Bahrain & GCC Tax News



01 November 2026

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) conducts VAT registration workshop

On 1 November 2026, the NBR organized a VAT registration workshop covering registration requirements, mandatory threshold calculations, VAT invoicing, and VAT return submission.

Click here to register for upcoming workshops.

Bahrain's evolving tax landscape: e-invoicing and Corporate Income Tax (CIT) seminar

On 20 October, KPMG Bahrain hosted the Bahrain e-invoicing and CIT seminar, which brought together more than 200 finance, tax & technology professionals from across the Bahrain business community.

During the seminar, our specialists shared practical insights and regional experiences relating to the implementation of e-invoicing across the GCC, including key considerations for businesses as they assess their operational, systems and data readiness. The session also covered key aspects of Bahrain's draft CIT law and practical case studies.

The strong attendance and engagement at the seminar reflect the increasing focus among businesses on understanding and preparing for Bahrain's evolving tax and regulatory environment.

Click here to access the presentation from the seminar.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

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

On 3 November 2026, ZATCA will conduct a virtual workshop on the integration phase of e-invoicing (phase two).

Click here to register for upcoming virtual workshops.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) conducts tax workshops

- On 27 October 2026, the FTA and Emirates R&D Council conducted a virtual awareness session on the UAE R&D tax credit and a separate virtual awareness workshop on UAE's e-invoicing system.
- On 28 and 29 October 2026, the FTA held a "Tax Support" initiative where individuals could meet FTA representatives and get answers to their tax related questions and inquiries.
- On 29 October 2026, the FTA conducted a virtual workshop on VAT challenges in UAE.

Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) update

According to a press release of 27 October 2026, Canada and UAE have signed a CEPA during a meeting between officials of the two countries held in Ottawa.

Qatar

General Tax Authority (GTA) moves sweetened drink analysis certificates to the Dhareeba portal

Effective 1 November 2026, the GTA will process and approve analysis certificates required for the registration of sweetened drinks for excise tax purposes electronically through the Dhareeba online tax portal.

Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) update

On the sidelines of the World Investment Forum 2026 held from 25 to 27 October 2026 in Doha, Qatar and Sweden held the second round of negotiations on an IPA between the two nations.

Oman

Oman establishes Duty-Free markets at 3 land border crossings

On 11 October 2026, Oman issued Decision No. 145/2026 establishing duty-free markets at 'Al Wajajah' and 'Khatmat Malaha' on the UAE border, and 'Rub al Khali' on the KSA border.

The decision was published in the Official Gazette No. 1670 of 18 October 2026.

Tax treaty updates

- On 26 October 2026, the Rwandan Cabinet approved the income tax treaty with Oman, originally signed on 8 September 2026.
- On 28 October 2026, Jersey and Oman signed an income tax treaty in Muscat.

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

Best regards,

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