SIX Tax Strategy

This document sets out our strategic tax objectives for SIX Group Ltd and its worldwide group undertakings ("SIX" or “the Group”) as well as our attitude to tax risk and planning, how we manage tax risk, and our relationship with tax authorities.

The strategy is publicly available on our website in order to allow external stakeholders to understand SIX Group’s approach to tax.

Overview

SIX operates Switzerland’s financial market infrastructure and offers comprehensive services worldwide in the areas of securities trading, clearing and settlement, as well as financial information and payment transactions.

SIX is subject to Swiss financial market regulation and assumes core tasks for the financial center under the supervision of the Swiss National Bank and the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority.

Strategy statement

SIX Group’s strategy for taxation sets out the Group Executive Board’s defined objectives with respect to tax. As per this strategy the Group will:

- Comply with all fiscal obligations with regard to the administration and payment of taxes;
- Deal transparently, professionally and appropriately with all tax authorities;
- Provide robust and transparent tax disclosures for financial reporting;
- Only undertake tax planning in the context of wider business activities having a commercial, economical basis.

We may respond to legitimate tax incentives and statutory alternatives offered by governments and will utilise such tax incentives or opportunities for obtaining tax efficiencies where these:

- Are of a type that the tax authorities would expect;
- Are aligned with business or operational objectives; and
- Do not carry significant reputational risk or significant risk of damaging our relationship with the fiscal authorities in the key jurisdictions in which we operate.

Due consideration will be given to SIX Group’s reputation, brand, corporate and social responsibilities when considering tax initiatives. We will operate with integrity in our compliance and reporting and all information will be clearly presented to the tax authorities or other relevant bodies, as appropriate.
Approach to Tax Risk Management and Governance

We define risk as residual risk of non-compliance with tax obligations worldwide resulting in financial loss or reputational damage to SIX.

We are risk adverse and do not participate in aggressive planning or complex structured arrangements designed to minimize our tax liabilities. At all times we aim to keep tax risks to a minimum through an effective tax control framework, focusing on risk management and governance.

Tax is an integral part of the Finance function of SIX Group and the Group Chief Financial Officer (CFO) has ultimate responsibility. Tax strategy and policies are reviewed on an on-going basis by the Group Executive Board of SIX. Any strategy and policy issues with respect to tax is assessed on a case by case basis by the CFO while day-to-day tax matters are delegated to the Group Tax department and the local tax managers.

Attitude towards tax planning

We will only undertake tax planning in the context of wider business activities having a commercial, economic basis.

The in-house Group Tax department of SIX is staffed with qualified, experienced tax professionals, which undertake the great majority of tax activities. As tax is an increasingly complex area SIX will, on occasion, appropriately seek external views. Tax planning or structuring advice may be sought in the context of complex transactions, principally to provide challenge to technical interpretation and ensuring compliance with relevant statutes and to ensure that business decisions are undertaken in the full knowledge of current and likely interpretations of legislation and guidance.

Our relationship with tax authorities

An important part of our tax strategy and policies is the maintenance and development of a strong, proactive working relationship with tax authorities worldwide. We aim to be transparent and professional in all our interactions with tax authorities and are committed to prompt disclosure and openness in all our tax dealings.

Potentially contentious matters are raised proactively with the tax authorities and tax clearances are sought to provide certainty where there is more than one possible interpretation of law and the matter is material by nature or by size.

SIX Group contributes actively to relevant public tax consultations - both on its own and through industry bodies - with a view to ensuring legislation is ultimately fit for purpose and that the intentions of Parliament can be given effect in a practical way.

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