



It is a great pleasure to present you with Issue No. 22 of our Asia Pacific Tax Notes.

This issue begins with our lead article on managing tax controversies in turbulent times. With the global economic meltdown, tax authorities around the world are doing their best to protect their tax revenues and are becoming more vigilant in cracking down on abusive tax practices. There are also increasing calls by the international tax community for greater transparency and more international cooperation to curb harmful tax practices. All of these have made managing the potential exposure to tax controversies more pertinent than ever. The article looks at some of the recent developments in this area and discusses how multinational corporations could respond to meet these challenges.

This issue of Asia Pacific Tax Notes also has the usual round up of tax developments in the region. These mainly focus on recent budgetary developments and measures and incentives introduced by governments to encourage investment and stimulate business activities in the economic downturn. I would like to remind readers to check with their local PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) contacts on the progress in giving statutory effect to the budgetary proposals.

This issue of Asia Pacific Tax Notes is also available in pdf format. If you require an electronic copy, please contact our editor Fergus Wong at [fergus.wt.wong@hk.pwc.com](mailto:fergus.wt.wong@hk.pwc.com), or assistant editor Anita Tsang at [anita.wn.tsang@hk.pwc.com](mailto:anita.wn.tsang@hk.pwc.com).

I would finally like to thank the editorial team and all the PwC firms in the region for their contributions to this edition of Asia Pacific Tax Notes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rod Houg-Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rod Houg-Lee  
Regional Tax Leader

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## Editor's Note

This publication is designed to alert those interested in or already doing business in the Asia Pacific region to recent tax developments in the region. The information contained in this publication is of a general nature only. It is not meant to be comprehensive and does not constitute legal or tax advice. PricewaterhouseCoopers has no obligation to update the information as law and practice change. The application and impact of laws can vary widely based on the specific facts involved. No readers should act or refrain from acting on the basis of any materials contained in this publication without obtaining advice specific to their circumstances from their usual PricewaterhouseCoopers client service team or their other advisers. The materials in this issue generally cover developments up to February 2009, unless otherwise indicated.