived by a person then resident in the Cook Islands shall be assessable for income tax.

Section IV – Contact point for further information

Please provide the contact details of the competent service within their tax authority, which can be contacted in case of further questions on tax residency.

(EU Member States can furthermore refer to the Taxes in Europe Data Base maintained by the European Union, which contains a wide range of information on all taxes in the EU Member States, including on tax residency.)

Andrew Haigh – Treasurer of Revenue Management
andrew.haigh@cookislands.gov.ck

Geraldine Ryan - Legal Counsel
geraldine.ryan@cookislands.gov.ck