

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION - HOW DID WE GET HERE AND WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

21 July 2009 (Tuesday) • 12.00 - 2.15pm; STI Auditorium, Capital Tower

About this Seminar

The OECD has adopted a "name and shame" strategy in an attempt to "level the playing field" insofar as exchange of tax information was concerned. Singapore has been listed on OECD's Grey list as a country that has committed to but not implemented acceptable procedures for the implementation of exchange of information. Singapore has double tax treaties (DTAs) with 60 countries. Some of them have been negotiated a long time ago. All DTAs have an Exchange of Information provision (Article 26), with the exception of the DTA with Switzerland. Article 26 itself has undergone changes in recent years. The Government has now introduced amendments to the Income Tax Act by proposing to enact Part XXA and XXB to the Income Tax Act (Sections 105A to 105L, together with the Eighth Schedule to the Act). The proposed provisions will allow the Comptroller to furnish certain information in certain circumstances to the Competent Authority of the requesting country.

The talk will examine the circumstances that led to the OECD's clamouring for change, the justification, if any, for the change, the circumstances in which information may be released or obtained, the consequences for Singapore in the tax and trust fields and its standing as a competitive tax and trust jurisdiction.

Seminar Programme

12.00 - 12.30pm	Registrations & Standing Buffet Lunch
12.30 - 12.35pm	Opening Remarks & Overview by Chairperson
	Mr. Eli William Lenyoun - Director, Family Wealth Solutions Pte. Ltd
12.35 - 2.00pm	Exchange of Information - How Did We Get Here & Where Are We Headed?
	Mr. Gurbachan Singh - Senior Partner, KhattarWong; Secretary, STEP (Singapore Chapter)
2.00 - 2.15pm	Q&A Session & Closing Remarks

About the Chairperson

Mr. Eli William Lenyoun - Director, Family Wealth Solutions Pte. Ltd

Eli is a Singapore citizen with over 31 years experience (23 years in or covering Asia) in the area of Total Wealth Management. Eli actively practices as an international and cross-border wealth planner for ultra high-net-worth families. In his practice Eli focuses on developing bespoke legal structures and Family Wealth Engineering, with emphasis on creating and installing family governance and leadership development.

About the Speaker

Mr. Gurbachan Singh - Senior Partner, KhattarWong; Secretary, STEP (Singapore Chapter)

Gurbachan Singh continues to be actively involved in tax work after more than 30 years. His practice revolves mainly around revenue law and trust matters. He is the Honorary Tax Advisor to the Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore. Gurbachan is also a member of the UK Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP). Additionally, Gurbachan is a Member of the Revenue Chamber of the Editorial and Research Committee of the Malaysian Institute of Taxation. He is also a Director of the Tax Academy of Singapore and Singapore Institute of Taxation. Gurbachan is regarded as one of Singapore's leading tax lawyers and is consistently ranked highly in legal publications such as *Asia Pacific Legal 500*, *Asian Legal Business* and *PLC Which Lawyer*.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Mdm): _____
 Name and Address of Organisation: _____
 STEP Membership No: _____ Position in Organisation: _____
 Tel number: _____ Fax number: _____ Email: _____
(A valid email address is required for confirmation of registration.)

MEMBERSHIP (Please circle as appropriate.)	FEES
Members of STEP, CPA Australia, CPA Singapore/ICPAS, International Fiscal Association (IFA), Law Society of Singapore, Singapore Corporate Counsel Association (SCCA), STA (Singapore Trustees Association), Singapore Association of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (SAICSA)	S\$50.00
Others	S\$80.00

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Cheque Details:

Cheque payments should be made payable to "STEP (SINGAPORE CHAPTER)" & arrive at our office at "c/o INTELLITRAIN PTE LTD, 3 Raffles Place #07-01 Bharat Building S048617" with the completed registration form on or before the closing date, **Tuesday, 14 July 2009**.

For further enquiries, please contact: STEP (Singapore) Secretariat
 Tel: 31287781 (no 6 prefix) Fax: (65) 63299699 E-mail: secretariat@step.org.sg Website: www.step.org.sg

REGISTRATION, REFUND & CANCELLATION POLICY

- Registrations will be confirmed upon receipt of full payment accompanied by a duly completed registration form.
- The Organisers reserve the right to refuse to register or admit any participant, and to cancel or postpone the course.
- Equivalent substitute delegates are welcomed, subject to the Organisers being notified at least 2 working days before the course of the substitute delegate.
- The Organisers will not entertain any request for a refund of fees. However a confirmed registrant who has paid in full the course fees but does not turn up for the course will be entitled to collect a set of the materials provided.