

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam has met all aspects of the terms of reference (OECD, 2017^[3]) (ToR) for the calendar year 2019 (year in review) that can be met in the absence of rulings being issued in practice.

Brunei Darussalam can legally issue five types of rulings within the scope of the transparency framework.

In practice, Brunei Darussalam has not issued any rulings within the scope of the transparency framework.

As no exchanges were required to take place, no peer input was received in respect of the exchanges of information on rulings received from Brunei Darussalam.

A. The information gathering process

173. Brunei Darussalam can legally issue the following five types of rulings within the scope of the transparency framework: (i) preferential regimes;¹ (ii) cross-border unilateral APAs and any other cross-border unilateral tax rulings (such as an advance tax ruling) covering transfer pricing or the application of transfer pricing principles; (iii) rulings providing for unilateral downward adjustments; (iv) permanent establishment rulings; and (v) related party conduit rulings.

174. For Brunei Darussalam, past rulings are any tax rulings within scope that are issued either: (i) on or after 1 January 2015 but before 1 April 2017; or (ii) on or after 1 January 2012 but before 1 January 2015, provided they were still in effect as at 1 January 2015. Future rulings are any tax rulings within scope that are issued on or after 1 April 2017.

175. In the prior years' peer review reports, it was determined that Brunei Darussalam's undertakings to identify past and future rulings and all potential exchange jurisdictions were sufficient to meet the minimum standard. In addition, it was determined that Brunei Darussalam's review and supervision mechanism was sufficient to meet the minimum standard. Brunei Darussalam's implementation remains unchanged, and therefore continues to meet the minimum standard.

176. Brunei Darussalam has met all of the ToR for the information gathering process and no recommendations are made.

B. The exchange of information

177. In the prior years' peer review reports, it was determined that Brunei Darussalam's process for the completion and exchange of templates were sufficient to meet the minimum standard. With respect to past rulings, no further action was required. Brunei Darussalam's implementation in this regard remains unchanged and therefore continues to meet the minimum standard.

178. Brunei Darussalam has international agreements permitting spontaneous exchange of information, including being a party to the (i) *Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters: Amended by the 2010 Protocol* (OECD/Council of Europe, 2011^[4]) ("the Convention") and (ii) bilateral agreements in force with 17 jurisdictions.²

179. As Brunei Darussalam did not issue any future rulings in scope of the transparency framework in the relevant period, Brunei Darussalam was not required to exchange any information on rulings in the year in review and no data on the timeliness of exchanges can be reported.

180. Brunei Darussalam has the necessary legal basis for spontaneous exchange of information. Brunei Darussalam has met all of the ToR for the exchange of information process that can be met in the absence of rulings being issued and exchanged in practice and no recommendations are made.

C. Statistics (ToR IV)

181. As no rulings were issued, no statistics can be reported.

D. Matters related to intellectual property regimes (ToR I.4.1.3)

182. Brunei Darussalam does not offer an intellectual property regime for which transparency requirements under the Action 5 Report (OECD, 2015^[1]) were imposed.

Summary of recommendations on implementation of the transparency framework

Aspect of implementation of the transparency framework that should be improved	Recommendation for improvement
	No recommendations are made.

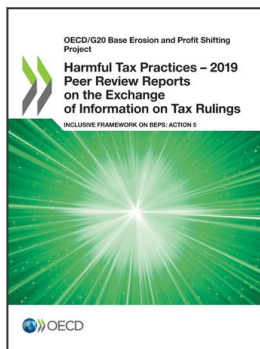
References

- OECD (2017), *BEPS Action 5 on Harmful Tax Practices - Terms of Reference and Methodology for the Conduct of the Peer Reviews of the Action 5 Transparency Framework*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-action-5-harmful-tax-practices-peer-review-transparency-framework.pdf>. [3]
- OECD (2015), *Countering Harmful Tax Practices More Effectively, Taking into Account Transparency and Substance, Action 5 - 2015 Final Report*, OECD/G20 Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Project, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264241190-en>. [1]
- OECD/Council of Europe (2011), *The Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters: Amended by the 2010 Protocol*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264115606-en>. [4]

Notes

¹ Investment incentive order.

² Parties to the Convention are available here: www.oecd.org/tax/exchange-of-tax-information/convention-on-mutual-administrative-assistance-in-tax-matters.htm. Brunei Darussalam also has bilateral agreements with Bahrain, Cambodia, China (People's Republic of), Indonesia, Japan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Korea, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.



From:

Harmful Tax Practices – 2019 Peer Review Reports on the Exchange of Information on Tax Rulings Inclusive Framework on BEPS: Action 5

Access the complete publication at:

<https://doi.org/10.1787/afd1bf8c-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2020), “Brunei Darussalam”, in *Harmful Tax Practices – 2019 Peer Review Reports on the Exchange of Information on Tax Rulings: Inclusive Framework on BEPS: Action 5*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/e590da92-en>

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