

Bahrain & GCC Tax News



05 October 2022

Bahrain

Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC) announces anti-dumping duties on battery imports

As per local news reports, the MOIC has announced that import of motor batteries with a capacity of 32 to 225 amps from Turkey and India will be subject to anti-dumping duties. The decision came in effect on 1 October 2022.

Introduction of e-invoicing in Bahrain

In September 2022, the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) had (through the Bahrain Tender Board) invited proposals to support them with the review and enhancement of the legal framework for the launch of e-invoicing in Bahrain. Given this development, Bahrain will be following many other countries around the world and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in the region which have recently implemented e-invoicing.

In our recent Tax Alert, we have discussed key aspects Bahrain businesses should consider in preparation for e-invoicing implementation in Bahrain based on the KSA e-invoicing model and our experience assisting businesses in KSA.

Click [here](#) to read our Tax Alert on introduction of e-invoicing in Bahrain.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) launches public consultation on zero rated military goods

ZATCA has recently announced a public consultation on the proposed amendments to allow for zero-rating of locally manufactured military goods supplied to national armed forces and internal security forces.

Click [here](#) to view the proposed amendment (in Arabic).

ZATCA approves latest amendments to Excise Tax Regulations

ZATCA has recently announced that its Board of Directors have approved the latest amendments to the Excise Tax Regulations after public consultation.

Click [here](#) to view the amended Excise Tax Regulations (in Arabic).

KSA and Bulgaria to negotiate Investment Protection Agreement (IPA)

On 23 September 2022, the Bulgarian Ministry of Economy and Industry announced that Bulgaria and KSA have discussed the possibility of negotiating and signing an IPA following a meeting between officials from the two nations in Sofia.

Ireland publishes English synthesized text of Ireland-KSA Treaty

On 26 September 2022, the Irish revenue authority published the English synthesized text of the Ireland – KSA Income Tax Treaty (2011) displaying modifications made by the Multilateral Convention (MLI).

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority to participate in Gulf Information Technology Exhibition (GITEX)

The FTA has recently announced that the authority will be participating in GITEX to be held in Dubai next week. FTA's participation will be a part of the larger pavilion of the Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA).

Ministry of Finance (MoF) to participate in the third Framework Working Group (FWG) meeting of the G20 Finance Track for 2022

The UAE MoF has recently announced its participation in the third FWG meeting within the G20 Finance Track for 2022.

UAE and Georgia hold first round of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia has announced through a press release that the first round of negotiations for an FTA between Georgia and the UAE has commenced.

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reports progress made by UAE on Mutual Agreement Procedure (MAP)

The OECD has praised the UAE for making progress on its dispute resolution mechanism under the MAP. The OECD has reiterated that UAE meets the requirements regarding the availability and access to MAP under the BEPS Action 14 Minimum Standard.

FTA issues guide on excise obligations for warehouse keepers

The FTA has issued a guide for warehouse keepers in relation to handling and movement of excise stock.

Click here to view the [guide](#).

Oman

Oman Tax Authority (OTA) reminds taxpayers to update contact details

The OTA has recently reminded taxpayers in Oman to update their contact details through OTA's portal.

Kuwait

Kuwait approves protocol to tax treaties with Luxembourg & Switzerland

On 26 September 2022, the Council of Ministers of Kuwait approved the following:

- amending protocol (signed on 25 March 2021) to the Kuwait – Luxembourg Income and Capital Tax Treaty (2007); and
- amending protocol (signed on 6 November 2019) to the Kuwait – Switzerland Income and Capital Tax Treaty (1999).

Qatar

OECD praises progress made by Qatar on MAP

The OECD has praised Qatar for making progress on its dispute resolution mechanism under the MAP. The OECD has reiterated that Qatar meets the requirements regarding the availability and access to MAP under BEPS Action 14 Minimum Standard.

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

Mubeen Khadir

Partner - Head of Tax & Corporate Services

T: +973 3222 6811

E: mubeenkhadir@kpmg.Com

home.kpmg/bh

© 2022 KPMG Fakhro, a Bahrain partnership registered with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), Kingdom of Bahrain and a member firm of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Limited, a private English company limited by guarantee. All rights reserved.

The KPMG name and logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of KPMG International. KPMG International Limited is a private English company limited by guarantee and does not provide services to clients. No member firm has any authority to obligate or bind KPMG International or any other member firm vis-à-vis third parties, nor does KPMG International have any such authority to obligate or bind any member firm.

Throughout this release, “we”, “KPMG”, “us” and “our” refers to the global organization or to one or more of the member firms of KPMG International Limited (“KPMG International”), each of which is a separate legal entity.

KPMG International Limited is a private English company limited by guarantee and does not provide services to clients. No member firm has any authority to obligate or bind KPMG International or any other member firm vis-à-vis third parties, nor does KPMG International have any such authority to obligate or bind any member firm.