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# Public consultation on the Re-launch of the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB)

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

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### Introduction

#### Please note:

In order to ensure a fair and transparent consultation process only responses received through our online questionnaire will be taken into account and included in the report summarising the responses.

Should you have a problem completing this questionnaire or if you require particular assistance, please contact:

#### TAXUD-CCCTB@ec.europa.eu.

For more information on the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base please follow this link.

The general rules on personal data protection on the EUROPA website are accessible here. On the protection of personal data for this consultation, please follow this link.

#### 1.1

### Background

Europe's priorities today are to restore growth and promote investment and job creation within a fairer and deeper Single Market. Europe needs a framework for fair and efficient taxation of corporate profits, in order to distribute the tax burden equitably, to contribute to the sustainability of public finances, to promote sustainable growth and investment, to diversify funding sources of the European economy, and to strengthen the competitiveness of Europe's economy.

Corporate taxation is an essential element of a fair and efficient tax system. It is an important source of revenue for Member States and an important factor in influencing companies' business decisions, for example on investments and research & development (R&D) activities.

Recent developments have shed light on the widely shared view that the current rules for corporate taxation no longer fit the modern context. Corporate income is taxed at national level, but the economic environment has become more globalised, mobile and digital. Business models and corporate structures have become more complex, making it easier to shift profits.

For instance, corporate tax rules which are conceived to exclusively function in a domestic framework may increasingly run the risk of leading to market distortions if taxpayers can easily circumvent them when they operate internationally. These distortions often derive from differences in tax laws and take the shape of aggressive tax planning practices whereby taxpayers can take advantage of disparities between national tax systems to derive tax benefits against the spirit of the law. Such a playing field no longer contributes to 'healthy' tax competition.

Given that Europe's priority today is to promote sustainable growth and investment within a fairer and better integrated Single Market, a new framework is needed for a fair and efficient taxation of corporate profits.

#### 1.2

## The Action Plan for a Fairer and Efficient Corporate Tax System

On 17th June 2015, the Commission published an Action Plan for a Fairer and Efficient Corporate Tax System and proposed 5 key areas for action in the coming months (COM (2015) 302). The Action Plan, which takes the form of a Communication, contributes to the aim of establishing a system of corporate taxation whereby business profits are taxed in the jurisdiction where value is actually created. The re-launch of the CCCTB lies at the heart of the Action Plan. It is presented as an overarching objective which could be an extremely effective tool for meeting the objectives of fairer and more efficient taxation. It features as the main tool for fighting against aggressive tax planning, incorporating recent international developments, attributing income where the value is created. Specifically:

- 1. A set of common EU rules for the calculation of the corporate tax base would in practice decrease significantly aggressive tax planning opportunities within the EU dimension of the group.
- Considering that the current transfer pricing rules have not proved very effective in tackling profit shifting over the last decades, a system of cross-border tax consolidation, as provided for in the CCCTB, would remove the benefits of profit shifting within the consolidated group across the Single Market.
- 3. The possibilities of shifting income towards the Member States with the lowest tax rates would be more limited under the CCCTB than the current national principles for allocating and computing profits through methods largely based on transfer pricing. This is mainly due to the fact that the apportionment factors have been devised to reflect the real economy. On the same note, within a consolidated group, there is no risk of double taxation or double non-taxation caused by mismatches amongst national rules and through the interaction of tax treaties.
- 4. The existence of common rules for computing the tax base would render tax competition more transparent in the EU because this would inevitably focus on the levels of (statutory) tax rates. As a result, there would be less room for tax planning.
- 5. The CCCTB would contain its own defence against tax abuse (e.g. Controlled Foreign Company (CFC) legislation, General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR), etc.). This is particularly important when it comes to protecting the group's tax base against erosion in dealings with entities outside the consolidated group.

- 6. In defending the Single Market against aggressive tax planning, the CCCTB would allow Member States to implement a common approach vis-à-vis third countries.
- 7. While removing distortions caused by aggressive tax planning, the CCCTB would also improve the environment for businesses in the EU, as it would allow companies operating in the EU to deal with a single set of common corporate tax rules within the EU. This would represent a significant simplification and would reduce compliance costs as a whole.

