I. BACKGROUND

The National Internal Revenue Code has traditionally made a distinction between shares of stock that are listed and traded in the Stock Exchange from those that are not. Briefly, under Section 127 of the Tax Code of 1997, sale or other disposition of shares of stock are taxed at the rate of ½ of 1% of the gross selling price or gross value in money provided the shares are listed and traded through the exchange; while on the other hand, for shares that are not disposed of through the stock exchange, a final tax at either 5% or 10% is imposed on the net capital gains under Section 24(C); Section 25(A)(3); Section 25(B); Section 27(D)(2); Section 28(A)(7)(c) and Section 28(B)(5)(c).

The fundamental principle underlying this preferential treatment was and still is the national goal of promoting and hastening the development of the domestic capital market by means of enticing and stimulating the general public to actively take part in the trading in the Exchange.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

In order to keep-up with modern developments and more importantly give emphasis on the economic as well as substantial aspect rather than on the formal portion of the transaction, sale of shares of stock where the sale is prearranged or the buyer/s is predetermined is taxable under either Section 24(C); Section 25(A)(3); Section 25(B); Section 27(D)(2); Section 28(A)(7)(c) and Section 28(B)(5)(c) notwithstanding the fact that the transaction passed through the Exchange or the said facility was used.

Accordingly, any transaction, which in effect excludes the public by any means from taking part in the trading, shall be taxed under the aforementioned relevant provisions as enumerated in the preceding paragraph.
This Circular expressly covers but is not limited to cases of block sale. A block sale as defined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Securities Regulation Code is a matched trade that does not go through the automated order matching system of an Exchange trading system but instead has been prearranged by and among the Broker Dealer’s clients and is then entered as a done deal directly into the trading system.

This Circular shall take effect immediately.

For strict compliance.

All internal revenue officers and others concerned are enjoined to give this Circular as wide as publicity as possible.

(Original Signed)

JOSE MARIO C. BUÑAG

OIC- Commissioner of Internal Revenue