

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

PUBLIC RULING NO. 9/2011

DATE OF ISSUE: 16 NOVEMBER 2011

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY



INLAND REVENUE BOARD MALAYSIA

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DIRECTOR GENERAL'S PUBLIC RULING

A Public Ruling as provided for under section 138A of the Income Tax Act 1967 is issued for the purpose of providing guidance for the public and officers of the Inland Revenue Board Malaysia. It sets out the interpretation of the Director General of Inland Revenue in respect of the particular tax law, and the policy and procedure that are to be applied.

A Public Ruling may be withdrawn, either wholly or in part, by notice of withdrawal or by publication of a new ruling which is inconsistent with it.

Director General of Inland Revenue, Inland Revenue Board Malaysia.



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- 1. This Ruling explains the tax treatment of a co-operative society registered in Malaysia.
- 2. The provisions of the Income Tax Act 1967 (ITA 1967) related to this Ruling are sections 65A, 77A, 107C and paragraph 12 of Schedule 6.
- 3. The words used in this Ruling have the following meaning:
 - 3.1 "Members" includes a person or registered co-operative society joining in the application for the registration of a co-operative society and admitted to membership in accordance with the regulations and by-laws after registration.
 - 3.2 "Dividend" means a share of the profits of a registered co-operative society divided amongst its members in proportion to the share or subscription capital held by them.
 - 3.3 "Co-operative principles" includes:
 - (a) voluntary and open membership;
 - (b) democratic management;
 - (c) limited return on capital contributed by members;
 - (d) equitable provisions of profits;
 - (e) promotion of co-operative education; and
 - (f) active co-operation among registered co-operative societies.
 - 3.4 "Share" means a share in the share capital of a registered co-operative society contributed by a member in respect of his membership in that registered co-operative society.
 - 3.5 "Year of assessment" means calendar year.
 - 3.6 "Date of registration of co-operative society" means date of registration signed by the Co-operative Commission of Malaysia unless it is proved that the registration of the co-operative society has been revoked.
 - 3.7 "Basis period" for a year of assessment means the accounting period or financial year end, for both business and non-business sources of income.
 - 3.8 "Subscription" means the sum contributed at regular intervals by a member in respect of his membership in a registered co-operative society and can be withdrawn on termination of membership.

4. **Co-operative Society**

4.1 For the purpose of income tax, a co-operative society is defined under the ITA 1967 as any co-operative society registered under any written law relating to the registration of co-operative societies in Malaysia.



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- 4.2 The organisations which are accorded special tax treatment under section 65A of the ITA 1967 are:
 - a) co-operative societies registered under Co-operative Societies Act 1993;
 - b) establishments incorporated under the Company's Act 1953 but are registered under the Co-operative Societies Act 1993 (e.g. co-operative banks);
 - c) other organisations established under other laws, not registered under Co-operative Societies Act 1993, but are accorded the status of cooperative societies within the definition of a co-operative society in section 2 of the ITA 1967. These organisations are:
 - (i) Farmers' Organisations (registered under Farmers' Organisations Act 1973);
 - (ii) Fishermen's Associations (registered under Fishermen's Associations Act 1971).
- 4.3 A co-operative society registered outside Malaysia is not subject to this Ruling and is taxed like a non-resident company.
- 4.4 A co-operative society is required to distribute a portion of its audited net profit for each financial year to its reserve fund, the Co-operative Education Trust Fund and Co-operative Development Trust Fund. The amount is determined by the co-operative regulations on the property and funds made under the Co-operative Societies Act 1993 or the relevant ministry.

5. Tax Treatment For Co-operative Society

- 5.1 For the purpose of income tax there is no principle of mutuality for a cooperative society. Tax is charged on income arising from both mutual and non-mutual activities. Examples of the income from mutual activities are interest, processing fees and membership fees received by a co-operative society from its members and staff.
- 5.2 The chargeable income of a co-operative society is computed in the manner as ascertained in section 5 of the ITA 1967. Expenses allowable in ascertaining the statutory income of a co-operative society are expenses wholly and exclusively incurred in the production of income. Expenses domestic and capital in nature are not allowable. In ascertaining the chargeable income of a co-operative society special deduction is given under paragraphs 65A(*a*) and 65A(*b*) of the ITA 1967.
- 5.3 Deduction under paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967

The amount to be deducted from the total income is the sum which has been transferred or paid by a co-operative society in the basis period for a year of assessment to:



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- (a) a statutory reserve fund;
- (b) any educational institution and/or co-operative organization established for the furtherance of co-operative; or
- (c) a Co-operative Education Trust Fund

as may be required under the provisions of any written law relating to the registration of co-operative societies in Malaysia.

