



ANGUILLA

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2019

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I Assent


Timothy J. Foy, OBE
Governor

11 January 2019
Date

ANGUILLA

No. 4/2019

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2019

[Gazette Dated: 15th January, 2019] [Commencement: under section]

An Act to amend the Limited Partnership Act, R.S.A., c. L70 to require certain limited partnerships to demonstrate that they satisfy “economic substance” requirements, to require mandatory reporting of information, and for incidental and connected purposes.

ENACTED by the Legislature of Anguilla

Interpretation

1. In this Act, “the principal Act” means the Limited Partnership Act, R.S.A., c. L70.

Insertion of new sections 24A to 24G

2. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 24, the following sections—

“Purpose and operation of this section and sections 24B to 24G

24A. (1) The purpose of these economic substance provisions is to require—

- (a) any limited partnership carrying on a relevant activity to satisfy the Registrar annually that it meets the economic substance test in relation to the relevant activity; and
- (b) mandatory reporting of information for the purposes of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Tax Matters.

(2) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to an exempt limited partnership.

(3) Subject to any rules made for the purposes of this Part, the Registrar may by notice published in the Gazette issue guidance on how the Registrar intends to determine whether a limited partnership meets the economic substance test in relation to any relevant activity.

(4) The Registrar may delegate in writing to a specified person or authority all or any of his functions under these economic substance provisions.

(5) In these economic substance provisions—

“calendar quarter” means one of the following periods—

- (a) 1 January to 31 March;
- (b) 1 April to 30 June;
- (c) 1 July to 30 September;
- (d) 1 October to 31 December;

“compliant”, in relation to a limited partnership, means that the limited partnership is not, or no longer, non-compliant;

“these economic substance provisions” means this section and sections 24B to 24G;

“economic substance return” means a return required to be filed under section 24C;

“the economic substance test”, in relation to a relevant activity, means the test prescribed as the economic substance test for the relevant activity;

“exempt limited partnership” means a limited partnership that is prescribed to be exempt from the economic substance test;

“filed information”, in relation to a limited partnership, means any economic substance return or other information or evidence filed by it with the Registrar;

“intellectual property asset” includes any copyright, design right, trademark, patent or similar asset including any utility model or any right given for plant breeders and genetic material;

“limited partnership” or “partnership” means a limited partnership registered under this Act;

“relevant activity” means an activity specified in Schedule 2;

“relevant quarter”, in relation to any limited partnership, means the calendar quarter in which the anniversary of the registration under this Act of the limited partnership falls; and

“relevant year”, in relation to any limited partnership, means the year immediately preceding the 1st day of the relevant quarter for the partnership.

Meaning of information subject to legal professional privilege

24B. For the purposes of these economic substance provisions, information is subject to legal professional privilege where the information would reveal confidential

communications between a client and his legal representative where the communication is produced for the purpose of—

- (a) seeking or providing legal advice; or
- (b) use in existing or contemplated legal proceedings;

but legal professional privilege does not apply to any information or other matter, which is communicated or given with the intention of furthering a criminal purpose.

Economic substance returns

24C. (1) A limited partnership shall make up and file with the Registrar a return for each relevant year in accordance with this section.

(2) The return—

- (a) shall be made up to the first day of the relevant quarter;
- (b) shall be filed in the prescribed manner with the Registrar no later than the last day of the relevant quarter;
- (c) may be filed together with an annual return for the relevant year filed under section 13;
- (d) shall include the prescribed information and be in the prescribed form; and
- (e) shall be certified as correct by or on behalf of the general partners of the limited partnership.

(3) Without limiting the generality of subsection (2)(c), Rules made for the purposes of that provision may require the partnership to provide sufficient information in the return to enable the Registrar—

- (a) to identify the type of activities carried on by the partnership;
- (b) to determine whether the partnership is carrying on a relevant activity; and
- (c) if the partnership is carrying on a relevant activity—
 - (i) to determine the nature of the relevant activity; and
 - (ii) unless the partnership is an exempt limited partnership, to determine whether or not the partnership meets the economic substance test in relation to the relevant activity.

