Bahrain & GCC Tax News

07 April 2024

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) updates VAT Transportation Guide

The NBR has recently published the updated version of the VAT Transportation Guide (version 1.1) to exclude the ‘whitelist’ related procedure previously included in relation to qualifying means of transport.

Click here to view the updated VAT Transportation Guide.

Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) announces Country-by-Country (CbC) reporting deadline for FY 2023

The MOIC has recently issued a letter to all MOIC registered entities regarding CbC filing for FY 2023. The MOIC has clarified that entities subject to the provisions of the Ministerial Order No. 28 of 2021 will be required to file their CbC report / notification for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2023 as follows:

- Constituent Entities (entities that are part of an MNE group) are required to file a notification via email to es@moic.gov.bh disclosing the identity and tax residence of their Ultimate Parent Entity (UPE).

- Reporting Entities (UPEs resident in Bahrain) are required to file a CbC report on behalf of the MNE group. Reporting entities are required to register and file their report through the CbC report form on the International Tax Information Exchange System (ITIES) https://ities.nbr.gov.bh.

The deadline for the above filings is 31 December 2024.

Iraqi Council of Ministers authorizes negotiations for tax treaty with Bahrain

The Iraqi Council of Ministers has recently authorized the General Commission for Taxes of the Ministry of Finance to negotiate and initial a tax treaty with Bahrain.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority (ZATCA) reminds taxpayers to benefit from cancellation of fines and exemption of penalties initiative

On 1 April 2024, ZATCA issued a press release reminding taxpayers to benefit from ZATCA’s cancellation of fines and exemption of penalties initiative, which is scheduled to expire on 30 June 2024.

Click here to view the press release.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) issues Corporate Tax (CT) Guide on Qualifying Group Relief

The FTA has recently published a new CT guide on Qualifying Group Relief which clarifies certain aspects such as transactions covered within the scope of the relief, consequences of electing for the relief, compliance requirements etc.

Click here to view the CT guide on Qualifying Group Relief (CTGQGR1).

FTA publishes Taxpayer Charter

The FTA has recently released the first ‘Taxpayer Charter’ with the aim of enhancing the relationship and communication between UAE taxpayers and the FTA.

Click here to view FTA’s Taxpayer Charter.

FTA conducts CT workshop

On 3 and 4 April 2024, the FTA conducted webinars on CT registration and related deadlines.

Click here for more information and to register for upcoming virtual workshops.

UAE and Belarus hold third round of negotiations for free trade agreement

According to a press release dated 21 March 2024 published by the Ministry of Economy of Belarus, a third round of negotiations for an agreement on free trade in services and investments between UAE and Belarus was held from 20 to 21 March 2024.

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