The Action Plan calls for a renewed approach to the pending proposal whereby the main amendments will be the following:

- Firstly, the re-launched CCCTB will be a mandatory system, which should make it more robust against aggressive tax planning practices.
- Secondly, it will be deployed in 2 steps because the current proposal is too vast to agree in one
  go; efforts will first concentrate on agreeing the rules for a common tax base, and consolidation
  will be left to be adopted at a later stage.

In practical terms, the Commission is planning to table two new Proposals: the first instrument will lay down the provisions for a Common Corporate Tax Base (CCTB) whilst the second will add the elements related to consolidation (i.e. CCCTB). Once this new legislative framework (henceforth referred to as CCTB/CCCTB) has been adopted by the Commission, the currently pending proposal will be repealed.

There is no doubt that a fully-fledged CCCTB would make a major difference in reinforcing the link between taxation and the jurisdiction where profits are generated. Yet, it is clear that it would take time to reach agreement on such an extensive piece of legislation. Bearing this in mind, the Action Plan suggests that Member States continue working on some international aspects of the common base which are linked to the OECD project on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) while the 're-launch' proposals are under preparation. According to the Action Plan, agreement to convert these BEPS-related elements into legally binding provisions should be achieved within 12 months.

The fully-fledged CCCTB would offer cross-border loss relief within the group as an automatic outcome of consolidating the tax bases of two or more group members. To compensate for the absence of consolidation in the first step (CCTB), the announced initiative to re-launch the CCCTB is planned to include enacting a facility for giving temporary cross-border loss relief. According to this, groups would be able to set off their profits in a Member State against losses incurred in another Member State until the loss-making group member goes back into making profits. This would remove a major tax obstacle for businesses.

A new impact assessment is being prepared to assess the impacts of the CCCTB; it is envisaged to build on and refine the previous economic analysis. The impact assessment will, in particular, analyse separately the CCTB and CCCTB, i.e. a corporate tax system without and with consolidation. In addition, the analysis will be expanded to take into account the effects anticipated through certain new developments, such as addressing debt bias in corporate taxation and further promoting R&D.

### 1.3

# Objectives of this consultation

The Commission has shown its strong commitment for fairer corporate taxation in its Action Plan of 17th June 2015. Consulting the public is one of the major steps in the process of proposing legislation

in the EU. This consultati n will help the Commission gather information and analyse the necessary evidence, in order to determine possible options for attaining the objectives of the re-launch of the CCCTB.

This consultation seeks to gather views in particular on the following:

- To what extent the CCCTB could function as an effective tool against aggressive tax planning, while contributing to a favourable investment climate.
- Which criteria should determine the companies subject to the rules of a mandatory CCTB/CCCTB.
- Whether companies not subject to the mandatory CCTB/CCCTB (i.e. those which do not fulfil the conditions on which the CCTB/CCCTB becomes mandatory) should be given the possibility to opt for applying the common rules.
- Whether the staged approach, as announced in the Action Plan, whereby priority will be given to agreeing the tax base before moving to consolidation, would be preferable, especially if one considered that the currently pending CCCTB proposal is an extensive piece of legislation on which progress has been very slow.
- Whether, in the short-term, it would be useful to agree common rules for implementing certain international BEPS-related aspects of the common tax base based on the current proposal until the Commission adopts the new (revised) CCTB/CCCTB proposal.
- Which more detailed parts of the common tax base should be reviewed.
- Whether and how the issue of debt-equity tax bias should be addressed. Corporate tax systems
  usually favour debt over equity by allowing the deductibility of the cost of debt only. Such debt
  bias could be addressed either through tax deductions for costs of both equity and debt financing
  or neither source of financing could benefit from tax deductions (Details about solutions are
  discussed in this Taxation Working Paper).
- Which types of rules would best foster R&D activity. The vast majority of Member States and other advanced economies offer fiscal incentives for expenses on R&D. Their design differs across countries, for example in how the incentive is applied and what type of expenditure is covered, e.g. salaries of researchers, R&D quipment and other costs (A recent study on R&D tax incentives commissioned by DGs TAXUD and GROW compares design of R&D tax incentives across countries).
- Whether a cross-border loss relief mechanism aimed to balance out the absence of the benefits
  of consolidation during the first step (CCTB) would promote business interest and support for the
  CCCTB.

