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ISCA Financial Reporting Bulletin 12 (Revised)

FRB 12 (Revised October 2025):

Accounting Implications arising from the Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Act in Singapore

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The terms of reference are executed through FRC with the support of two Sub-Committees, namely the Core Sub-Committee and the Valuation Sub-Committee.

Important note:

- References made to the publicly available information (including relevant regulations on Pillar Two legislation in Singapore) are accurate as at the date of issuance of this FRB.
- Although this FRB makes reference to Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International) (SFRS(I)s), the guidance in this FRB is also applicable to entities applying Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs).
- This FRB is intended to share accounting implications arising from the implementation of Singapore's legislation relating to Pillar Two. For overseas subsidiaries, entities should consult or work with their tax advisors on the implications from the enactment of the Pillar Two legislation in their respective jurisdictions.
- In view that the Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Act is effective for financial years starting on or after 1 January 2025, it is anticipated that its implementation, along with Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Regulations, will lead to increased accounting implications. Hence, this FRB will be updated periodically to include these implications.

<u>Table of Abbreviations</u>
The following abbreviations are used often in this publication:

Abbreviation	Full Form		
BEPS	Base Erosion and Profit Shifting		
CE	Constituent Entity		
CIT	Corporate Income Tax		
DTT	Domestic Top-Up Tax		
ETR	Effective Tax Rate		
FY	Financial Year		
GloBE	Global Anti-Base Erosion		
IF	Inclusive Framework		
IIR	Income Inclusion Rule		
MNE	Multinational Enterprise		
MMT Act	Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Act		
MNE group	Multinational Enterprise group		
MMT Regulation	Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Regulation		
MTT	Multinational Enterprise Top-up Tax		
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development		
STTR	Subject-to-Tax Rule		
UTPR	Undertaxed Profits Rule		
UPE	Ultimate Parent Entity		

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1. Background

1.1 Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)¹

Since 2013, there have been concerted efforts to strengthen international cooperation in taxation matters, to stamp out harmful practices and combat tax avoidance. The Group of 20 (G20) had tasked the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to study and deal with the issue of BEPS by some multinational enterprises (MNEs). BEPS refers to tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to locations with no/low tax rates and no/little economic activity. To ensure a consistent and co-ordinated implementation of the BEPS recommendations and to make the project more inclusive, OECD/G20 subsequently broadened its BEPS discussions to include more jurisdictions through a platform called the OECD Inclusive Framework (OECD IF) on BEPS.

In October 2021, the OECD IF released a Statement on a Two-Pillar solution commonly known as BEPS 2.0 to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalisation of the global economy. Pillar One seeks to re-allocate some profits and in turn, taxes, from where the economic activities are conducted to where the markets (i.e. the customers) are. Pillar Two introduces a minimum effective tax rate (ETR) of 15% for large MNE groups via the Global Anti-Base Erosion (GloBE) Model Rules. If an affected MNE has an ETR of less than 15% in any jurisdiction in which the group operates, other jurisdictions can collect the difference of up to 15%.

1.2 BEPS 2.0: Pillar Two²

Pillar Two comprises two components – GloBE Model Rules (also known as GloBE Rules) and Subject-to-Tax Rule (STTR). As part of Pillar Two under BEPS 2.0, the GloBE Model Rules and related commentary were released on 20 December 2021 and 14 March 2022, respectively.

The GloBE Rules comprise two rules - the Income Inclusion Rule (IIR) and the Undertaxed Profits Rule (UTPR). The IIR is the primary rule. It imposes a top-up tax on a relevant parent entity of a MNE group with respect to its ownership interests in a low-taxed constituent entity (LTCE) that has an ETR (determined for the MNE group on a jurisdictional basis) below 15%. The UTPR serves as a backstop to the IIR, where a top-up tax would be collected in the jurisdictions which the MNE group operates and where UTPR has been adopted, if no top-up tax is collected from the parent entity under the IIR (as the parent entity jurisdiction does not or has not implemented the IIR).

The GloBE Rules also recognise that jurisdictions may introduce domestic minimum top-up taxes to bring the ETR of LTCEs operating in those jurisdictions up to 15%. Where such taxes are regarded as a Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax under the GloBE Rules, they would reduce the top-up tax in respect of those LTCEs that would otherwise be brought into charge under the IIR or UTPR.

¹ MOF website "BEPS Explainer" [link]

² IRAS website on GloBE Rules and Domestic Top-Up Tax [link]

1.3 Purpose and scope of this FRB

ISCA, through its Financial Reporting Committee, is issuing this FRB to aid entities in understanding the accounting implications arising from the Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Act 2024 (MMT Act) in Singapore. Following our issuance of the <u>Statement</u> on 22 January 2025, this FRB will provide further insights to the accounting implications relating to the enactment of the MMT Act.

