

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mauritius has emerged as a thriving hub for trade and investment, attracting businesses and investors from around the globe. As a member of a variety of bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Mauritius provides Mauritian trading companies access to vast regional markets, trade on a duty-free basis and fruitful investment opportunities.

Mauritius – Hub for Trade and Investment

Acknowledging the need to remain competitive and attractive as an offshore hub, the island continues to improve its already attractive tax and commercial structures. Amongst many other benefits, there is currently no Withholding Tax on Dividend paid to Shareholders, no Capital Gains Tax and the latest labour reforms include the following (i) the threshold for Occupation Permits for professionals will be reduced from Rs 30,000 to Rs 22,500.00, (ii) a temporary Occupation Permit of 3 months will be introduced to allow professionals with a minimum of 10 years' experience to work pending approval of their respective applications, (iii) a 10-year Expert Occupation Permit will be introduced to attract foreign talents in wealth management, family office, virtual assets, and virtual tokens and (iv) non-citizens holding a Retired Residence Permit will be allowed to work without an additional Work or Occupation Permit.

Mauritius also provides a highly favourable tax environment for exporters. Currently, corporations are subject to income tax on their net income at a flat rate of 15%. However, companies involved in exporting goods may benefit from a reduced tax rate of 3% on the chargeable income attributable to exports, calculated according to a specified formula. Importantly, this rate of 3% applies to companies engaged in the export of goods, even if the goods do not physically pass through Mauritius, provided they comply with local regulations.

As South African companies continue to look for new and stable markets to do business in or out of, Mauritius proves to be a viable option and the place to be. Our experience in international trade, licensing and structuring and our existing arrangement with specialists in the field of international trade in Mauritius, allows us to offer our clients a full scope of comprehensive services in this area.

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