

Bahrain & GCC Tax News



31 March 2024

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) updates VAT General Guide

On 26 March 2024, the NBR has published the updated VAT General Guide (version 1.9) which contains guidance on the recent extension of the period for retaining records and accounting books.

Click here to [view](#) the updated VAT General Guide.

Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) issues directive on Common Reporting Standard (CRS) and Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting window

On 24 March 2024, the CBB issued a new FATCA/CRS Directive OG/100/2024 which provides the following:

- FATCA and CRS reporting for the year ended 31 December 2023 will commence on 25 March 2024 through the [ITIES portal](#). The deadline for submitting the final reports is 2 May 2024.
- The list of reportable jurisdictions for the purpose of CRS reporting for the year ended 31 December 2023 has been expanded. An additional list of participating jurisdictions for the purpose of CRS due diligence procedures has also been provided.
- Failure to comply with the relevant requirements may result in the CBB imposing enforcement action against the licensee, including date sensitive penalties.

Click [here](#) to view the CBB's latest directive on FATCA and CRS compliance.

Corporate Income Tax (CIT) in Bahrain – What is Transfer Pricing?

On 23 May 2023, Bahrain's Minister of Finance and National Economy announced plans for the introduction of a CIT regime in Bahrain. With the introduction of a broad-based CIT, it is expected that specific transfer pricing rules will apply to prevent related entities from shifting profits for gaining an undue tax advantage. KPMG Bahrain tax team has recently published a Tax Insights article titled "CIT in Bahrain – What is Transfer Pricing".

Click [here](#) to view our latest Tax Insights.

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Turkey to launch negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement

On 21 March 2024, the GCC and Turkey signed a joint statement to launch negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement, during a meeting between officials from both sides in Ankara.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority (ZATCA) determines criteria for selecting taxpayers for wave 10 of e-invoicing integration phase

On 29 March 2024, ZATCA issued a circular outlining the criteria for selecting taxpayers in the 10th wave for implementing e-invoicing integration phase. The 10th wave will cover taxpayers with taxable revenues exceeding SAR 25 million during 2022 or 2023. Such taxpayers will be required to integrate their e-invoicing solutions with the FATOORA platform from 1 October 2024.

Click [here](#) to view the circular.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) updates VAT Guide on Tax Groups

On 25 March 2024, the FTA issued an updated version of the Tax Groups VAT Guide (VATGGR101).

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

FTA conducts Corporate Tax (CT) workshop

The FTA conducted its most recent webinar on CT registration and related deadlines on 27 March 2024.

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

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

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