Respondents are encouraged to propose additional relevant items if they wish

#### 1.4

### Glossary

Aggressive tax planning (see also: Tax planning):

In the Commission Recommendation on aggressive tax planning (C(2012) 8806 final), aggressive tax planning is defined as "taking advantage of the technicalities of a tax system or of mismatches between two or more tax systems for the purpose of reducing tax liability. Aggressive tax planning can take a multitude of forms. Its consequences include double deductions (e.g. the same loss is deducted both in the state of source and residence) and double non-taxation (e.g. income which is not taxed in the source state is exempt in the state of residence)".

#### • Allowance for Corporate Equity (ACE):

The term refers to a corporate tax system where interest payments and the return on equity can both be deducted from the corporate income tax base (taxable profits). It equalises the tax treatment of debt and equity finance at the corporate level.

#### Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS Project):

Tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations where there is little or no economic activity, resulting in little or no overall corporate tax being paid. The OECD has developed specific actions to give countries the tools they need to ensure that profits are taxed where economic activities generating the profits are performed and where value is created, while at the same time giving enterprises greater certainty by reducing disputes over the application of international tax rules, and standardising requirements.

### Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB):

The term refers to the corporate tax system that the Commission put forward in the form of a Proposal for a Council Directive (COM(2011) 121) on 16th March 2011. The system consists of corporate tax rules designed to apply across the EU and allow companies and corporate groups to use one set of common rules for computing their tax bases in the Member States where they maintain a taxable presence. Tax consolidation is only relevant to corporate groups and it means that the tax results of all group members are pooled together, which results in the automatic offset of cross-border losses within the group. In addition, each group member's taxable share is determined by applying a formula which apportions the consolidated base to the eligible group members on the basis of three equally weighted factors, i.e. labour, assets and sales (by destination).

#### Common Corporate Tax Base (CCTB):

The terms refers to step 1 of the CCCTB, according to the Commission's Action Plan of 17th June 2015, which comprises the common corporate tax rules for computing the tax base but does not include the element of tax consolidation.

### Comprehensive Business Income Tax (CBIT):

The term refers to a corporate tax system where neither interest payments nor the return on equity can be deducted from corporate profits, and are thus both fully subject to corporate income tax. It equalises the tax treatment of debt and equity finance at the corporate level.

#### Cost of Capital Allowance (COCA):

The term refers to a corporate tax system where the cost for both debt and equity finance is captured by a notional allowance which is deductible from the corporate tax base; similarly, at the investor's level, the income tax base increases by a notional return on the investments, which corresponds to the notional allowance and can be taxable. The amount of the notional allowance/return is computed as the product of the relevant assets/investments multiplied by a COCA rate. This system equalises the tax treatment of debt and equity finance at the corporate and investor level.

#### Debt-Equity Tax Bias/Debt Bias:

It is the result of operating a corporate tax system which favours financing by debt, rather than by equity. This is achieved by treating interest payments as a tax deductible expense whilst no equivalent deduction is granted for the return on equity (mainly, dividends).

#### • Hybrid Mismatches:

This refers to the situation where, as a result of disparities amongst national laws, the same entity or financial instrument is characterized differently, as far as its tax treatment is concerned, in two or more States (e.g. an entity is treated as a partnership in one jurisdiction and as a corporation in another; a financial instrument qualifies as deductible interest in one jurisdiction and as tax

exempt dividend in the other). Taxpayers often set up arrangements to exploit such mismatches for the purpose of lowering their overall tax burden.

