

*Hong Kong (SIC) Interpretation 25*

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# **Income Taxes — Changes in the Tax Status of an Entity or its Shareholders**



Hong Kong Institute of  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
香港會計師公會

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## Hong Kong (SIC) Interpretation 25

### *Income Taxes - Changes in the Tax Status of an Entity or its Shareholders*

HK(SIC) Interpretation 25 *Income Taxes - Changes in the Tax Status of an Entity or its Shareholders* (HK(SIC)-Int 25) is set out in paragraph 4. HK(SIC)-Int 25 is accompanied by a Basis for Conclusions. The scope and authority of Interpretations are set out in the *Preface to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards*.

## References

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- HKAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements (as revised in 2007)*
- HKAS 8 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*
- HKAS 12 *Income Taxes*

## Issue

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- 1 A change in the tax status of an entity or of its shareholders may have consequences for an entity by increasing or decreasing its tax liabilities or assets. This may, for example, occur upon the public listing of an entity's equity instruments or upon the restructuring of an entity's equity. It may also occur upon a controlling shareholder's move to a foreign country. As a result of such an event, an entity may be taxed differently; it may for example gain or lose tax incentives or become subject to a different rate of tax in the future.
- 2 A change in the tax status of an entity or its shareholders may have an immediate effect on the entity's current tax liabilities or assets. The change may also increase or decrease the deferred tax liabilities and assets recognised by the entity, depending on the effect the change in tax status has on the tax consequences that will arise from recovering or settling the carrying amount of the entity's assets and liabilities.
- 3 The issue is how an entity should account for the tax consequences of a change in its tax status or that of its shareholders.

## Conclusions

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- 4 A change in the tax status of an entity or its shareholders does not give rise to increases or decreases in amounts recognised outside profit or loss. The current and deferred tax consequences of a change in tax status shall be included in net profit or loss for the period, unless those consequences relate to transactions and events that result, in the same or a different period, in a direct credit or charge to the recognised amount of equity or in amounts recognised in other comprehensive income. Those tax consequences that relate to changes in the recognised amount of equity, in the same or a different period (not included in net profit or loss), shall be charged or credited directly to equity. Those tax consequences that relate to amounts recognised in other comprehensive income shall be recognised in other comprehensive income.

## Date of issue

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December 2004

## Effective date

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This Interpretation becomes effective for annual accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005; earlier application is encouraged. Changes in accounting policies shall be accounted for in accordance with HKAS 8.

This Interpretation supersedes Interpretation 21 *Income Taxes - Changes in the Tax Status of an Enterprise or its Shareholders* (issued in July 2002).

HKAS 1 (as revised in 2007) amended the terminology used throughout HKFRSs. In addition it amended paragraph 4. An entity shall apply those amendments for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009. If an entity applies HKAS 1 (revised 2007) for an earlier period, the amendments shall be applied for that earlier period.

## Basis for Conclusions

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HK(SIC)-Int 25 is based on SIC Interpretation 25 *Income Taxes - Changes in the Tax Status of an Entity or its Shareholders*. In approving HK(SIC)-Int 25, the Council of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants considered and agreed with the SIC's Basis for Conclusions on SIC Interpretation 25. Accordingly, there are no significant differences between HK(SIC)-Int 25 and SIC Interpretation 25. The SIC's Basis for Conclusions is reproduced below. The paragraph numbers of SIC Interpretation 25 referred to below generally correspond with those in HK(SIC)-Int 25.

*This Basis for Conclusions accompanies, but is not part of, SIC-25.*

- 5 IAS 12.58 requires current and deferred tax to be included in profit or loss for the period, except to the extent the tax arises from a transaction or event that is recognised outside profit or loss either in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in the same or a different period, (or arises from a business combination). IAS 12.61A requires current and deferred tax to be recognised outside profit or loss if the tax relates to items that are recognised, in the same or a different period, outside profit or loss.
- 5A IAS 12.62 identifies examples of circumstances in which a transaction or event is recognised in other comprehensive income as permitted or required by another IFRS. All of these circumstances result in changes in the recognised amount of equity through recognition in other comprehensive income.
- 6 IAS 12.62A identifies examples of circumstances in which a transaction or event is recognised directly in equity as permitted or required by another IFRS. All of these circumstances result in changes in the recognised amount of equity through recognition of a credit or charge directly to equity.
- 7 IAS 12.65 explains that where the tax base of a revalued asset changes, any tax consequence is recognised in other comprehensive income only to the extent that a related accounting revaluation was or is expected to be recognised in other comprehensive income (revaluation surplus).
- 8 Because tax consequences recognised outside profit or loss, whether in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, must relate to a transaction or event recognised outside profit or loss in the same or a different period, the cumulative amount of tax recognised outside profit or loss can be expected to be the same amount that would have been recognised outside profit or loss if the new tax status had applied previously. IAS 12.63(b) acknowledges that determining the tax consequences of a change in the tax rate or other tax rules that affects a deferred tax asset or liability and relates to an item previously recognised outside profit or loss may prove to be difficult. Because of this, IAS 12.63 suggests that an allocation may be necessary.