

Bahrain & GCC Tax News



04 October 2023

Bahrain

PMG Tax Seminar on the changing tax landscape in Bahrain and the region

We are pleased to invite you to our upcoming Tax Seminar hosted by our tax experts on 23 October 2023 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Al Seef from 8:30 AM onwards. During the seminar, our expert speakers will cover:

- Basics of Corporate Income Tax (CIT)
- Snapshot of CIT in the GCC
- Computation of taxable income
- Transfer pricing and key international tax concepts
- BEPS Pillar 2 and GloBE rules update
- Basics of e-invoicing and key features of the KSA e-invoicing model
- Lessons learnt from KSA on e-invoicing and from UAE on CIT implementation
- Practical steps Bahrain businesses can take to ensure readiness

Click [here](#) to register.

For assistance with seminar registration, please contact Khalid Seyadi (kseyadi@kpmg.com).

Whilst the date of implementation of CIT or e-invoicing in Bahrain has not yet been announced, our seminars are intended to provide Bahrain businesses with insights on leading practice. Businesses that act proactively will be better prepared to deal with the challenges of the rapidly evolving tax landscape.

Introduction of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) regulation for specified goods

The European Union (EU) has introduced the CBAM regulation which applies to specified imports of goods (identified by their CN code) into the EU within the following 6 emissions-intensive sectors: electricity, iron and steel, cement, aluminum and fertilizers and hydrogen. The CBAM comes into effect on 1 October 2023 with a transitional period that runs until 31 December 2025, during which the obligations of the EU importer shall be limited to reporting obligations. The first quarterly report is due by 31 January 2024.

Bahrain businesses that are exporting CBAM covered goods to the EU should assess the impact that the CBAM regulations will have on their operations.

For a discussion about how CBAM impacts your business, please [contact us](#).

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) signs Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Pakistan

During talks held between 26 to 28 September 2023 in Riyadh, the GCC and Pakistan signed an FTA. The agreement was signed by GCC Secretary-General Jasem al-Budaiwi and Pakistani Trade Minister Gohar Ejaz.

Kingdom Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) proposes new amendments to Income Tax Law

On 25 September 2023, ZATCA proposed amendments to the KSA's Income Tax Law for public consultation on the Istitlaa platform. The deadline to submit comments and feedback on the proposed amendments is 25 October 2023.

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

Click [here](#) to access the tax alert prepared by KPMG KSA.

ZATCA seeks public consultation on Bonded Zones Rules

On 21 September 2023, ZATCA issued a public consultation document on draft Bonded Zones Rules on their Istitlaa platform. The deadline to submit comments and feedback on the draft Bonded Zones Rules is 6 October 2023.

Click [here](#) to view the draft Bonded Zones Rules.

KSA and Peru express interest in concluding Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) and tax treaty

According to an update on 22 September 2023, published by the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, KSA and Peru expressed their willingness to conclude an IPA and a tax treaty between them, during a recent meeting between officials from the 2 countries.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) to conduct CIT workshop

The FTA has recently announced that it will conduct an in person workshop in Arabic on 2 October 2023 in Fujairah.

Click [here](#) to register.

UAE and Thailand hold fourth round of negotiations for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

According to a press release published by the Thailand Department of Trade Negotiations, a fourth round of negotiations for a CEPA between UAE and Thailand is being held in Bangkok from 26 to 28 September 2023. The third round was held in Dubai from 29 August to 1 September 2023.

Ministry of Finance (MoF) launch 'Declare' system and Dubai Trade Portal

The MoF recently announced that it has launched the 'Declare' system and the Dubai Trade Portal for individuals and companies, respectively. These systems will enable disclosing details of precious metals imported into the country and ensure adherence to best practices.

General Tax Authority (GTA) conducts tax webinar

On 1 October 2023, the GTA in co-operation with Nama, hosted an introductory webinar on taxes in Qatar. The webinar was presented by Saud Al Junaid, Head of Taxpayers Service Department at the GTA and Nayel Al Shahrani, Acting Director of Community Awareness Department at Nama.

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

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