

MAIN TAXES OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

© Rute Martins Santos & Kiluange Tiny*

March, 2005.

This publication is protected by the copyright laws of Portugal, the laws of the European Union and by international law. Reproductions of this publication or portions of it are allowed only for personal non-commercial purposes. Reproductions, modifications, distributions or public displays of these materials or portions of it for any other purposes – namely for inclusion in Web sites, publications, works or linkages, etc. – should be requested to the author(s). This publication is provided for information purposes only and in no case this information is to be used as a replacement or serve as substitute for any legal, audit, advisory, tax or other professional advice, consultation or service. When reproduced or otherwise displayed, this publication may not be modified and the user may not remove or otherwise omit the credentials and other institutional identification therein.

* Lawyers admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association.

MAIN TAXES**

TAX	SCOPE (Levied on)	RATES
INCOME TAX <i>(IMPOSTO SOBRE SALÁRIOS)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All income, in cash and in kind, earned by individuals (including non-residents), in the country The tax is withheld at source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat rate:13%
PROFIT TAX <i>(IMPOSTO SOBRE O RENDIMENTO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All income earned from any commercial industrial, service, agricultural business or independent profession activity, be it permanent, occasional or temporary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For commercial, industrial, service and agricultural business: flat rate of 30% on taxable profits; additional 15% on taxable profits in excess of Db 12 milion For independent professionals: progressive rate from 5% to 30% ; 15% surcharge on the profits in excess of Db. 3 000 000
URBAN PROPERTY TAX <i>(CONTRIBUIÇÃO PREDIAL URBANA)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15% on registered value Flat rate may be corrected according to factor of 8, for property registered before December 31, 1970, or factor 4, for property registered between January 1, 1971 and December 31, 1980
MOTOR VEHICLE TAX <i>(IMPOSTO SOBRE VEÍCULOS A MOTOR E BARCOS DE RECREIO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motor vehicles (registered or starting 180 days from the entry into the country) equipped with engines larger than 50 cc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vary between Db. 500 and Db. 10.000, according to the size and the age of the vehicle Recreation boats have a different tariff, varying from Db. 500 up to Db. 1 000
EXCISE TAX <i>(IMPOSTO SOBRE O CONSUMO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of a listed number of manufactured goods, according to applicable valuation methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Petroleum products: 42-149% Motor vehicles: 10-35% Alcoholic drinks: spirits 55%; beer 25% Tobacco: 55% Services: 2%

** We have consulted the applicable laws and the Country Report no. 04/107, International Monetary Fund, April 2004.

TAX	SCOPE (Levied on)	RATES
IMPORT DUTY <i>(DIREITOS OF IMPORTAÇÃO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs value of imports according to applicable valuation methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three rate bands: basic goods 5%; luxury goods 20%; other goods 10% • The majority of investment goods are taxed at 10% (some are taxed at 20%) • Petroleum and alcoholic products have special rates
AIRPORT TAX <i>(TAXAS PELA UTILIZAÇÃO DE AEROPORTOS)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of airport facilities 	
HARBOUR TAX <i>(IMPOSTO DE PORTO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of port facilities and material procured from the port authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific tariffs, varying with the weight, volume, quantity of merchandise, type of service, and time of utilization of service • For material purchased from the port authorities: 1% of the c.i.f. value, plus an additional tax of 30%
ENHERITANCE AND GIFT TAX <i>(IMPOSTOS SOBRE SUCESSÕES E DOAÇÕES)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All conveyance of tangible property, real state, value, or title 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressive rates between 7% and 25%, based on the value of the goods or property conveyed and the degree of kinship between the deceased and the heirs
REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX <i>(IMPOSTO DE SISA SOBRE A TRANSMISSÃO DE PROPRIEDADE IMOBILIÁRIA A TÍTULO ONEROSO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All onerous conveyance of real state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural/urban property: 10% • Exchange deeds: 5%
STAMP TAX <i>(IMPOSTO DE SELO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts, contracts and other products listed in the law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vary with the act, contract or products

TAX	SCOPE (Levied on)	RATES
SPECIAL TAX <i>(IMPOSTO ESPECIAL)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surtax on the total amount of import tax, rural property tax, justice, port and customs duties, enforced collection proceeds and tax violation proceeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of 20%
SERVICE STAMP TAX <i>(IMPOSTO DE SELO DE ASSISTÊNCIA)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs clearance and receipts, licenses and certificates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs clearance and receipts: for values below Db 10 000: ranging from Db. 2 to Db. 10; for values above Db. 10 000: 0,15% <i>ad valorem</i> rate • Certificates: Db. 100 000 • Licenses: rates ranging from Db. 100 000 to Db. 500 000, according to the activity

USEFUL CONTACTS

ENTITY	TELEPHONE / FAX	POST ADDRESS	WORKING HOURS
MINISTRY OF FINANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 23 72 • 22 21 82 (Fax) • Country code: 00 239 	Largo das Alfândegas São Tomé São Tomé e Príncipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • 14:00 a.m. – 15:30 p.m.
CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 48 96 • Country code: 00 239 	Largo das Alfândegas São Tomé São Tomé e Príncipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • 14:00 a.m. – 15:30 p.m.
PUBLIC NOTARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 48 96 • Country code: 00 239 	Avenida 12 de Julho São Tomé São Tomé e Príncipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • 14:00 a.m. – 15:30 p.m.
EMBASSY OF SAO TOME E PRINCIPE (PORTUGAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 218 461 917 • 218 439 264 • 218 461 895 (Fax) • Country code: 00 351 	Avenida Almirante Gago Coutinho, 26, R/C, 1049-015 Lisboa Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.

OUR CONTACTS

*R*UTE *M*A RTINS *S* ANTOS & *K* ILUANGE *T* INY

OLHOS DE ÁGUA - CCI 12801 - 2955-011 PINHAL NOVO - PORTUGAL

E-MAIL: tiny@juristep.com
santos@juristep.com