#### Research & Development:

**Research:** all original and planned investigation undertaken with the prospect of gaining new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding.

**Development:** the application of research findings or other knowledge to a plan or design for the production of new or substantially improved materials, products, devices, processes, systems or services before the start of commercial production or use.

#### Tax avoidance:

According to the OECD glossary of tax terms, tax avoidance is defined as the arrangement of a taxpayer's affairs in a way that is intended to reduce his or her tax liability and that - although the arrangement may be strictly legal - is usually in contradiction with the intent of the law it purports to follow.

#### Tax evasion:

According to the OECD glossary of tax terms, tax evasion is defined as illegal arrangements where the liability to tax is hidden or ignored. This implies that the taxpayer pays less tax than he or she is legally obligated to pay by hiding income or information from the tax authorities.

• Tax planning (see also: Aggressive tax planning):

According to the OECD glossary of tax terms, tax planning is an arrangement of a person's business and/or private affairs in order to minimize tax liability.

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## Information about you

The information you provide on this page is for administrative purposes only and will not be published.

- ★ Are you replying as
  - Private individual
  - Enterprise, company
  - Public authority
  - Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
  - Other

- Consumer organisation
- Trade/Business/Professional association, consultancy, law firm
- Academic institution, Think Tank
- International organisation (other than NGO)

★ If other, please specify

Professional association

#### ⋆ Name of your organisation

The Federation of European Accountants

★ Contact email address				
paul.gisby@fee.be				
<ul> <li>★ Is your organisation or your enterprise included in the Transparency Register?</li> <li>② Yes</li> <li>③ No</li> </ul>				
⋆ Please indicate your Register ID number:				
4713568401-18				
<ul> <li>★ Do you carry out or do you represent activities at:</li> <li>National level (your country only)</li> <li>▼ EU level</li> <li>International level (beyond EU)</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>				
*Where are your headquarters?				
Other country •				
If other country, please specify:  100 character(s) maximum				
Based in Belgium, a European body representing professional accountants in all 28 Member States				
<ul> <li>★ Please indicate the field(s) of economic activity of your enterprise, or the field(s) of economic activity your organisation represents.</li> <li>■ Manufacturing</li> <li>■ Construction</li> <li>■ Wholesale and Retail Trade</li> <li>■ Financial and Insurance Activities</li> <li>■ (incl. fund management activities)</li> <li>■ Other</li> </ul>				

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# Important notice on the publication of responses

\*Please note: In order to ensure a fair and transparent consultation process only responses received through our online questionnaire will be taken into account. Furthermore, the European Commission

will prepare a report summarising the responses. Contributions received are thus intended for publication on the Commission's website.

#### Do you agree to your contribution being published?

- Yes, I consent to all of my answers being published under my name.
- Yes, I consent to all of my answers/personal data being published anonymously.
- No, I do not want my response to be published.
- \*I declare that none of the information I provide in this consultation is subject to copyright restrictions.
  - Yes
  - No

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# Policy directions

★ The Commission believes that the CCCTB system can be an effective tool against aggressive tax planning and at the same time retain its attractiveness to the business.

### What are your views?

- I agree Neutral I don't agree
- Other

#### Comments (optional):

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

CCCTB should be something that helps bring the EU together and should not just be seen as an anti-avoidance measure. Whilst we believe that CCCTB would be an effective anti-avoidance tool within the "CCCTB zone", some concerns have been expressed that the CCCTB was not initially designed as an anti-avoidance measure but as a business simplification measure. Consequently, it may not be as effective in addressing tax avoidance as some other measures (in particular the OECD's anti-BEPS project) and will not fully address the issue of tax avoidance by multi-national entities headquartered outside the CCCTB zone. We also stress the importance of considering the CCCTB system within the international tax environment, which is undergoing considerable development. In particular, we believe that it is important to give careful consideration how the CCCTB system (and in particular the anti-avoidance elements contained therein) interact with the potential important changes that implementation of the OECD's anti-BEPS project could bring in order to ensure maximal international consistency.