(4) A limited partnership that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

Registrar may require further information or evidence to remedy non-compliance

24D. (1) This section applies where, in the opinion of the Registrar, a limited partnership is non-compliant.

- (2) A limited partnership is non-compliant if it—
- (a) does not meet the economic substance test in relation to each relevant activity that it carries on; or
 - (b) is in contravention of section 24C(1).
- (3) Subsection (2)(a) does not apply to an exempt limited partnership.
- (4) Where this section applies, the Registrar may, by giving the limited partnership notice in writing, require it to file with the Registrar within a period specified in the notice an economic substance return, a revised economic substance return or any further information or evidence described in the notice in order to rectify or remedy the non-compliance.
- (5) The period specified in a notice shall be not less than 7 days and not more than 30 days from the date of issue of the notice.
- (6) A limited partnership given a notice shall file with the Registrar the return, further information or evidence required by the notice within the period specified in that notice.
- (7) A notice—
- (a) has effect notwithstanding any obligation as to confidentiality or other restriction upon the disclosure of information imposed by any enactment, rule of law or otherwise; but
 - (b) does not require a limited partnership to file with the Registrar any information subject to legal professional privilege.

Financial penalties for continuing non-compliance

- 24E.** (1) This section applies where a limited partnership given a notice under section 24D(4)—
- (a) fails to file with the Registrar the return, further information or evidence required by the notice within the period specified in it; or
 - (b) despite filing the return, further information or evidence required by the notice, fails to satisfy the Registrar that the partnership is compliant.
- (2) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), where the partnership is or continues to be non-compliant under section 24D(2)(a), the Registrar shall order that partnership to pay to the Registrar a civil penalty consisting of—
- (a) a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$25,000 in respect of the first relevant year to which the non-compliance relates; and
 - (b) thereafter, a fine of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$100,000 in respect of each subsequent relevant year to which the non-compliance relates.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), where the partnership is or continues to be non-compliant under section 24D(2)(b), the Registrar shall order that partnership to pay to the Registrar a civil penalty consisting of—

- (a) a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,500 in respect of the first relevant year to which non-compliance relates; and
- (b) thereafter, a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000 in respect of any other relevant year to which the non-compliance relates.

(4) Where the Registrar intends to order a limited partnership to pay a penalty in accordance with subsection (2) or (3), the Registrar shall give the partnership notice of his intention, and a reasonable opportunity to do either or both—

- (a) satisfy the Registrar that the partnership is compliant; and
- (b) show cause why the partnership should be fined an amount that is less than the proposed fine.

(5) After the expiration of the time specified in a notice the Registrar shall, unless the limited partnership satisfies the Registrar that it is compliant, issue a written order to the partnership to pay a civil penalty consisting of the proposed fine or a fine of any other amount the Registrar considers appropriate in accordance with subsection (2) or (3).

(6) Subject to section 24G, a limited partnership to which an order is issued shall pay the penalty specified in the order within 30 days of the date on which the order was issued.

(7) Any penalty payable under subsection (6) that remains unpaid for 30 days immediately following the date on which the order was issued is recoverable at the instance of the Attorney-General before a Magistrate in civil proceedings as a debt due to the Crown notwithstanding the amount sought to be recovered.

(8) For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this section limits or restricts the power of the Registrar to strike off a limited partnership under section 26A.

Mandatory information sharing

24F. (1) This section applies to a limited partnership if, in respect of any relevant year—

- (a) section 24E applies in relation to the partnership in accordance with section 24E(1);
- (b) in the opinion of the Registrar, the partnership was a high-risk intellectual property entity; or
- (c) in the opinion of the Registrar the partnership carried on a relevant activity, and the partnership claims, through filed information, that it was an exempt limited partnership.

(2) Where this section applies to a limited partnership, the Registrar shall promptly deliver to the competent authority of Anguilla the following information relating to the partnership—

- (a) the name of that partnership;
- (b) a statement of which of subsection (1)(a), (b) or (c) applies, and why the Registrar believes it applies;
- (c) any inculpatory information for the relevant year;
- (d) any other filed information that the Registrar considers relevant to the partnership's tax matters for the relevant year; and
- (e) any other prescribed information.

