

Bahrain

BHD 40 million processed electronically for customs duties and taxes in 2020

On 24 February 2021, Bahrain News Agency has reported that payments of over BHD 40 million were made electronically for customs duties and taxes in 2020.

The above reflects the constructive cooperation between Customs Affairs and Information & eGovernment Authority to achieve digitalization of customs services in line with the directives of the Minister of Interior Lieutenant General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Ministerial decision regarding exchange of reports between relevant countries published in the official gazette

Resolution no. 28 of 2021 issued by the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism regarding exchange of reports between relevant states has been published in the official gazette.

Click [here](#) to access Resolution no. 28 of 2021 (in Arabic).

Click [here](#) to access the unofficial English translation of Resolution no. 28 of 2021 prepared by our Tax & Corporate Services specialists.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

General Authority of Zakat and Tax (GAZT) continues inspection of businesses to identify non-compliance

On 22 February 2021, GAZT reported that it has continued inspecting businesses to identify non-compliance with tax obligations. In the previous week, 4,631 inspection visits were conducted which resulted in discovery of 800 violations.

GAZT highlighted that a significant number of violations were discovered based on reports through official reporting channels.

Click [here](#) to read more (in Arabic).

KSA amends Zakat calculation rules

On 26 February 2021, Ministerial Decision No. 2502 regarding the amendment of the rules for calculating the Zakat base under the estimation method was published in the official gazette of KSA.

The decision is relevant for Zakat payers who have opted to compute their Zakat liability using the estimation method under Chapter 4 of the KSA Zakat Executive Regulations.

Click [here](#) to access the relevant issue of the official gazette (in Arabic).

United Kingdom publishes English synthesized text of Saudi Arabia – United Kingdom Treaty of 2007

On 19 February 2021, HM Revenue and Customs of the UK published the English synthesized text of the Saudi Arabia - United Kingdom Income and Capital Tax Treaty of 2007, reflecting the modifications made to the treaty by the MLI.

Click [here](#) to access the English synthesized text.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) abolishes use of Import Declaration Form VAT301 for registrants

FTA announced that VAT registered business will no longer use the VAT301 form to import goods into the UAE. Though the FTA had announced abolishing the Form in the past, the effective date had been postponed.

The form will no longer be in place for VAT registered businesses with effect from 23 February 2021.

Brazilian Senate approves Tax Treaty with UAE

On 24 February 2021, the Brazilian Senate approved the Brazil - United Arab Emirates Income Tax Treaty of 2018.

Kuwait

Proposal to levy tax on remittances by expatriates in Kuwait resurfaces

A proposal to levy a tax on remittances by expatriates in Kuwait has resurfaced. A similar suggestion was rejected by the Kuwaiti parliament earlier on constitutional and economic grounds.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Qatar

Tax Treaty between Argentina and Qatar enters into force

On 31 January 2021, Argentina notified Qatar of completion of its internal requirements for the coming into force of the Argentina - Qatar Income and Capital Tax Treaty of 2018.

Companies doing business in Qatar and Argentina should consider the changes that the treaty introduces and evaluate the potential impacts that it will have on their operations and activities.

2021 KPMG Virtual Global Indirect Tax Conference

With the indirect tax landscape taking on an increasingly important role in the new reality for tax leaders, we are delighted to invite you to the 2021 KPMG Virtual Global Indirect Tax Conference.

From 23 to 25 March 2021, join us to hear valuable insights from a range of leading speakers on the future of indirect taxes, and some of the ways in which indirect tax leaders are adapting to the new reality. With the theme of 'Indirect Tax 2.0 in a post-pandemic world', this highly interactive three-day event will give you the opportunity to learn from, debate and contribute to dynamic plenary sessions, industry-based breakout sessions, and meetings with your local KPMG professionals.

The sessions will be held live through our highly interactive platform so as to ensure we maximize your opportunity to contribute. Sessions will generally be held around lunchtime onwards in European time zones, morning in the East Coast of North America, and evening in the Asia Pacific region.

The conference program will include:

- Futurist views on the evolving business environment and predictions for the longer-term trends affecting indirect taxes emerging as a result of present conditions.
- A look at the future of indirect tax compliance, including trends in e-invoicing, real-time reporting, data management and more.
- Insights into the ways in which indirect tax teams are transforming, including evolving their sourcing models, technologies and processes in response to the challenges of the current environment.

[Register now](#)

The above is for general information only and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular scenario. Please seek professional advice in relation to your particular circumstances.

For a detailed discussion on how the above updates may impact your business, [contact us](#).

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Click [here](#) to learn more about KPMG Corporate Services

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