However the amount of maximum deduction allowable under this paragraph shall not exceed 25% of the audited net profits for that basis period of the co-operative society.

- 5.4 Deduction under paragraph 65A(*b*) of the ITA 1967
 - 5.4.1 The amount of deduction is equal to 8% (or such percentage as may be prescribed) of the members' funds as at the first day of the basis period for a year of assessment.
 - 5.4.2 Members' funds as defined in paragraph 12(2) of Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967 means the aggregate of:
 - paid up capital (in respect of shares and subscriptions, and excluding any amount in respect of bonus shares to the extent they were issued out of capital reserves created by revaluation of fixed assets);
 - (b) statutory reserve fund;
 - (c) reserve (other than capital reserve created by revaluation of fixed assets and provisions for depreciation, renewals or replacements and diminution in value of assets);
 - (d) balance of share premium account (excluding any amount credited resulting from the issuance of bonus shares at premium out of capital reserve created by revaluation of fixed assets); and
 - (e) balance of profit and loss appropriation account.
 - 5.4.3 The definition of "members' funds" in paragraph 12(2) of Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967 specifically excludes capital reserve created by revaluation of fixed assets and provisions for depreciation, renewals or replacements and diminution in value of assets. This means other than reserve which is specifically excluded, other reserves shall be taken into account in computing the "members' funds" of co-operative societies. For example, reserve may arise from aids or related profits such as reserves arising from donation or gifts, redemption of shares, loans, betting from members or non-members, Government aid and aids from other agencies.



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Example 1: Determination of members' funds

KSD Berhad is registered as a co-operative society on 1.1.2005. KSD Berhad operates a book store which is wholly sponsored by members and open to public. The audited accounts of KSD Berhad for the year ending 31.12.2011 are as follows:

Statutory income

	RM
Book store	200,000
Dividend	60,000

The liability and equity in the balance sheet as at 1.1.2011 are as follows:

	RM
Paid up share capital	350,000
Members' fee capital	-
Share premium account	80,000
Statutory reserve fund	50,000
Accumulated profit	280,000
Members' saving account	100,000
Members' loan account	40,000
Total	<u>900,000</u>

The members' funds as at the first day of the basis period for the year 2011, i.e on 1.1.2011 is computed as follows:

	RM
Paid up share capital	350,000
Members' fee capital	-
Share premium account	80,000
Statutory reserve fund	50,000
Accumulated profit	<u>280,000</u>
Members' funds	<u>760,000</u>

The members' saving account of RM100,000 and the members' loan account of RM40,000 are not part of the members' funds as:

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- (a) the members' saving account is a members' saving that can be increased or withdrawn by members and interest or dividend will be paid on the saving.
- (b) the members' loan account is a loan given by members to a cooperative society and members will receive interest on the loan.
- 5.5 Exemption under Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967
 - 5.5.1 A newly registered co-operative society is exempt from tax on any income for a period of 5 years commencing from the date of registration [subparagraph 12(1)(a) of Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967]; and
 - 5.5.2 A co-operative society which has been registered for more than 5 years is exempted from tax only if its members' funds as at the first day of the basis period for a year assessment is less than RM750,000 [subparagraph 12(1)(b) of Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967].

Example 2:

Determination of chargeability of income tax for a period of 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society

A co-operative society was registered on 1.9.2004 and closes its account on 30 June every year.

Year Of	f Number Of Months		-		
Assessment	Basis Period	Current	Cumulative	Tax Status	
2004	1.9.2004 - 31.12.2004	4	4		
2005	1.1.2005- 31.12.2005	12	16		
2006	1.7.2005 - 30.6.2006	6	22		
2007	1.7.2006 - 30.6.2007	12	34	Exemption on all income	
2008	1.7.2007 - 30.6.2008	12	46		
2009	1.7.2008 - 30.6.2009	12	58		
2010	1.7.2009 - 31.8.2009	2	60		



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1.9.2009 - 30.6.20	010 10	70	For the following 10 months, the tax status would depend on the amount of members' funds as at the 1st day of the basis period.
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The co-operative society is exempted from income tax for a period of 5 years commencing from the date of its registration, i.e 1.9.2004 to 31.8.2009. This means that tax will not be charged for the year of assessment 2004 to 2009. For the year of assessment 2010, the co-operative society is exempted from tax for the first 2 months while the tax chargeability for the following 10 months would depend on the amount of members' funds at 1.7.2009. The co-operative society will not be exempted from tax if the amount of members' funds is RM750,000 or more.