2. Singapore's Implementation of BEPS 2.0

As announced in Singapore Budget 2024, the Government would be implementing the IIR and a domestic minimum top-up tax from businesses' financial years (FYs) starting on or after 1 January 2025. The implementation of the UTPR will be considered at a later stage.

The Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Bill was passed by the Singapore Parliament on 15 October 2024 and received Presidential assent on 8 November 2024. On 29 November 2024, the MMT Act³ was gazetted.

The MMT Act is an act to implement the GloBE Model Rules (Pillar Two) relating to the top-up tax under the IIR and to make provision for a domestic minimum top-up tax within the meaning of those Model Rules. It comprises 2 parts, namely Multinational Enterprise Top-Up Tax (MTT) that relates to the top-up tax under the IIR and the Domestic Top-Up Tax (DTT) that is intended to be a qualified domestic minimum top-up tax within the GloBE Model Rules.

On 30 December 2024, Singapore published the Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Regulations 2024 (MMT Regulations 2024)⁴ as the subsidiary legislation under the MMT Act.

Both the MMT Act and MMT Regulations are effective for FYs starting on or after 1 January 2025 and are applicable to constituent entities⁵ (CEs) that are members of a MNE group that has annual revenue of EUR 750 million or more in the consolidated financial statements of the Ultimate Parent Entity (UPE) in at least two of the last four years.

In addition, the Inland Revenue of Singapore published an e-Tax guide *Multinational Enterprise Top-up Tax and Domestic Top-up Tax*⁶ on 31 December 2024. Together with MMT Regulations, the e-Tax guide is intended to provide the details and guidance required for the implementation of MTT and DTT in Singapore.

[October 2025 Update] Following which, the MMT Regulations 2024 were amended by the Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 ⁷ which was published on 24 February 2025 and came into operation on 25 February 2025. These amendments introduce certain key technical refinements including additional provisions to

³ Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Act 2024 [link]

⁴ Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Regulations 2024 [link]

⁵ Constituent entity is an entity that is part of a group, and includes —

⁽a) a permanent establishment of a main entity that is part of a group where the permanent establishment and the main entity are located in different jurisdictions; and

⁽b) an entity treated as a constituent entity in accordance with paragraph 5 of the First Schedule of the MMT Act, but excludes an excluded entity.

⁶ IRAS' e-Tax Guide on Multinational Enterprise Top-up Tax and Domestic Top-up Tax [link]

⁷ Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 [link]

address specific scenarios such as group mergers, demergers and multi-parent group structures.

2.1 Multinational Top-up Tax (MTT) [October 2025 Update]

MTT operates to impose a tax to top up the ETR to 15% in respect of low taxed profits of overseas entities under a MNE group. Hence, MTT applies to a Singapore parent entity's ownership interest in its relevant entities outside Singapore and its stateless entities but does not apply to its ownership interest in its domestic entities. The minimum rate for MTT is 15% and the top-up amount is computed using the ETR that is calculated on a jurisdictional basis for an MNE group.

An entity is a chargeable entity for MTT if it is a responsible member⁸ located in Singapore of an MNE group (as defined in Section 7.2.2 of IRAS e-Tax guide for MTT and DTT) and holds an ownership interest in a CE located outside Singapore or a stateless entity of the MNE group that has a top-up amount for the FY (called a relevant entity).

The amount of MTT chargeable on a chargeable entity for a FY is the sum of the top-up tax of each relevant entity of the chargeable entity for the FY.

2.2 Domestic Top-up Tax (DTT) [October 2025 Update]

DTT is intended to be a qualified domestic minimum top-up tax within the meaning of the GloBE Rules. Hence, DTT operates to impose a tax to top up the ETR to 15% in respect of low taxed profits of Singapore entities under a MNE group.

DTT applies to in-scope entities⁷ of an MNE group as defined in Section 8.2.2 of IRAS e-Tax guide for MTT and DTT. It does not apply to a wholly domestic group. DTT does not apply to CEs that are located outside Singapore, excluded entities, stateless permanent establishments and tax transparent entities of MNE groups. MTT, qualified IIR or qualified UTPR may apply to these entities instead. For CEs that are investment entities and insurance investment entities and located in Singapore, the top-up amount of these entities is treated as nil for DTT purpose.

The tax payable under DTT is the whole jurisdictional top-up amount, regardless of the level of ownership interest of the UPE in the in-scope entities. In addition, the MNE group is required to designate a CE as its Designated Filing Entity (DFE), notwithstanding that there is an election available to the MNE group for part of the top-up tax to be paid by other CEs subject to conditions in Section 45 of MMT Act and a provision on the right of contribution by CEs under Section 61 of the MMT Act.

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⁸ IRAS' e-Tax Guide on Multinational Enterprise Top-up Tax and Domestic Top-up Tax [link]

3. Accounting considerations

Issued June 2025

3.1 What are the applicable accounting requirements in relation to the income taxes arising from MMT Act and MMT Regulations?

