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Indonesia Tax Info

Update on Priority in Tax Audit Target List

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The Director General of Taxation ("DGT") issued Circular No. SE-15/PJ/2018 ("SE-15") regarding Tax Audit Policy on 13

August 2018, revoking the previous DGT Circulars No. SE-06/PJ/2016 regarding Audit Policy and SE-25/PJ/2015 regarding Audit and Inspection in Land and Building Tax.

Under SE-15, corporate taxpayers that may be included as priority among the DGT's target list for future tax audits will be based on some new criteria, as below:

- Taxpayers who have not been tax audited for all types of taxes in the last 3 (three) years, including those who declare tax underpayment in their tax returns.
- Taxpayers who issued tax invoices to buyers without Tax ID number (NPWP) of more than 25% of their total tax invoices issued in one tax period;
- Taxpayers who claimed unnecessary expenses;
- Taxpayers who undertook aggressive tax planning;
- Taxpayers with significant tax payment potential.

Some of the criteria below that were exercised in the previous years, continue to apply:

- Non-compliance with tax payments and submission of tax return;
- Have transactions with related parties, especially with affiliates domiciled in countries that have an effective tax rate that is lower than the effective tax rate in Indonesia;
- Taxpayers do not report actual turnover.

SE-15 also sets out new provision on joint audit between DGT and SKK Migas on oil and gas production sharing contracts with cost recovery scheme, by reference to Minister of Finance Regulation No. 34/PMK.03/2018.

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Update on Income Tax Treatment for Taxpayers Earning Certain Gross Income

The Indonesian Ministry of Finance ("MoF") issued Regulation No. 99/PMK.03/2018 ("PMK-99") on 24 August 2018 regarding implementation of Government Regulation No. 23 Year 2018 ("PP-23"). PMK-99 provides further guidelines for Taxpayers with certain gross income (i.e. small and medium enterprises). As mentioned in our Tax Info July 2018 edition, PP-23 is intended to set out special income tax treatment for individual and corporate Taxpayers that have income with gross turnover not exceeding IDR 4.8 billion in a fiscal year (with a few exceptions). PMK-99 also regulates Taxpayers that choose to be subject to the normal income tax based on the general provisions on income tax (i.e. non-final tax regime).

PMK-99 stipulates several administrative procedures with the following key points:

1. Notification letter for Taxpayers that choose to apply the normal tax regime

The deadlines for submission of notification to the Directorate General of Taxation ("DGT") for Taxpayers that choose to apply the normal tax regime rather than the final tax regime and the effective dates when it will be applied are shown in the table below:

Description	Notification Submission Deadline	Effective Date of Commencement of Use of Normal Income Tax
Existing Taxpayers	31 December 2018	2019
Taxpayers registered between 1 July 2018 - 31 December 2018	31 December 2018	Taxpayer's registration date
Taxpayers registered starting from 1 January 2019	-	Taxpayer's registration date

The normal Article 25 Income Tax installment system applies to these Taxpayers.

2. Withholding tax mechanism

PMK-99 provides the following withholding tax mechanism:

- a. For a customer as Tax Withholder that pays remuneration/service fee to a vendor that qualifies to use the final tax regime, the customer has an obligation to withhold 0.5% final tax instead of the normal withholding tax rate.
- b. Specifically for Article 22 Income Tax, the withholding tax should not be applied on either importation or purchase of certain goods.

In order to apply both points above, the Taxpayer must provide a Statement Letter from the DGT to the withholder.

3. Procedure for application the Statement Letter

Statement Letter is a letter issued by DGT to verify that Taxpayer entitled to use the final tax regime. The application for obtaining the Statement Letter must be submitted to the tax office where the Taxpayer is registered using the prescribed template provided in PMK-99. To obtain the statement letter, the Taxpayers must have submitted the latest Annual Income Tax Return, except newly registered Taxpayer, or Taxpayer who has no obligation to submit the Annual Income Tax Return.

The validity period of the Statement Letter follows the time limit for applying final tax regime period (i.e. 7 years for individuals, 4 years for corporate Taxpayer in the form of cooperative, limited partnership, or firms, and 3 years for corporate Taxpayer in the form of limited liability companies).

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