Example 3:

Determination of chargeability of income tax after a period of 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society

Further to example 2, after the period of 5 years from its registration, the cooperative society has to compute its members' funds as at the first day of the basis period for each year of assessment to determine whether it will be exempted from income tax for that year of assessment.

Year Of Assessment	Basis Period	Tax Status	
2010	1.9.2009 – 30.6.2010 (basis period after of 5 years)	Exemption on income would depend on the amount of members' funds as at the first day of the basis period for each year of assessment	
2011	1.7.2010 – 30.6.2011		
2012	1.7.2011 – 30.6.2012		
 For the period 1.9.2009 to 30.6.2010, the co-operative society is eligible for exemption if the members' funds as at 1.7.2009 is less than RM750,000. If its members' funds as at 1.7.2009 is RM750,000 or more, the income for 			



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the period 1.7.2009 to 31.8.2009 is exempted from tax (within the period of 5 years) and the income for the period 1.9.2009 to 30.6.2010) is taxable (after the period of 5 years)

- If its members' funds as at 1.7.2010 and 1.7.2011 is RM750,000 or more, the income for the years of assessment 2011 and 2012 is taxable.
- If its members' funds as at 1.7.2010 and 1.7.2011 is less than RM750,000, the income for the year of assessment 2011 and 2012 is exempted from tax.

5.6 Tax rates

A co-operative society is chargeable to tax at the scale rates as provided in Part IV of Schedule 1 of the ITA 1967.

5.7. Computation of chargeable income and tax payable

The income of a co-operative society is exempted at the level of chargeable income. Therefore, even though a co-operative society is eligible for tax exemption for a year of assessment, the adjusted income or the adjusted losses and capital allowances for every year of assessment has to be ascertained. Any adjusted losses and excess of capital allowances which cannot be absorbed can be carried forward to subsequent years of assessment.

Example 4:

Computation of the exempted chargeable income and treatment of unabsorbed losses and capital allowances

A co-operative society was registered on 1.1.2004 and closes its account on 31 December every year. The adjusted income, adjusted losses, capital allowances and the amount of its members' funds are as follows:



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Year Of Assessment	Basis Period	Business Income: Adjusted Income Or (Adjusted Losses) (RM)	Capital Allowance (RM)	Members' Funds As At First Day Of Basis Period (RM)	Tax Status
2006	1.1.2006- 31.12.2006	170,000	120,000	430,000	
2007	1.1.2007- 31.12.2007	190,000	90,000	480,000	Exempted from tax
2008	1.1.2008 - 31.12.2008	140,000	85,000	520,000	regardless of the amount of
2009	1.1.2009 - 31.12.2009	150,000	160,000	760,000	members' funds
2010	1.1.2010 - 31.12.2010	(80,000)	90,000	780,000	
2011	1.1.2011- 31.12.2011	440,000	100,000	810,000	Taxed - members' funds is more than RM750,000 as at 1.1.2011

Year Of Assessment	Chargeable Income Exempted (RM)
2006	170,000 - 120,000 - (8% x 430,000) = 15,600
2007	190,000 - 90,000 - (8% x 480,000) = 61,600
2008	140,000 - 85,000 - (8% x 520,000) = 13,400
2009	150,000 -160,000 - (8% x 760,000) = Nil Capital allowance carried forward = 10,000
2010	Nil Adjusted losses carried forward = 80,000



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	Capital allowance brought forward = 10,000 Current year capital allowance = 90,000	
2011	Current year capital allowance = 90,000 Nil The co-operative society is charged to tax since its member at 1.1.2011 is more than RM750,000 Adjusted income from business Less: Current year capital allowance 100,000 Capital allowance brought forward 100,000 Statutory income Less: Loss brought forward Aggregate income / Total income Less: 8% x 810,000 (paragraph 65A(b) of the ITA 1967) Chargeable income	ers' funds 440,000 <u>200,000</u> 240,000 <u>80,000</u> 160,000 <u>64,800</u> 95,200
	5	,

Note:

* Assuming there is no deduction under paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967.

