

Bahrain & GCC Tax News



16 February 2025

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) to conduct VAT implementation webinar

The NBR has announced that they will be conducting a webinar in Arabic on 18 February 2025 to discuss the implementation of VAT in Bahrain and related rules/procedures.

Click [here](#) to register for the workshop.

Domestic Minimum Top-Up Tax (DMTT) registration update

Many in-scope MNE groups with Bahrain operations were able to submit their DMTT registration applications successfully within the deadline of 30 January 2025. Their applications are currently being reviewed by the NBR, and applicants must monitor any further information or clarification requests from the NBR in relation to their applications.

MNE groups that have not been able to submit their DMTT registration application within the deadline should do so immediately to minimize the risk of penalties to the extent possible.

For any queries or assistance in relation to the DMTT registrations, please [contact us](#).

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) launches public consultation for proposed amendments to Real Estate Transaction Tax (RETT) regulations

ZATCA has recently published amendments to the KSA RETT Implementing Regulations on the Istitlaa platform for public consultation. The deadline for sharing comments on the proposed amendments is 15 March 2025.

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

ZATCA issues Advance Pricing Agreements (APA) guidelines

On 13 February 2025, ZATCA issued guidelines on APAs, marking a significant development in KSA's transfer pricing landscape.

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

ZATCA conducts tax and zakat workshops

- On 17 February 2025, ZATCA will conduct a virtual workshop on the submission of zakat returns.
- On 18 February 2025, ZATCA will conduct multiple virtual workshops covering different topics including income tax and withholding tax for foreign companies, VAT refund mechanism, RETT, phase two of e-invoicing (integration phase), and zakat base calculations.
- On 19 February 2025, ZATCA will conduct multiple virtual workshops covering different topics including transfer pricing, settlement procedures, VAT registration for individuals/businesses, phase two of e-invoicing (integration phase), and zakat base calculations.

Click [here](#) to register for upcoming virtual workshops.

Tax treaty update

On 11 February 2025, the Saudi Arabian Council of Ministers authorized the signing of an income and capital tax treaty with Serbia.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) launches InnoTAX 2025 Hackathon campaign

The FTA has launched its InnoTAX 2025 hackathon, a campaign designed to bring together AI specialists, software developers, entrepreneurs, and students to create groundbreaking tax technology solutions.

Family Foundations can apply for tax transparent status on the FTA portal

A new feature is now available on the FTA portal, allowing Family Foundations to apply for recognition as a tax-transparent Unincorporated Partnership for UAE Corporate Tax purposes.

Tax treaty and investment agreement updates

The UAE recently signed Investment Protection Agreements (IPAs) with Eswatini and Sri Lanka, and an income and capital tax treaty with Russia.

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

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