Singapore reporting entities should apply SFRS(I) 1-12 *Income Taxes* to account for income taxes.

In May 2023, IASB issued amendments to IAS 12 *Income Taxes*⁹ to provide timely relief for affected entities and avoid inconsistent interpretations in practice, in response to stakeholders' concerns about the potential implications of the jurisdictional implementation of these Pillar Two Model Rules on the accounting for income taxes applying IAS 12.

The amendments introduced:

- (a) A temporary exception to the requirements in IAS 12 to recognise and disclose information about deferred tax assets and liabilities related to Pillar Two income taxes; and
- (b) Targeted disclosure requirements:
 - (i) Disclose that an entity has applied the temporary exception (as shared in (a) above);
 - (ii) Disclose known or reasonably estimable information that helps users of financial statements understand the entity's exposure to Pillar Two income taxes arising from that legislation in periods in which Pillar Two legislation is enacted or substantively enacted, but not yet in effect; and
 - (iii) Disclose separately its current tax expense (income) related to Pillar Two income taxes when Pillar Two legislation is in effect;

The disclosure requirements are required for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023, except for (a) and (b)(i) which are effective immediately upon issuance of these amendments and retrospectively in accordance with IAS 8.

In Singapore, the above-mentioned amendments (paragraphs 4A, 88A to 88D and 98M) were made to SFRS(I) 1-12 and issued by the Accounting Standards Committee on 23 May 2023.

3.2 When is MMT Act considered as substantively enacted or enacted in Singapore before its effective date of 1 January 2025?

Paragraph 88C of SFRS(I) 1-12 states that "In periods in which Pillar Two legislation is enacted or substantively enacted, but not yet in effect, an entity shall disclose known or reasonably estimable information that helps users of financial statements understand the entity's exposure to Pillar Two income taxes arising from that legislation."

With the publication of MTT Regulations and IRAS' e-Tax guide, these would provide sufficient details required for the computation of the estimated financial impact of DTT and MTT. Hence, MMT Act would have been enacted in Singapore before 31 December 2024 and impacted entities are required to comply with the applicable requirements in SFRS(I) 1-12 for reporting periods ended on 31 December 2024.

⁹ IFRS Project page on International Tax Reform - Pillar Two Model Rules [link]

3.3 How should impacted entities prepare themselves for the enactment or implementation of MMT Act in Singapore?

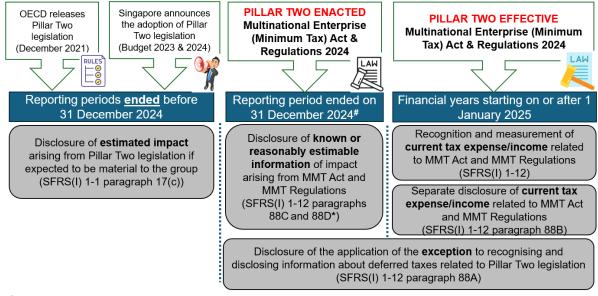
All impacted entities would need to consider accounting implications such as the impact to impairment assessments for cash-generating units as well as their going concern assessment with the tax impact arising from MMT Act in Singapore. In addition, these entities would need to consider the applicable SFRS (I) 1-1 Presentation of Financial Statements and SFRS(I) 1-12 requirements as illustrated below.

With reference to Section 8 of MMT Act, the Act is effective for an MNE group for FY beginning on or after 1 January 2025. For this purpose, the FY is generally determined based on the consolidated financial statements of its UPE. Accordingly, the applicable reporting period of a CE in the MNE group is dependent on its UPE's FY.

The following diagram illustrates the applicable accounting requirements (1) before the enactment of Pillar Two legislation, (2) when MMT Act is enacted, and (3) when MMT Act is effective.

For illustration:

- (1) For an UPE with 31 December as its FY end, the MMT Act is enacted for the reporting period ended on 31 December 2024 and effective for the reporting periods from 1 January 2025 onwards.
- (2) For an UPE with 30 June as its FY end, the MMT Act is enacted for the reporting periods ended on 31 December 2024 and 31 March 2025. The MMT Act is only effective for the reporting periods from 1 July 2025 onwards.



This is also applicable to both annual and interim reporting periods of entities with financial years starting before 1 January 2025

Impacted entities would need to assess the impact on reporting systems and processes as well as the availability of data for the computation of DTT and MTT. All these could pose challenges given the complexity involved in the computation and collection of data across various jurisdictions.

SFRS(I) 1-12 Income Taxes paragraph 88D:

Disclose qualitative and quantitative information about its exposure to Pillar Two income taxes at the end of the reporting period. This information does not have to reflect all the specific requirements of the Pillar Two legislation and can be provided in the form of an indicative range.