Example 5:

Computation of chargeable income and tax payable after 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society (members' funds is more than M750,000)

Information from the audited accounts		
Balance sheet as at 31.12.2011:	RM	
Contribution in the basis period:		
 Statutory reserve fund 	17,482	
 Education Trust Fund 	2,914	
 Development Trust Fund 	1,749	
Total	22,145	
Members' funds as at 1.1.2011		
 Share capital 	40,700	
 Members' fees capital 	1,208,790	
	4,200	



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 Share redemption fund 	80,468
 Accumulated profit 	123,373
 Statutory reserve fund 	1,457,531
Total	
Audited net profit as at 31.12.2011	145,687
Statutory income	
 Business profit 	48,795
 Commission on consumer product 	35,192
 Interest 	84,530
Aggregate income	168,517
Donation: Cash to an organisation approved under subsection 44(6) of the ITA 1967	10,000

Computation of chargeable income and tax payable	RM
Aggregate income	168,517
Less: Donation Total income	10,000 158,517
 Less deduction: Paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967 = 22,145 Compared with 25% of audited net profit whichever is lower (25% x 145,687) = 36,422 	22,145
 Paragraph 65A(b) of the ITA 1967 8% of the members' funds (8% x 1,457,531) = 116,602) 	<u>116,602</u> 138,747
Chargeable income	19,770
Income tax charged	
 Tax on the first RM 20,000 	0
Less: Instalment paid	600.00
Balance of tax paid in excess	600.00

Example 6:



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Computation of the chargeable income and tax payable after 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society (members' funds is more than RM750,000) in the case of accumulated loss

Information from the audited accounts	
Balance sheet as at 31.12.2011:	RM
Contribution in the basis period:	
 Statutory reserve fund 	17,482
 Education Trust Fund 	2,914
 Development Trust Fund 	1,749
Total	22,145
Members' funds as at 1.1.2011	
 Share capital 	40,700
 Members' fee capital 	1,208,790
 Share redemption fund 	4,200
 Accumulation of profit and loss 	(80,468)
 Statutory reserve fund 	123,373
Total	1,296,595
Audited net profit as at 31.12.2011	145,687
Statutory income	
 Business profit 	48,795
 Commission on consumer product 	35,192
 Interest 	84,530
Aggregate income	168,517
Donation: Cash to an organisation approved under subsection 44(6) of the ITA 1967	10,000

Computation of chargeable income and tax payable	
Aggregate income	168,517
Less: Donation	10,000
Total income	158,517
Less deduction: Paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967 = 22,145	



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Balance of tax paid in excess	241.30
Less: Instalment payment paid	600.00
Total	358.70
 Tax on the next RM2,645 @ 6% 	158.70
 Tax on the first RM30,000 	200.00
Income tax charged	
Chargeable income	32,64
	125,872
8% of the members' funds (8% x 1,296,595) = 103,727 Total	<u>103,727</u>
 Paragraph 65A(b) of the ITA 1967 	
Compared with 25% of audited net profit whichever is lower (25% x 145,687) = 36,422	22,145

Example 7:

Computation of the chargeable income and tax payable after 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society (members' funds is more than RM750,000) in the case where the amount transferred or paid is > 25% of the audited net profits

Information from the audited account	
Balance sheet as at 31.12.2011:	RM
Contribution in the basis period:	
 Statutory reserve fund 	766,035
 Education Trust Fund 	166,529
 Development Trust Fund 	233,141
Total	1,165,705
Members' funds as at 1.1.2011	
 Share capital 	372,070
 Members' fees capital 	41,915
 Educational institution fund 	378,085
 Members' welfare fund 	194,450
Share redemption fund	400,000



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 Distribution of dividend fund 	80,000
 Members' saving account 	20,000
 Members' loan account 	30,000
 Statutory reserve fund 	340,000
 Accumulation of profit and loss account 	1,385,780
Total	3,242,300
Audited net profit as at 31.12.2011	3,330,587
Statutory income	
 Business profit 	2,186,008
 Mudharabah profit on fixed deposit 	681,200
 Rental 	235,785
 Gains from sale of shares (stock) 	277,265
Aggregate income	3,380,258
Donation: Cash for library facilities under subsection 44(8) of the ITA 1967	25,000

Computation of chargeable income and tax payable		
Total aggregate income		3,380,258
Less: Donation (limited to RM20,000) Total income		20,000 3,360,258
 Less deduction: Paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967 = 1,165,705 Compared with 25% of the audited net profit whichever is lower (25% x 3,330,587) = 832,647 Paragraph 65A(b) of the ITA 1967 8% of the members' funds (8% x 3,192,300) Members' saving account of RM20,000 and members' loan account of RM30,000 are not part of the members' funds 	832,647 <u>255,384</u>	
Total		1,088,031
Chargeable income		2,272,227
Income tax chargedTax on the first RM 250,000		41,700.00



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Tax on the next RM2,022,227 @ 26%	525,779.02
Total	567,479.02
Less: Instalments paid	506,000.00
Balance of tax payable	61,479.02

Note: The amount of deduction under paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967 is restricted to 25% of the audited net profit which is RM832,647. The excess of the distribution is not allowed to be carried forward to subsequent years of assessment.

