

limitations under section 6501 (relating to the assessment and collection of tax) or under section 6531 (relating to criminal prosecutions) with respect to such person shall be suspended for the period during which the proceeding under such subsection, and appeals therein, are pending.

(Added Pub. L. 97-248, title III, § 337(a), Sept. 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 629; amended Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title VII, § 714(k), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 963.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (d)(3), (4). Pub. L. 98-369 redesignated par. (4) as (3) and struck out former par. (3) which provided that an item was to be treated as foreign connected if directly or indirectly from a source outside the United States, or the item (in whole or in part) purported to arise outside the United States, or was otherwise dependent on transactions occurring outside the United States.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-369 effective as if included in the provision of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, Pub. L. 97-248, to which such amendment relates, see section 715 of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 31 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 97-248, title III, § 337(c), Sept. 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 630, as amended by Pub. L. 99-514, § 2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall apply with respect to formal document requests (as defined in section 982(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [formerly I.R.C. 1954], as added by this section) mailed after the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 3, 1982].”

#### SUBPART J—FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

Sec.	
985.	Functional currency.
986.	Determination of foreign taxes and foreign corporation's earnings and profits.
987.	Branch transactions.
988.	Treatment of certain foreign currency transactions.
989.	Other definitions and special rules.

#### AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-647, title I, § 1012(v)(1)(C), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3529, added item 986 and struck out former item 986 “Determination of foreign corporation's earnings and profits and foreign taxes”.

### § 985. Functional currency

#### (a) In general

Unless otherwise provided in regulations, all determinations under this subtitle shall be made in the taxpayer's functional currency.

#### (b) Functional currency

##### (1) In general

For purposes of this subtitle, the term “functional currency” means—

(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), the dollar, or

(B) in the case of a qualified business unit, the currency of the economic environment in which a significant part of such unit's activities are conducted and which is used by such unit in keeping its books and records.

#### (2) Functional currency where activities primarily conducted in dollars

The functional currency of any qualified business unit shall be the dollar if activities of such unit are primarily conducted in dollars.

#### (3) Election

To the extent provided in regulations, the taxpayer may elect to use the dollar as the functional currency for any qualified business unit if—

(A) such unit keeps its books and records in dollars, or

(B) the taxpayer uses a method of accounting that approximates a separate transactions method.

Any such election shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all subsequent taxable years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

#### (4) Change in functional currency treated as a change in method of accounting

Any change in the functional currency shall be treated as a change in the taxpayer's method of accounting for purposes of section 481 under procedures to be established by the Secretary.

(Added Pub. L. 99-514, title XII, § 1261(a), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2585.)

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 99-514, title XII, § 1261(e), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2591, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [enacting this subpart and amending sections 1092 and 1256 of this title] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986.

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR PURPOSES OF SECTIONS 902 AND 960.—For purposes of applying sections [former] 902 and 960 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the amendments made by this section shall apply to—

“(A) earnings and profits of the foreign corporation for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, and

“(B) foreign taxes paid or accrued by the foreign corporation with respect to such earnings and profits.”

### § 986. Determination of foreign taxes and foreign corporation's earnings and profits

#### (a) Foreign income taxes

##### (1) Translation of accrued taxes

###### (A) In general

For purposes of determining the amount of the foreign tax credit, in the case of a taxpayer who takes foreign income taxes into account when accrued, the amount of any foreign income taxes (and any adjustment thereto) shall be translated into dollars by using the average exchange rate for the taxable year to which such taxes relate.

###### (B) Exception for certain taxes

Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any foreign income taxes—

(i) paid after the date 2 years after the close of the taxable year to which such taxes relate, or

(ii) paid before the beginning of the taxable year to which such taxes relate.

**(C) Exception for inflationary currencies**

Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any foreign income taxes the liability for which is denominated in any inflationary currency (as determined under regulations).