To the extent information is not known or reasonably estimable, an entity shall instead disclose a statement to that effect and disclose information about the entity's progress in

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3.4 How should DTT expense be accounted for by CEs in their separate financial statements?

With reference to Section 2.2, DTT expense is not determined at individual CE level but calculated and assessed at the jurisdictional level for a MNE group. There is no explicit guidance within SFRS (I) 1-12 for the accounting of DTT expenses by respective CEs in their separate financial statements. Therefore, each CE should exercise their judgement in the adoption and application of an accounting policy for the DTT expenses consistently in their separate financial statements. The accounting policy adopted should be systematic and rational which should reflect the facts and circumstances and provide relevant information to users.

The following are possible accounting policies or approaches for the accounting of DTT expenses in separate financial statements. Respective CEs are recommended to discuss with their auditors on the appropriate accounting treatment of their DTT expenses and liability depending on their own facts and circumstances.

Approach 1

DTT expenses are recognised and could be presented as tax expense by the relevant CE(s) in the MNE group that has or have the legal obligation(s) for the settlement of DTT expenses with IRAS. With reference to Section 2.2, this would usually be the CE that has been designated as the DFE, and any other CEs that will be elected to pay for part of the DTT expense pursuant to Section 45 of the MMT Act.

Approach 2

DTT expenses are recognised and presented as tax or other expenses¹⁰ by each CE in the MNE group based on the appropriate allocation methods established by the MNE group.

Depending on the circumstances, MNE groups might adopt various methods for the allocation of DTT expenses. For instance, the MNE group may:

- 1) Allocate the DTT expenses to CEs within a MNE group by taking reference to their respective profits or losses; or
- 2) Allocate the DTT expenses to CEs within a MNE group with adjustments made to respective CE's profit or loss for transactions that have tax consequences for the CE but not the MNE group; or
- 3) Allocate the DTT expenses based on contractual agreements within the MNE group, provided the allocation is systematic, rational, and applied consistently.

The following is an illustration of the scenarios for the accounting of DTT liability and expenses by CEs in an MNE group.

Illustration:

Group X is an in-scope MNE group comprising Entity A, B, C & D which are CEs in Singapore as well as other overseas CEs. Group X's ETR in Singapore is less than 15%, therefore DTT is applicable to Group X.

Accounting for DTT liability

¹⁰ The appropriate presentation of DTT expenses is to be discussed by respective CEs with their auditors based on their own facts & circumstances.

Group X appoints Entity A to be the designated local filing entity (DFE). Being the DFE, Entity A is liable to pay DTT on behalf of Group X. Hence, Entity A will recognise full DTT liability in its separate financial statements.

Based on MMT Act Section 59, every CE located in Singapore is jointly and severally liable for DTT or interest in arrears for the FY that DTT relates to. Therefore, Entities B, C and D are required to assess if a contingent liability disclosure is required in their separate financial statements.

Accounting for DTT expense

Approach 1:

Entity A, being the DFE recognises and presents the DTT expenses as tax expense based on its legal obligation to pay for the DTT expenses for the MNE group. The DTT expenses are presented as tax expense in Entity A's separate financial statements.

Approach 2:

Group X will allocate DTT expenses to Entity A, B and C based on their profits in a systematic manner. Group X had decided not to allocate any DTT expense to Entity D because Entity D has an ETR above 15%.

Entity A, B and C recognise and present the allocated DTT expenses as tax or other expenses¹⁰ in their separate financial statements.

For reference: ISCA Financial Reporting Codification Framework

In November 2019, ISCA issued the ISCA Financial Reporting Codification Framework (Framework). The Framework establishes a formalised categorisation, degrees of authority and a due process for future issuance of ISCA's technical documents. It provides credence to ISCA's technical content, promulgates ISCA's views on the application of accounting standards as well as promotes quality, consistency and best practices in financial reporting.

The Framework is summarised in the table below.

Category	Nature	Degree of authority	Due Process	Highest level of approval
Financial Reporting Practice (FRP)	Recommended best practices for financial reporting for specific industries, sectors or transactions	Expected to apply	Public consultation required	ISCA Council
2. Financial Reporting Guidance (FRG)	Technical guidance, views and insights on specific financial reporting issues for specific industries, sectors or transactions	Expected to follow or explain departures	Public consultation required	ISCA Financial Reporting Committee (FRC), with authority delegated by the ISCA Council
3. Financial Reporting Bulletin (FRB)	Technical bulletin containing discussions and highlight of emerging topical financial reporting issues	For information and educational purposes	Public consultation not required	ISCA FRC

For more details on the Framework and the guidance issued under the Framework, please refer to the following:

- Framework [link]
- FRG [<u>link</u>]
- FRB [link]

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