Example 8:

Computation of the chargeable income and tax payable after 5 years from the date of registration of a co-operative society (members' funds is more than RM750,000) in the case where the deduction under section 65A of the ITA 1967 exceeds total income.

Information from the audited account	
Balance sheet as at 31.12.2011:	RM
Contribution in the basis period:	
 Statutory reserve fund 	27,670
 Education Trust Fund 	4,612
 Development Trust Fund 	2,306
Total	34,588
Members' funds as at 1.1.2010	
 Share capital 	593,780
 Members' fees capital 	1,341,915
 Share redemption fund 	178,085
 Accumulation of profit and loss account 	994,450
 Statutory reserve fund 	240,000
Total	3,348,230
Audited net profit as at 31.12.2011	230,587
Statutory income	
 Business profit 	118,602
Dividend	31,200



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 Rental Total income/Aggregate income 	85,480 235,282
Donation: Gift of painting under subsection 44(11) of the ITA 1967	11,000

Computation of chargeable income and tax payable	le	
Aggregate income		235,282
Less: Donation Total income		11,000 224,282
 Less deduction: Paragraph 65A(a) of the ITA 1967 = 34,588 Compared with 25% of the audited net profit whichever is lower (25% x 230,587) = 57,647 Paragraph 65A(b) of the ITA 1967 8 % of the total members' funds (8% x 3,348,230 = 267,858) 	34,588 <u>267,858</u> 302,446 Restricted to	224,282
Chargeable income		0
Income tax charged		0
Less: Instalment paid		36,000.00
Balance of tax paid in excess		36,000.00

amounting to RM302,446 is restricted to the total income of RM224,282. The excess is not allowed to be carried forward to subsequent years of assessment.

6. Income Tax (Exemption)(No.10) Order 2006 [P.U.(A) 51/2006]

6.1 Agro-based Co-operative Societies, an Area Farmers' Organisation, a Federal Farmers' Organisation, a State Farmers' Organisation, an Area Fishermen's Association, a Federal Fishermen's Association and a State Fishermen's Association are exempted from the payment of income tax in relation to an **approved food production project**.

"Approved food production project" means an agricultural project which is approved by the Minister by order published in the Gazette.

6.2 The income exempted and the period of exemption are as follows:



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- 6.2.1 the statutory income from a **new project** is given tax exemption for a period of 10 consecutive years of assessment with effect from the year of assessment 2001.
- 6.2.2 the statutory income from an **expansion project** is exempted for a period of 5 consecutive years of assessment with effect from the year of assessment 2002.
- 6.2.3 the period of exemption commences from the first year of assessment in which the co-operative society derives statutory income from that project.

"New project" means the first project carried out by a company for the purpose of undertaking an approved food production project and the project is approved by the Minister.

"Expansion project" means a project carried out by a company for the purpose of expanding its existing approved food production project where the project-

- (a) has not been granted an exemption under this order;
- (b) involves a new area of land; and
- (c) is approved by the Minister.
- 6.3 The exemption is not applicable to:
 - 6.3.1 an application for a new project and an expansion project in relation to an approved food production project received by the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry after 30 September 2005;
 - 6.3.2 a co-operative society in the basis period for a year of assessment in which the co-operative society has been granted other incentives as mentioned in the exemption order.

7. Submission Of Income Tax Return Form (ITRF)

- 7.1 In accordance with section 77A of the ITA 1967, a co-operative society has to submit the ITRF i.e Form C1 to the Director General of Inland Revenue within 7 months from the date following the close of the accounting period which constitutes the basis period for a year of assessment.
- 7.2 Even though a co-operative society is eligible for tax exemption for a year of assessment, the co-operative society has to submit the ITRF and ascertain the adjusted income or the adjusted losses and capital allowances for that year of assessment.

8. Amount Paid, Credited Or Distributed By A Co-operative Society



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- 8.1 Any dividend paid, credited or distributed to any member of a co-operative society is exempt under paragraph 12A, Schedule 6 of the ITA 1967 regardless of whether the co-operative society is exempted from the payment of income tax or otherwise.
- 8.2 Any gains, profit, interest or bonds received by members and non members who are resident from money deposited with a co-operative society is exempt from payment of income tax pursuant to the Income Tax (Exemption) (No. 7) (Amendment) Order 2009 [P.U.(A) 211/2009].

9. Effective Date

This Ruling is effective for the year of assessment 2011 and subsequent years of assessment.

Director General of Inland Revenue, Inland Revenue Board Malaysia.