**(D) Elective exception for taxes paid other than in functional currency****(i) In general**

At the election of the taxpayer, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any foreign income taxes the liability for which is denominated in any currency other than in the taxpayer's functional currency.

**(ii) Application to qualified business units**

An election under this subparagraph may apply to foreign income taxes attributable to a qualified business unit in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

**(iii) Election**

Any such election shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all subsequent taxable years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

**(E) Special rule for regulated investment companies**

In the case of a regulated investment company which takes into account income on an accrual basis, subparagraphs (A) through (D) shall not apply and foreign income taxes paid or accrued with respect to such income shall be translated into dollars using the exchange rate as of the date the income accrues.

**(F) Cross reference**

For adjustments where tax is not paid within 2 years, see section 905(c).

**(2) Translation of taxes to which paragraph (1) does not apply**

For purposes of determining the amount of the foreign tax credit, in the case of any foreign income taxes to which subparagraph (A) or (E) of paragraph (1) does not apply—

(A) such taxes shall be translated into dollars using the exchange rates as of the time such taxes were paid to the foreign country or possession of the United States, and

(B) any adjustment to the amount of such taxes shall be translated into dollars using—

(i) except as provided in clause (ii), the exchange rate as of the time when such adjustment is paid to the foreign country or possession, or

(ii) in the case of any refund or credit of foreign income taxes, using the exchange rate as of the time of the original payment of such foreign income taxes.

**(3) Authority to permit use of average rates**

To the extent prescribed in regulations, the average exchange rate for the period (specified in such regulations) during which the taxes or adjustment is paid may be used instead of the exchange rate as of the time of such payment.

**(4) Foreign income taxes**

For purposes of this subsection, the term "foreign income taxes" means any income,

war profits, or excess profits taxes paid or accrued to any foreign country or to any possession of the United States.

**(b) Earnings and profits and distributions**

For purposes of determining the tax under this subtitle—

(1) of any shareholder of any foreign corporation, the earnings and profits of such corporation shall be determined in the corporation's functional currency, and

(2) in the case of any United States person, the earnings and profits determined under paragraph (1) (when distributed, deemed distributed, or otherwise taken into account under this subtitle) shall (if necessary) be translated into dollars using the appropriate exchange rate.

**(c) Previously taxed earnings and profits****(1) In general**

Foreign currency gain or loss with respect to distributions of previously taxed earnings and profits (as described in section 959 or 1293(c)) attributable to movements in exchange rates between the times of deemed and actual distribution shall be recognized and treated as ordinary income or loss from the same source as the associated income inclusion.

**(2) Distributions through tiers**

The Secretary shall prescribe regulations with respect to the treatment of distributions of previously taxed earnings and profits through tiers of foreign corporations.

(Added Pub. L. 99-514, title XII, §1261(a), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2586; amended Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1012(v)(1)(A), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3528; Pub. L. 105-34, title XI, §1102(a)(1), (b)(1), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 963, 965; Pub. L. 108-357, title IV, §408(a), (b), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1499.)

## AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a)(1)(D). Pub. L. 108-357, §408(a), added subpar. (D). Former subpar. (D) redesignated (E).

Subsec. (a)(1)(E). Pub. L. 108-357, §408(b)(1), added subpar. (E). Former subpar. (E) redesignated (F).

Pub. L. 108-357, §408(a), redesignated subpar. (D) as (E).

Subsec. (a)(1)(F). Pub. L. 108-357, §408(b)(1), redesignated subpar. (E) as (F).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 108-357, §408(b)(2), inserted "or (E)" after "subparagraph (A)" in introductory provisions.

1997—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-34, §1102(a)(1), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows:

"(a) FOREIGN TAXES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of determining the amount of the foreign tax credit—

"(A) any foreign income taxes shall be translated into dollars using the exchange rates as of the time such taxes were paid to the foreign country or possession of the United States, and

"(B) any adjustment to the amount of foreign income taxes shall be translated into dollars using—

"(i) except as provided in clause (ii), the exchange rate as of the time when such adjustment is paid to the foreign country or possession, or

"(ii) in the case of any refund or credit of foreign income taxes, using the exchange rate as of the time of original payment of such foreign income taxes.