CCCTB could also be effective in making tax competition between Member States more transparent as it would reduce the effectiveness of many tax incentives offered to attract business and mean that, in many cases, tax competition would be based solely on national tax rates.

In order to be an effective tool against tax avoidance, CCCTB would have to be compulsory and this obligatory nature will make the system less attractive to some of the businesses that would be affected.

★The Commission envisages re-launching the CCCTB in a staged approach which will consist of 2 steps: Firstly, agreement on the tax base, secondly, moving on to consolidation.					
What are your views on the staged approach?					
<ul> <li>I'm in favour of the staged approach</li> <li>Neutral</li> <li>I'm against the staged approach</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>					
Comments (optional):					
2000 character(s) maximum					
FEE is in favour of the staged approach because it could assist in making the legislative process quicker. Whilst there is some benefit to be had from a common tax base, the full benefits of the CCCTB (both as a simplification measure for business and as an anti-avoidance measure) will only be realised with the addition of the consolidation element.					
* It is a priority of the Commission to promote discussion in Council of certain BEPS-related international aspects of the common base before the re-launched CCCTB is proposed. The aim will be to arrive at consensus on how to implement certain OECD anti-BEPS best practice recommendations in a uniform fashion across the EU. The intention would be to create a common playing field in defending the Single Market against base erosion and profit shifting.					
What are your views on agreeing on such a common approach?					
I'm in favour of such a common approach  Don't know  I'm against such a common approach  Other					
Comments (optional):					
2000 character(s) maximum					

### Scope of the CCTB/CCCTB proposal

- ★ The Commission considers making the new proposal for a CCCTB obligatory for all EU companies which are part of a group. A group can be formed:
  - Between parent and subsidiary companies where there is a holding of more than 50% of the voting rights; and direct or indirect holding amounting to more than 75% of capital or more than 75% of the profit rights); or
  - Between a Head Office and its permanent establishment where a company has one or more permanent establishment in other Member States.

What are your views on making the proposal for a CCCTB obligatory for all EU companies which are part of a group?

0	I'm in favour of this obligation		Neutral	I'm against this obligation
0	Don't know	0	Other	

Would you suggest a different approach to defining who should be required to use the CCCTB? If yes, please explain your suggestion briefly.

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

Requiring that the CCCTB be obligatory for EU companies that are part of the group have obvious advantages, such as strengthening the anti-avoidance effectiveness of the proposal and making the system easier to implement for national tax authorities. However, making the CCCTB mandatory will inevitably make the process of achieving political agreement for the proposal at Member State level more difficult.

★ The Commission envisages providing the following option:

Companies which would not be subject to the mandatory CCCTB - because they do not fulfil the requirements of being part of a group - could still have the possibility to apply the rules of the system.

What are your views on offering non-qualifying companies the option to apply the rules?

I'm in favour of this option	Neutral	I'm against this option
Don't know	Other	

#### Comments (optional):

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

In principle, FEE agrees with permitting companies not obliged to apply CCCTB an option to use the rules if they choose to do so. On the basis that this option would most prominently affect SMEs, we believe that this could be a useful way for SMEs to reduce the administrative burden of cross-border trade and thereby reduce a disincentive to undertaking cross-border trade.

There is, however, an argument that such voluntary application of the rules will mainly occur when it produces a tax advantage. We believe that this would be contrary to one of the benefits of the CCCTB, namely producing a level

playing field between all groups of companies that operate across borders (including SMEs). On the other hand, it will allow those companies that are part of a consolidated group that does not otherwise meet the quantitative criteria for inclusion in the CCCTB system and to benefit from its many advantages. Consequently, there should be some safeguards introduced with the option to apply the rules in order to mitigate such its abuse. These could include requirements that companies opting in to the rules do so for a set period or permanently.

#### 5.2

#### Anti-avoidance elements

★ In view of recent developments, the CCCTB system should include more robust rules to defend itself against aggressive tax planning.

