

Americas Tax Roundup

This week's edition of Americas Tax Roundup contains two weeks' worth of news.

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The Americas Tax Roundup is now being sent out through EY's *Tax News Update: Global Edition* (GTNU) email subscription service.

We will be sending the AT Roundup via **both** the GTNU and the current email distribution system, but we urge you to register for the GTNU platform as soon as possible (**instructions available here**) in order to continue receiving the Roundup.

If you have any questions, issues or comments, please email Global Tax News Update Help at **globaltaxnewsupdatehelp@ey.com**.

Latest news - Americas

Argentina implements foreign exchange control regulations

The Argentine Central Bank (BCRA) has issued a Communique that establishes various rules for exports and imports of goods and services, foreign assets, nonresident operations, financial debt, debts between residents, profits and dividends, and information systems. The Communique responds to the publication of a Decree implementing foreign exchange regulations that will be in effect until 31 December 2019.

US and China announce additional tariffs in further escalation of trade dispute

On 23 August, China's Customs Tariff Commission announced it would implement additional tariffs of 5% and 10% on 5,078 tariff items that amount to US\$75 billion of US-origin goods (China List 4). In an immediate response, the US Trade Representative announced a 5% increase to the existing 25% punitive tariffs on \$250b of Chinese origin goods (Lists 1, 2, and 3), as well as an increase from 10% to 15% for the punitive tariffs on the remaining \$300b of Chinese origin goods (Lists 4A and 4B) due to take effect later this year.

G7 leaders' declaration addresses international tax

The leaders of the G7 group of nations issued a brief declaration at the conclusion of their summit in Biarritz, France on 26 August 2019, confirming their support for modernizing international taxation within the framework of the OECD. The confirmation is an important step in advancing the work on proposals for fundamental changes to the international tax system.

<u>US Treasury Department announces entry-into-force dates of tax treaty protocols with Japan and Spain</u>

The US Treasury Department has announced the entry-into-force dates of the protocols to the US tax treaties with Japan and Spain. The protocol with Japan entered into force on 30 August 2019, and the protocol with Spain will enter into force on 27 November 2019. The new lower withholding taxes under both protocols will take effect before the end of 2020.

<u>Costa Rica publishes resolution on including royalties and license fees in price actually paid on imports</u>

Costa Rica's General Customs Directorate and the National Customs Valuation and Verification Body has published a resolution regulating how to include royalties and license fees in the price actually paid on or payable for imports. The resolution requires importers that do not know the royalty or license fee amount at the time of import to estimate the amount.

9 September 2019

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Tax Insights Magazine

Tax Insights Magazine is a series of publications, produced by EY, that will help you to gain a more thorough understanding of tax issues. It features the insights of high-level executives and professionals, as well as contributions from leading policy-makers and academics.

<u>Canada repeals Canada-Costa Rica FTA 'non-entitlement to preference' regulations</u>

Canada is extending entitlement to preferential tariff treatment under the Canada–Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement (CCRFTA) to certain goods that were excluded from CCRFTA preferential tariff treatment under regulations in effect since 2002. Canada repealed the "non-entitlement to preference" regulations because it is now satisfied that Costa Rica has eliminated business tax exemptions and other export subsidies. As a result, certain goods previously exempt can now benefit from preferential tariff treatment.

<u>Canada corrects technical errors affecting tariff items under CPTPP preferential</u> tariff

The Government of Canada has issued an order correcting certain errors in the implementation of the *Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership* (CPTPP). Due to an error with the transposition of Canada's tariff commitments, 14 tariff items had been incorrectly granted duty-free status and one tariff item had been made subject to a gradual phase-out of customs duties when it should have been duty-free upon entry into force of the CPTPP.

<u>Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement modernization takes effect 1 September 2019</u>

On 1 September 2019, Canadian legislation came into force to allow for the implementation of the May 2018 Amending Protocol to modernize the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA). Upon entry into force of the modernized CIFTA, almost all Canadian exports of agricultural, agri-food, fish and seafood products will benefit from preferential tariff treatment in Israel.

