THE GLOBAL BUSINESS LICENCE (GBL) COMPANY

WHY MAURITIUS IS THE IDEAL HUB FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

What is a Global Business Licence (GBL) Company?

A Global Business Licence (GBL) Company, is a business entity that operates primarily from Mauritius but engages in international business activities with individuals and entities outside of the country. This structure is particularly suitable for businesses that seek to capitalize on the benefits of Mauritius' favorable tax regime and extensive network of Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs).

Legal Structure and Operations

A GBC can either be:

- A division of a foreign company; or
- A locally incorporated company.

The company must be licensed by the Financial Services Commission (FSC), which is responsible for regulating financial services in Mauritius, excluding banking institutions. Once licensed, a GBL can conduct business outside of Mauritius while benefiting from tax exemptions and other regulatory advantages.

The regulatory framework is defined by the Companies Act 2001 and the Financial Services Act (FSA) 2007, making Mauritius a reliable international financial hub.

Taxation and Benefits

One of the key advantages of establishing a GBL in Mauritius is the tax advantages it benefits. While a GBL is subject to taxation, it can benefit from an 80% partial tax exemption on various revenue streams, effectively reducing its tax burden. Revenue streams that qualify for this exemption include:

- Foreign source dividends (if not deducted in the source country)
- Income from collective investment schemes, fund managers, and investment advisers
- Income from ship and aircraft leasing
- Profits from reinsurance and related activities
- Interest earned through Peer-to-Peer lending platforms
- International income related to asset management, aircraft financing, and advisory services

These benefits make Mauritius an attractive destination for holding companies and investment firms seeking an offshore base for international operations.

Permissible Activities

GBL can engage in a wide range of activities across multiple industries, including but not limited to:

- Aircraft Financing and Leasing
- Asset Management
- Investment Banking
- Consultancy Services
- Financial Services
- Fund Management
- Information and Communication Technology Services
- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Logistics and Marketing
- Operational Headquarters
- Pension Funds Management
- Shipping and Ship Management
- Trading
- Trust Management
- Licensing and Franchising

These activities allow GBL to position themselves as key players in global financial markets while leveraging Mauritius' reputation as a secure financial jurisdiction.

Requirements for Setting Up a GBL in Mauritius

To set up a GBL, the following criteria must be met:

- At least one shareholder (or more, depending on ownership structure)
- A minimum of two qualified directors who are residents of Mauritius
- Board meetings must be held in Mauritius
- The company's main bank account should be based in Mauritius
- Physical offices must be maintained in Mauritius to store statutory documents and accounting records
- A local Management Company, such as AAMIL Group, must be appointed as the qualified company secretary
- Audited financial statements (Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet) must be filed annually with the FSC
- Tax returns must be submitted to the Mauritius Income Tax Authorities
- The company must include an arbitration clause for dispute resolution in Mauritius¨

Additionally, shares of the GBL must be listed on a securities exchange as designated by the FSC.

Regulatory and Compliance Framework

Mauritius has earned a strong reputation as a global financial hub due to its robust regulatory framework. The country is committed to preventing financial crimes such as money laundering and terrorism financing, in compliance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. Moreover, strict regulations are in place to prevent tax evasion, ensuring transparency and compliance with international standards.

Strategic Advantages of a GBL

Mauritius offers various strategic advantages for businesses looking to expand globally. Among these are the numerous Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs) and bilateral investment treaties signed with multiple countries. These agreements provide legal protection, tax benefits, and increased stability for investors.

Incorporating a business in Mauritius also provides access to a reputable and well-regulated financial services sector.

The regulatory environment is both transparent and robust, offering a safe and compliant platform for international business activities.

The Path Forward for International Business

Incorporating a Global Business Licence (GBL) company in Mauritius offers numerous advantages for businesses looking to operate internationally while benefiting from a favorable tax regime and a reliable legal framework. Whether involved in asset management, shipping, aviation, or consultancy, a GBL provides a solid foundation for international growth.

Investors should conduct thorough due diligence and seek professional advice to navigate the complexities of offshore incorporation. Partnering with an experienced service provider like AAMIL Group can ensure that all legal and regulatory requirements are met, making Mauritius a safe and attractive jurisdiction for global business expansion.

Why Choose AAMIL for Your Global Business Needs?

Founded in 1997 by Dr. Ludovic C. Verbist, AAMIL has established itself as a trusted partner for international clients seeking to expand their global business operations. With over 27 years of experience, we provide a comprehensive range of tailored solutions designed to meet the specific needs of both individuals and corporations.

As your registered agent in Mauritius, AAMIL is here to guide you through every step of the Mauritius company incorporation process. Our team of internationally qualified experts leverages both global and local market expertise to offer you seamless solutions for all your business needs. We also serve as a Representation Office, providing reliable administrative support backed by extensive experience in corporate and financial services.

Our highly skilled professionals are ready to assist you in setting up your Global Business Licence (GBL) company in Mauritius and provide expert advice on the best business structure for your specific circumstances and objectives. For over 27 years, our international clients have entrusted us with the administration of their businesses, enhancing our reputation as a leading provider of corporate, trust, fund, asset and fiduciary services.

If you're seeking an experienced partner for Company Incorporation and Business Structuring, contact AAMIL today. We're here to help you navigate the complexities of international business and ensure your success.

by P.C

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