# Form W-8BEN-E

## Definitions to Assist in Answering PART I – Item 4 – Chapter 3 Status

### Definitions of Entity Type

Most entities or persons completing this form will fall in one of the following three categories:

- **Corporation** – A corporation is a legal entity that is recognized as separate from its owners. Owners are issued stock. The owners are not liable personally for the corporation’s debts.

- **Partnership** – A partnership is the relationship between two or more persons who join to carry on a business.

- **Disregarded entity** – A disregarded entity is a legal entity that is separate from its owner, but elects to be treated as part of its owner for U.S. tax purposes.

Other entities or persons may be one of the following entity types:

- **Simple Trust** – A trust is an arrangement under which a trustee holds property for the benefit of one or more persons called beneficiaries. In a simple trust, all of the trust’s income must be distributed currently and none of its income may be devoted to charity.

- **Grantor Trust** – A grantor trust is a type of trust in which the person who created the trust, the grantor, retains powers over the trust that make its income taxable to the grantor.

- **Complex trust** – A complex trust is any trust that is not a simple trust or a grantor trust.

- **Private foundation** – A private foundation is a legal entity set up only for certain charitable purposes.

- **Central Bank of Issue** – A central bank is the institution in a country that issues the currency.

- **Tax-exempt organization** – A tax exempt organization is an entity that is exempt from tax under the Internal Revenue Code.

- **Government** – A political governing body at the federal, state, or local level.

- **Estate** – An estate holds the assets of a deceased person until distribution to the heirs.