AN OVERVIEW OF THE G20/OECD BEPS INITIATIVE AND ITS DEVELOPMENTS

IATA – World Financial Symposium – 26 October 2023

John Peterson Head of Division – Cross-border and International Taxation Centre for Tax Policy and Administration OECD



BEPS – Approach to Substance and Nexus

Aligning taxation with value creation



Action 1. Taxation of the Digital Economy



BEPS Action Plan:

Task was limited to the problems we could solve with the tools we had

Source v Residence Pillar 1 Rate Differentials Pillar 2

Recognition that digitalisation and globalisation allow largest multinationals to generate revenues in markets without the need for physical presence. Cannot have a comprehensive solution to profit shifting without addressing rate differentials











| | | Step 1. D | etermine if y | ou are in sco | ре | | |
|--|--|---------------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1.1. Group revenue and profitability test | | 1.2 | 1.2. Exceptional segmentation rule | | | 1.3. | Limited exclusions |
| Step 2. Identify eligible market jurisdictions | | | | | | | |
| 2.1. Revenue sourcing rules | | | \searrow | 2.2. Nexus tes | 2.2. Nexus test based on sourced revenue | | |
| Step 3. Calculate and allocate a portion of your excess profit | | | | | | | |
| 3.1. Determine relevant group profit | | 3.2. Allocat | 3.2. Allocate a portion of excess profit to markets | | | 3.3. Adjust for double counting | |
| Step 4. Eliminate double taxation | | | | | | | |
| 4.1. Determine relevant jurisdictional profit 24.2. Allocate | | | e obligation to relieve double taxation | | | 4.3. Identify relief entities within a jurisdiction | |
| | | Step 5. File, | pay and acc | ess to tax cer | tainty | | |
| 5.1. File with I Administra | | 5.2. Payment from s | single group | 5.3. Claim relie taxati | - | 5.4 | . Access to tax certainty |

MLC – Tax certainty and DSTs

Tax Certainty

- "Amount A" A binding multilateral certainty process over whether MNEs are in scope, and their application of MLC.
- "Related Issues" Improved certainty process (incl. mandatory and binding dispute resolution) for disputes on existing tax rules, to the extent that they relate to Amount A (e.g. transfer pricing and PE).

DSTs and relevant similar measures

- A list of existing measures to be removed in Annex A.
- Commitment not to impose digital service taxes (DSTs) and relevant similar measures on any company.
- Conference of the Parties will conduct reviews to determine whether a measure is contrary to this commitment (in which case Amount A allocations will be denied).



Entry into force

• Requires ratification by 30 States accounting for at least 60% of the ultimate parent entities of MNEs initially expected to be in-scope for Amount A, and a decision by ratifying countries.

Interaction with existing tax treaties

- Existing bilateral tax treaties between Parties to the MLC will continue to apply, but will be superseded by the MLC to the extent needed to permit the application of Amount A.
- Tax treaties with Jurisdictions which are not Parties to the MLC will not be affected.

The Conference of the Parties

 MLC establishes a 'Conference of the Parties' (CoP) to make decisions or exercise functions required for the interpretation and implementation of the MLC.

7-year review

- Revenue threshold will be reduced from €20 billion to €10 billion seven years after entry into force, unless implementation is deemed not successful by the Parties following a review by the CoP (based on predetermined criteria).
- In latter scenario, Parties will be required to address any identified implementation issues within two years to enable the lowering of the revenue threshold.

Amount B - Simplifying Transfer Pricing

- Simplify and streamline the arm's length principle to in-country baseline marketing and distribution activities, with a particular focus on the needs of LCJs
- Ongoing work on
 - (1) the balance between a quantitative and qualitative approach, and
 - (2) the pricing framework, digital goods, country uplifts and local databases
- IF Amount B report, content from which into the OECD TPG by January 2024 with consideration of
 - (1) the needs of low-capacity jurisdictions, and
 - (2) the interdependence of Amount B and the signing and entry into force of the MLC.







GloBE Rules

15% effective rate – applies on a jurisdictional basis

All income

Large MNEs – 750 million Euros

Domestic law provision

Common approach

Subject to Tax Rule

9% nominal rate – applies on a transactional basis

Certain related party payments

All companies (subject to de minimis thresholds)

Treaty provision

Can be required by developing countries



1. MNE Group +750 m EUR

- In line with CbCR requirements
- High threshold maximises cost / benefit

2. Entity level financial accounts

- Leverages existing accounting and audit processes.
- Consistent accounting standard prevents mismatches
- Local tax rules used to identify location of entity and income

3. Agreed Adjustments to calculate GloBE income

- Brings financial accounting income into line with local tax base
- Ensures correct allocation of income between jurisdictions
- Policy based exclusions (shipping exclusion)

4. Covered taxes

- Uses financial accounting as starting point
- Incorporates deferred taxes to account for timing differences
- Cross-border adjustments to align income and taxes.

5. Top-up tax calculation

- Top-up tax applies to excess profit (i.e. after applying substance based income exclusion)
- Simplifications and safe harbours

6. Charging provision

 Agreed rule order provides certainty and avoids double taxation

Ongoing tax policy issues beyond the Pillars



AN OVERVIEW OF THE G20/OECD BEPS INITIATIVE AND ITS DEVELOPMENTS

IATA – World Financial Symposium – 26 October 2023

John Peterson Head of Division – Cross-border and International Taxation Centre for Tax Policy and Administration OECD

