Bahrain & GCC Tax News



09 August 2026

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) publishes updated VAT Financial Services Guide

On 3 August 2026, the NBR issued an updated version of the VAT Financial Services Guide, providing further details on the VAT liability of reinsurance contracts.

Click here to view the updated guide.

NBR to conduct VAT implementation workshop

On 11 August 2026, the NBR will conduct a virtual workshop covering key VAT concepts, the filing process, and any questions on VAT implementation in Bahrain.

Click here to register for the workshop.

Bahrain Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax (DMTT) Guides

In June 2026, the Bahrain NBR released the following guides:

- DMTT Computation Guide which outlines in detail the step-by-step methodology for tax computation under the Bahrain DMTT legislation along with specific considerations under each step. Click here to read our latest Tax Insights article on the Bahrain DMTT Computation Guide.
- DMTT TP Guide which is the first TP publication released by the NBR and is a crucial element of the wider DMTT guidance release by the NBR so far. Click here to read our latest Tax Insights article on the Bahrain DMTT TP Guide.

Draft Bahrain Corporate Income Tax (CIT) Law

On 29 December 2025, during the weekly Cabinet Meeting, a draft CIT law was referred to the Bahraini legislative authorities imposing 10% tax on local businesses. Subsequently, on 23 February 2026, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) invited representatives from the Bahrain business community to provide a brief overview of the draft CIT law. The BCCI also shared an Arabic copy of the draft CIT law as part of a closed consultation inviting inputs on the draft CIT law.

In our recent Tax Alert, we have summarized the key provisions under the draft Bahrain CIT law.

Click here to read our latest Tax Alert on the Draft Bahrain CIT Law.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) to conduct VAT workshop

On 12 August 2026, ZATCA will conduct a virtual session on the cancellation of fines and exemption of financial penalties initiative.

Click here to register for upcoming ZATCA workshops.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) issues decision on UAE DMTT registration deadlines

On 4 August 2026, the FTA published Decision No. 12 of 2026 regarding UAE DMTT registration and deregistration timelines.

Click here to view the published decision.

UAE Ministry of Finance (MoF) issues decisions

- On 24 July 2026, the MoF issued Cabinet Decision No.137 of 2026 on excise price for tobacco products and liquids used in electronic smoking devices and tools.
- On 29 July 2026, the MoF issued Ministerial Decision No. 131 of 2026, amending the Small Business Relief rules in Ministerial Decision No. 73 of 2023. The relief was due to expire for tax periods ending after 31 December 2026 but will now remain available for tax periods ending on or before 31 December 2029.

FTA conducts VAT workshop

- On 4 August 2026, the FTA conducted a virtual workshop on tax compliance challenges in the local transportation sector.
- On 5 August 2026, the FTA conducted a virtual workshop on CT registrations.

Qatar

General Tax Authority (GTA) conducts workshop on Qatar Pillar 2 registration

On 6 August 2026, the GTA conducted a virtual workshop on the registration service for the Global Minimum Tax and DMTT (Pillar Two) in Qatar.

Tax treaty update

On 26 June 2026, the “Estonia – Qatar Income Tax Treaty (2024)” entered into force.

For a detailed discussion on how the above updates may impact your business, contact us.

Best regards,

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