(3) Upon receiving that information, the competent authority of Anguilla shall promptly forward it to the competent authority of each tax-concerned Member State.

(4) Nothing in this section requires either the Registrar or the competent authority of Anguilla to deliver or forward to any person any information subject to legal professional privilege.

(5) In this section—

“beneficial owner” has the meaning specified in section 2 of the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations, Revised Regulations of Anguilla P98-1;

“competent authority” has the meaning specified in section 1(1) of the Tax Information Exchange (International Co-operation) Act, 2016;

“a high-risk intellectual property entity” means a limited partnership that—

- (a) acquired an intellectual property asset—
 - (i) from an affiliated entity; or
 - (ii) in consideration for funding research and development by another person situated in a country or territory other than Anguilla; and
- (b) licenses the intellectual property asset to an affiliated entity, or otherwise generates income from the asset in consequence of activities (such as facilitating sale agreements) performed by an affiliated entity;

“inculpatory information” means any information or evidence filed by the partnership with the Registrar, the knowledge of which, in the Registrar's opinion, might trigger off Anguilla's obligation to forward that information or evidence to another Party under Article 7 of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Tax Matters; and

“tax-concerned Member State” means any Member State of the European Union in which any of the following is known to be resident for tax purposes—

- (a) a holding body of the partnership;
 - (b) an ultimate holding body of the partnership; or
 - (c) a beneficial owner of the partnership.
- (6) An entity is an affiliated entity in relation to another entity if—
- (a) one of them is the subsidiary of the other;
 - (b) both are subsidiaries of the same entity;
 - (c) each of them is controlled by the same entity; or
 - (d) they are both affiliated (within the meaning of paragraph (a), (b) or (c)) with the same entity at the same time.
- (7) An entity is the holding body of another entity if the later-mentioned entity is a subsidiary of the first-mentioned entity.
- (8) An entity is a subsidiary of another entity if the first-mentioned entity is controlled by the later-mentioned entity.
- (9) An entity is controlled by another entity if, for example, any shares of the first-mentioned entity carrying voting rights sufficient to control elect a majority of its directors are, except by way of security only, held, directly or indirectly by or on behalf of the later-mentioned entity.

Appeals against penalties

24G. (1) A limited partnership to which an order under section 24E(5) is issued may appeal the order to a Judge in Chambers within 90 days of the date on which the order was issued.

(2) Notice of an appeal to the Judge in Chambers under subsection (1) must be served on the Registrar who shall be entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the appeal.

(3) The Registrar may, pending an appeal under subsection (1), suspend the operation of the order upon any terms he considers appropriate pending the determination of the appeal.”.

Amendment of section 26

3. Section 26 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after paragraph (f), the following paragraph—

“(fa) providing for such savings, transitional and consequential provisions as the Governor may consider necessary or expedient to have effect in connection with the coming into operation of any provision of this Act or the regulations.”.

Insertion of new sections 26A to 26D

4. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 26, the following sections—

“Striking limited partnership from register and dissolution

26A. (1) The Registrar may strike a limited partnership off the register of limited partnerships if—

- (a) the partnership contravenes any provision of this Act;
- (b) the partnership carries on a relevant activity and fails to satisfy the Registrar, through filed information, that it either—
 - (i) meets the economic substance test for each relevant activity carried on by it; or
 - (ii) is an exempt limited partnership; or
- (c) the Registrar is satisfied that the partnership has ceased to carry on business or is not in operation.

(2) Before striking a limited partnership off under subsection (1), the Registrar shall send it a notice stating—

- (a) the grounds on which it is intended to strike the partnership from the register of limited partnerships; and
- (b) that, unless the partnership shows cause to the contrary and remedies the defaults set out in the notice, if any, within 90 days after the date of the notice, it will be struck from that register.

(3) After the expiration of the time mentioned in the notice, the Registrar may, unless the partnership has shown cause to the contrary and, if appropriate, remedied the defaults set out in the notice, issue a certificate of strike off and dissolution.

(4) The partnership is struck off the register of limited partnerships and dissolved on the date shown in its certificate of dissolution.

(5) The Registrar shall publish a notice of the striking off and dissolution of the limited partnership in the *Gazette*.