<u>OECD releases Canada Stage 2 peer review report on implementation of Action 14 minimum standard</u>

The OECD has released the Stage 2 peer review report of Canada relating to the implementation of the BEPS minimum standards under Action 14 on improving tax dispute resolution mechanisms. Overall, the report concludes that Canada addressed most of the shortcomings identified in its Stage 1 peer review report. Those principally included issues with Canada's treaties related to time limits for Mutual Agreement Procedure submission and settlement implementation, and the absence of time limits for making transfer pricing adjustments.

This week's tax treaty news in the Americas

- Brazil and Norway: tax treaty negotiations ongoing
- Canada and Norway: tax treaty protocol negotiations ongoing
- Guatemala and Israel: free trade agreement negotiations held
- MERCOSUR and European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland): free trade agreement negotiations concluded
- Peru and China: negotiations held on revision to free trade agreement
- Peru and India: free trade agreement negotiations held
- Peru and Japan: tax treaty agreed on in principle

This week's EY Global Tax Alerts

Global Tax Alerts

- Report on recent US international tax developments 6 September 2019 (6 September 2019)
- India's Authority for Advance Rulings holds conversion of Indian private limited company to limited liability partnership is taxable to shareholders (6 September 2019)
- Czech Government publishes draft legislation on Mandatory Disclosure Rules: A detailed review (5 September 2019)

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Comments

If you have any questions or suggestions about this newsletter, please contact **Amy Gist**

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Forward to a colleague

- US Treasury Department announces entry-into-force dates of tax treaty protocols with Japan and Spain (5 September 2019)
- Argentina implements foreign exchange control regulations (5 September 2019)
- Mauritius issues regulations on substance requirements and computation of income for CFC purposes (3 September 2019)
- US IRS announcement allowing domestic partnerships and S corporations to file under proposed GILTI regulations has implications for tax year 2018 filings for private equity funds, alternative asset management funds and other private companies (3 September 2019)
- Report on recent US international tax developments 29 August 2019 (29 August 2019)
- Poland issues draft bill to implement EU ATAD 2 anti-hybrid measures (29 August 2019)
- Norwegian Government proposes introduction of cross-border group relief rules (28 August 2019)
- China and Hong Kong sign Fifth Protocol to treaty (28 August 2019)
- Czech Government publishes revised draft legislation on Mandatory Disclosure Rules (27 August 2019)
- Argentina and Luxembourg sign new tax treaty (26 August 2019)

OECD/BEPS Alerts

- OECD releases Canada Stage 2 peer review report on implementation of Action 14 minimum standard (6 September 2019)
- G7 leader's declaration addresses international tax, France discusses future of French Digital Services Tax (28 August 2019)
- OECD releases Netherlands Stage 2 peer review report on implementation of Action 14 minimum standard (26 August 2019)

Transfer Pricing Alerts

- Ireland publishes Transfer Pricing Feedback Statement (4 September 2019)
- Australian Taxation Office releases draft guidance on arm's-length debt test for purposes of thin capitalization regime (28 August 2019)
- EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum releases reports on 2018 statistics on APAs and pending MAPs under the Arbitration Convention (28 August 2019)

Indirect Alerts

- Kazakhstan proposes imposing VAT liability on nonresidents providing electronic services to individuals (6 September 2019)
- Uzbekistan proposes introduction of VAT on digital services rendered by nonresidents (6 September 2019)
- Costa Rica publishes resolution on including royalties and license fees in price actually paid on imports (5 September 2019)
- UAE announces anticipated expansion of excise tax (3 September 2019)
- Japan announced more stringent licensing procedures for exports to Korea (29 August 2019)
- Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement modernization to take effect 1
 September 2019 (29 August 2019)
- Canada repeals Canada-Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement Non-entitlement to Preference Regulations (29 August 2019)
- Canada amends the Schedule to the Customs Tariff to correct technical errors affecting tariff items under CPTPP preferential tariff (29 August 2019)
- Canada: Registration for Québec Sales Tax required by 1 September 2019 under new registration system (27 August 2019)
- US announces additional tariffs in response to China's tariff retaliation for List 4 products and reinstated tariffs on US origin vehicles and parts (26 August 2019)

Human Capital Alerts

- Singapore High Court rejects bid by Central Provident Fund Board in case regarding independent contractor versus employee (28 August 2019)
- Australian Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Migration plans to refocus migration program (28 August 2019)

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