# Which of the elements of the CCCTB system would you reinforce so that the system can better respond to tax avoidance?

(Multiple answers possible)

- Rules for limiting interest deductibility
- Disallowance of tax exemption for portfolio participations
- Exit taxation rules
- More robust rules on controlled foreign companies regimes (CFC)
- Anti-abuse rules based on effective rather than statutory rates
- Addressing distortions caused by debt/equity bias
- Other suggestion
- None of the above

#### \* Please specify your other suggestions

be covered sufficiently.

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

We would have preferred to have selected "None of the above" as a response but this option did not permit the use of this comments box. The full CCCTB proposal from 2011 already has strong rules covering limiting interest deductibility, exit taxation, for CFC regimes and for anti-abuse rules based on effective rather than statutory rates. In case this proposal should be used as a basis for a CCTB proposal, the relevant topics appear to

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# Hybrid Mismatches, Research and Development

#### 6.1

\* Hybrid mismatches are the result of disparities in the tax treatment of an entity or financial instrument under the laws of two or more States. Currently, arrangements can be set up to exploit such mismatches for the purpose of lowering their overall tax burden. The risk of such arrangements would be removed in transactions between enterprises applying the common tax base rules within a consolidated group. It would however persist in relations with enterprises outside the common rules as well as during step 1 of the staged approach to a CCCTB, in the absence of tax consolidation amongst the companies applying the common rules.

One option to address hybrid mismatches would be to require enterprises to follow in a Member State the classification of entities and/or of financial instruments adopted in the other Member State or the third country which is party to the transaction.

In your view,	can hybrid	mismatches	be effectively	addressed	through any	other	measures
than the one	suggested a	above?					

Yes

No

Don't know
Other

Please explain your response and/or provide further comments:

It may be that implementation of the OECD's anti-BEPS proposals will provides an effective measure to deal with hybrid mismatches. However, at this early stage, with the degree of international adoption indeterminate, it is difficult to foresee how effective these measures will be.

#### 6.2

# Treatment of costs for Research and Development

\* In the currently pending CCCTB proposal, the Commission has proposed a favourable treatment of costs for Research and Development (R&D) by making these costs fully deductible in the tax year they are incurred, with the exception of costs relating to immovable property.

#### What are your views on the existing framework for R&D?

I support the existing framework for R&D	.  Neutral	I don't support the existing framework
R&D	- Hodia	for R&D
Don't know	Other	

#### Comments (optional):

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

FEE strongly supports the existing framework for R&D. However, we are concerned about the perceived need for a minimum rate of taxation to be charged. Immediate deduction of R&D expense should be an option but should not be mandatory for the taxpayer as this could result in the loss of tax deductions or tax losses to achieve a minimum rate of tax. Additionally,

claiming R&D tax benefits granted in one Member State should not result in the company being treated as "low taxed" by other Member States.

\*One option for rendering the CCCTB more favourable to promoting R&D could be to introduce more generous provisions for deducting R&D costs, such as super deductions which are currently applied by a number of Member States (e.g. Croatia, the Netherlands and the UK)?

#### What are your views on making the existing framework for R&D more favourable?

I'm **in favour** of making the existing framework more favourable for R&D

Neutral

Framework more favourable for R&D

Other

Would you suggest an alternative scheme? If so, please explain in your response and/or provide further comments

2000 character(s) maximum

FEE is strongly in favour of more generous provisions, such as super-deductions, for deducting R&D costs. However, provisions such as super deductions tend to most benefit companies that are profitable, which is not always the position that many companies investing in R&D find themselves in, especially in a start-up situation. As an alternative tax credits (cash premiums) could be considered, which would provide an immediate cash-flow benefit for R&D.

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# Debt-Equity Tax Bias, Cross-Border Loss Relief

#### 7.1

# **Debt-Equity Tax Bias**

\*Corporate tax systems usually favour debt-financing over equity-financing by treating interest payments as a tax deductible expense with no equivalent deduction for the return paid to equity.