(6) Where a limited partnership is struck off the Register and dissolved, the Registrar may, upon the application of an interested person made in the prescribed form and upon payment of the prescribed fee and any outstanding fees, revive it and issue a certificate in a form adapted to the circumstances.

(7) Any person who is aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar under this section, may appeal to the Court and if the Court is satisfied that it would be just for the limited partnership to be revived, the Court may direct the Registrar to do so upon such terms and conditions as it may consider appropriate.

(8) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b), “filed information”, “the economic substance test”, “exempt limited partnership” and “relevant activity” have the respective meanings given by section 24A(5).

Economic substance records to be kept

26B. (1) A limited partnership required under any of sections 24A to 24G to satisfy the Registrar that it meets the economic substance test with respect to any relevant year shall retain at the registered office of the limited partnership for six years after the end of the relevant year, any book, document or other record, including any information stored by electronic means, that relates to the economic substance return or any further information or evidence required to be provided to the Registrar under that part.

(2) A limited partnership that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

Confidentiality

26C. (1) Except in so far as may be necessary for the due performance of his functions under any of sections 24A to 24G or any other provision of this Act, the Registrar and any officer or other person acting as an officer, a servant, an agent or an adviser of the Registrar shall preserve and aid in preserving confidentiality with regard to all matters relating to information or documents that may come to his knowledge in the course of the performance of his duties under this Act.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

Immunity

26D. No liability attaches to the Registrar, the competent authority of Anguilla (as defined in section 24F(5)), or any person acting under the authority of either for any act done in good faith in the discharge of the functions under this Act of the Registrar or, as the case may be, the competent authority.”.

Insertion of new Schedule

5. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following after the Schedule—

“SCHEDULE 2 (Section 24A(5))

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

Each of the following is a relevant activity for the purposes of sections 24A to 24G—

(i). **Banking**

A “banking business” as defined in the Banking Act, 2015 and in the Trust Companies and Offshore Banking Act, R.S.A. c.T60.

(ii). **Insurance**

An “insurance business” as defined in the Insurance Act, R.S.A. c.116.

(iii). **Fund management**

A business earning income from providing management services (including making decisions on investments) to an investment fund or its investors.

(iv). **Financing and leasing**

A business earning income from providing credit facilities for any kind of consideration to another person but does not include financial leasing of land or an interest in land, a banking business, an insurance business or a fund management business.

(v). **Distribution and service centre**

A business earning income from—

- (a) purchasing raw materials and finished products from other group members and reselling these; or
- (b) providing services to other entities of the same group, for example transporting and storing goods, managing stocks, taking orders, or providing consulting or other administrative services.

(vi). **Shipping**

A business earning income from shipping activities, for example—

- (a) managing the crew (including hiring, paying or overseeing crew members);
- (b) hauling and maintaining ships;
- (c) overseeing and tracking deliveries;
- (d) determining what goods to order and when to deliver them; or
- (e) organising and overseeing voyages.

(vii). **Intellectual property business**

A business earning income from intellectual property assets, including royalties and income from the sale of an intellectual property asset.

(viii). **Headquarters**

A business earning income from providing services such as managing, coordinating or controlling business activities for a group with which it is affiliated, whether for the group as a whole or for members of the group in a specific geographical area, for example –

- (a) taking relevant management decisions;
- (b) incurring expenditures on behalf of group entities; or

(c) coordinating group activities.

(ix). **Holding company**

A business holding equity participation from which dividends or capital gains are earned.”.

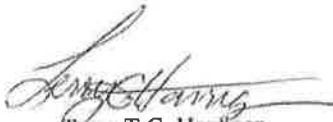
Transitional

6. (1) Nothing in this Act applies to an existing limited partnership until 1st July, 2019.

(2) In subsection (1), “existing limited partnership” means a limited partnership that was registered under the principal Act before 1st January, 2019.


Citation and commencement

7. This Act may be cited as the Limited Partnership (Amendment) Act, 2019 and is deemed to have come into force on 1st January, 2019.



Terry T.C. Harrigan
Speaker

Passed in the House of Assembly this 9th day of January, 2019



Lenox J. Proctor
Clerk of the House of Assembly