"(2) FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), 'foreign income taxes' means any income,

war profits, or excess profits taxes paid to any foreign country or to any possession of the United States.”

Subsec. (a)(3), (4). Pub. L. 105-34, §1102(b)(1), added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4).

1988—Pub. L. 100-647 substituted “foreign taxes and foreign corporation’s earnings and profits” for “foreign corporation’s earnings and profits and foreign taxes” in heading, and revised and restructured the provisions of subsecs. (a) and (b).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-357, title IV, §408(c), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1500, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2004.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-34, title XI, §1102(c)(1), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 966, provided that: “The amendments made by subsections (a)(1) and (b) [amending this section and section 989 of this title] shall apply to taxes paid or accrued in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-647 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if included in the provision of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 1019(a) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1986, with certain exceptions and qualifications, see section 1261(e) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 985 of this title.

### § 987. Branch transactions

In the case of any taxpayer having 1 or more qualified business units with a functional currency other than the dollar, taxable income of such taxpayer shall be determined—

(1) by computing the taxable income or loss separately for each such unit in its functional currency,

(2) by translating the income or loss separately computed under paragraph (1) at the appropriate exchange rate, and

(3) by making proper adjustments (as prescribed by the Secretary) for transfers of property between qualified business units of the taxpayer having different functional currencies, including—

(A) treating post-1986 remittances from each such unit as made on a pro rata basis out of post-1986 accumulated earnings, and

(B) treating gain or loss determined under this paragraph as ordinary income or loss, respectively, and sourcing such gain or loss by reference to the source of the income giving rise to post-1986 accumulated earnings.

(Added Pub. L. 99-514, title XII, §1261(a), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2586; amended Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1012(v)(1)(B), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3528.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1988—Par. (4). Pub. L. 100-647 struck out par. (4) which provided for translation of foreign income taxes paid by each qualified business unit of the taxpayer in the same manner as provided under section 986(b).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-647 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if included in the provision of

the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 1019(a) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1986, with certain exceptions and qualifications, see section 1261(e) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 985 of this title.

### § 988. Treatment of certain foreign currency transactions

#### (a) General rule

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter—

##### (1) Treatment as ordinary income or loss

###### (A) In general

Except as otherwise provided in this section, any foreign currency gain or loss attributable to a section 988 transaction shall be computed separately and treated as ordinary income or loss (as the case may be).

###### (B) Special rule for forward contracts, etc.

Except as provided in regulations, a taxpayer may elect to treat any foreign currency gain or loss attributable to a forward contract, a futures contract, or option described in subsection (c)(1)(B)(iii) which is a capital asset in the hands of the taxpayer and which is not a part of a straddle (within the meaning of section 1092(c), without regard to paragraph (4) thereof) as capital gain or loss (as the case may be) if the taxpayer makes such election and identifies such transaction before the close of the day on which such transaction is entered into (or such earlier time as the Secretary may prescribe).

##### (2) Gain or loss treated as interest for certain purposes

To the extent provided in regulations, any amount treated as ordinary income or loss under paragraph (1) shall be treated as interest income or expense (as the case may be).

##### (3) Source

###### (A) In general

Except as otherwise provided in regulations, in the case of any amount treated as ordinary income or loss under paragraph (1) (without regard to paragraph (1)(B)), the source of such amount shall be determined by reference to the residence of the taxpayer or the qualified business unit of the taxpayer on whose books the asset, liability, or item of income or expense is properly reflected.

###### (B) Residence

For purposes of this subpart—

###### (i) In general

The residence of any person shall be—

(I) in the case of an individual, the country in which such individual’s tax home (as defined in section 911(d)(3)) is located,

(II) in the case of any corporation, partnership, trust, or estate which is a