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Foreign-sourced income exemption (FSIE) regime

Scope

Specified foreign-sourced income

Dividend

Interest

Intellectual property (IP) income

Disposal gain



Received in Hong Kong

By an MNE entity carrying on a business in Hong Kong

Exclusions

- > Interest, dividend and disposal gain
 - derived from or incidental to the profit producing activities under a preferential tax regime
 - derived by a regulated financial entity from its regulated business
- Disposal gains derived by traders of non-IP assets

Deemed taxable if fail to meet certain requirements

Economic Substance

(for interest, dividend, disposal gain on non-IP assets)

Specified economic activities in Hong Kong with

- o Adequate no. of qualified employees
- Adequate amount of operating expenditures
- Reduced economic substance requirement for pure equity holding company
- Outsourcing of specified economic activities permitted

Nexus

(for IP income, disposal gain on IP assets)

- Income from a **qualifying IP** (i.e. patent and copyrighted software)
- Tax exemption based on R&D fraction i.e. in proportion to qualifying R&D expenditures to develop the IP
- Qualifying expenditures cover R&D activities in or outside HK or outsourced to resident related parties in HK

Further mitigation measures

Participation Requirement

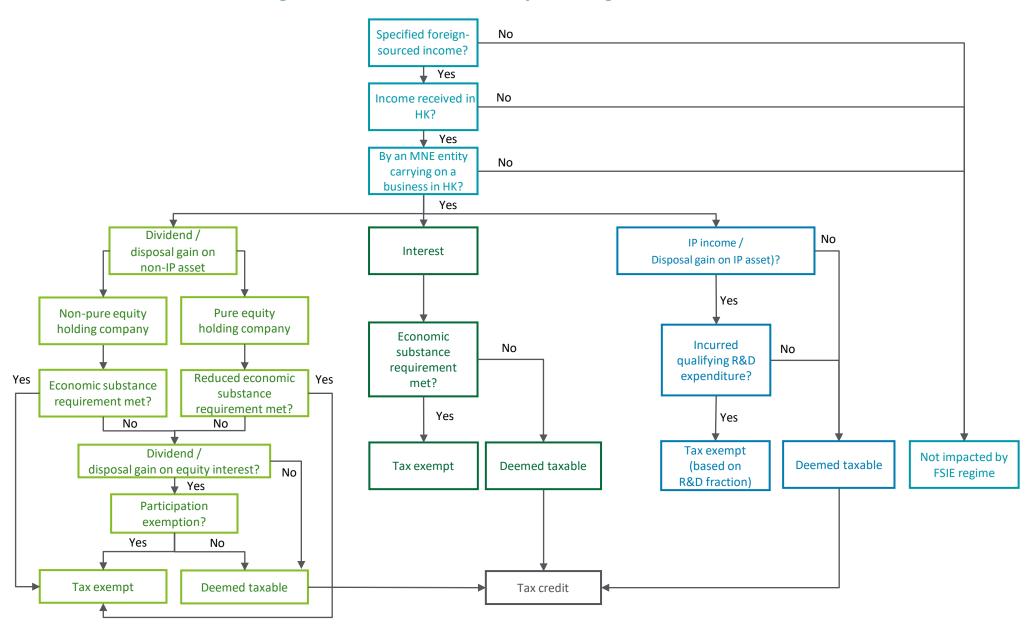
(for dividend, disposal gain on equity interests)

- Satisfy the qualifying conditions:
- HK resident person / non-HK resident with a permanent establishment in HK; and
- Holds not less than 5% of equity interests in the investee company for a period of not less than 12 months immediately before the income accrues
- Subject to specific anti-abuse rules

Double Tax Relief	Intra-group transfer deferral
Foreign tax credit	(for disposal gain on non-IP assets)
 Unilateral tax credit 	Tax considerations deferred
 Look-through approach for dividends 	until sold to a non-associated party

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An overview of the foreign-sourced income exemption regime



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FSIE regime

Effective from 1 Jan 2023

Refined FSIE regime - Expanded scope of disposal gains

Effective from 1 Jan 2024



Compliance requirements

- Report the specified foreign-sourced income when it is accrued
- Provide additional information on economic substance requirement, nexus requirement, participation exemption, etc.

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How can we help?



Review

- Review existing offshore structure for eligibility to tax exemption
- Assess potential tax exposures



Business model planning

- Review existing investment holding structure and operation model
- · Recommend a tax efficient model



Implementation

- Provide tax compliance services
- Assist to claim double tax relief
- Handle enquiries from the Inland Revenue Department



Advance Ruling

 Assist to obtain a Commissioner's Opinion (for disposal gain on newlyadded assets) or ruling on the economic substance level

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