#### Should the aspect of debt-equity tax bias be addressed in the proposal?

YesNeutralNoDon't knowOther

#### Comments (optional):

2000 character(s) maximum

Whilst dealing with the debt-equity bias is undoubtedly an important topic, FEE does not support the proposal that it should be addressed as part of the CCCTB project. Since allowing a notional interest deduction on equity would result in a reduction in Member State tax revenues, FEE foresees a risk that the "debt bias" will be addressed by disallowing or limiting the deduction of interest expense on debt. As long as interest income is generally taxable by the recipient, interest expense must remain deductible (otherwise companies in the CC(C)TB area will be at a disadvantage compared to companies in other parts of the world). Consequently, this is a topic that requires detailed consideration and it would be best addressed as a topic on its own or as a part of other initiatives, such as the CMU.

The corporate tax debt-equity bias could be addressed via three possible policy options.

- Option 1 is the Comprehensive Business Income Tax (CBIT) that disallows any financing costs as deductible expense.
- Option 2 is the Allowance for Corporate Equity (ACE) that allows the deductibility of actual interest payments and of a notional interest on equity.
- Option 3 is the Cost of Capital Allowance (COCA) that allows the deductibility of a notional interest on capital (equity and debt).

#### In your view, which option would be best suited to address the debt-equity tax bias?

- Comprehensive Business Income Tax (CBIT)
- Allowance for Corporate Equity (ACE)
- Cost of Capital Allowance (COCA)
- None of the above
- Don't know
- Other

#### Comments (optional):

#### 2000 character(s) maximum

CBIT would raise the cost of debt financing within the EU and thereby put EU based groups at a competitive disadvantage. FEE does not support this option at all.

COCA would probably prove very complex in practice and consideration would have to be given having separate rates for equity and loans, given their different risk premium. This could also lead to a situation where interest incurred would not be deductible if it exceeds the notional interest. For these reasons, FEE does not support this option.

FEE cautiously supports the ACE option. However, the introduction of such measures by Member States have not been universally successful in stimulating equity investment and have sometimes been used for tax avoidance purposes. Consequently, any such measures would need to be carefully considered within national and international tax frameworks to both ensure that their aims were achieved in a cost effective manner and that they did not primarily becomes vehicles for tax avoidance.

# 7.2

# Temporary mechanism for cross-border loss relief

	porary mechanism for cross-border loss relief with B) is agreed. The aim will be to balance out the absence step (CCTB) of the proposal.			
What are your views on such a temporary	mechanism for cross-border loss relief?			
I'm <b>in favour</b> of such a temporary mechanism  Don't know	Neutral     I'm against such a temporary mechanism     Other			
Which other measures could temporarily substitute the absence of consolidation? Please explain your response and/or provide further comments.				
Comments (optional):				
2000 character(s) maximum				
In the absence of the consolidation relief is essential in order to avo	element of the CCCTB, cross border loss id double taxation.			
Final remarks, additional information	on			
Is there anything else you would like to bring to	the attention of the Commission?			

Should you wish to provide additional information (e.g. a position paper, report) or raise specific points not covered by the questionnaire, you can upload your additional document(s) here.

#### **Useful links**

Press release on this public consultation (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release IP-15-5796 en.htm)

Europa site on CCCTB

(http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/taxation/company\_tax/common\_tax\_base/index\_en.htm)

Action Plan for Fair and Efficient Corporate Taxation in the EU

(http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\_IP-15-5188\_en.htm)

Questions and Answers on the CCCTB re-launch (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\_MEMO-15-5174\_en.htm)

Taxation Working Paper 33: "The Debt-Equity Tax Bias"

(http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/resources/documents/taxation/gen\_info/economic\_analysis/tax\_papers/tax

Taxation Working Paper 52: "A Study on R and D Tax Incentives"

(http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/resources/documents/taxation/gen\_info/economic\_analysis/tax\_papers/tax

Privacy statement for this public consultation

(http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/resources/documents/common/consultations/tax/relaunch\_ccctb/privacy\_s

#### Contact

▼ TAXUD-CCCTB@ec.europa.eu