

22 September 2021

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) adds FAQs on conciliation in VAT evasion crimes on their website

NBR has added a new section in their Technical FAQs on conciliation in cases of VAT evasion crimes. Conciliation is essentially a settlement between the NBR and the VAT payer (outside of the criminal court) for a VAT evasion crime.

Click [here](#) to read our Tax Alert. Click [here](#) to read the FAQs on conciliation of VAT evasion crimes on the NBR's website.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) issues an income tax guide on deductible expenses

ZATCA has issued a new guide on the subject of corporate income tax. The guide provides clarification and guidance on the deductibility of expenses for the purposes of computing net taxable income in specific circumstances.

Click [here](#) to access the guide (in Arabic).

ZATCA launches new identity

On 20 September 2021, ZATCA reported that it has launched its new identity, which reflects its role in:

- Contributing to the homeland's protection and security;
- Development and prosperity of the national economy, in light of the solidarity of society from individuals and the public and private sectors.

Click [here](#) to read more (in Arabic).

ZATCA discovers over 700 tax violations

On 19 September 2021, ZATCA reported that it has carried out more than 5,000 inspection visits to markets and shops in various regions and cities of KSA, in the course of which they detected more than 700 violations of the provisions of the tax regulations.

Click [here](#) to read more (in Arabic).

ZATCA reminds taxpayers subject VAT to submit their returns

On 19 September 2021, ZATCA reminded taxpayers subject to VAT with monthly filing frequency to submit their August 2021 VAT return latest by 30 September 2021.

Click [here](#) to read more (in Arabic).

OECD to publish report on implementation of Action 14 Minimum Standard by KSA

On 23 September 2021, OECD will publish the outcome of stage 2 peer monitoring of the implementation of the Action 14 Minimum Standard by KSA. Stage 1 of the peer review assesses countries against the terms of reference of the minimum standard according to an agreed schedule of review and Stage 2 of the peer review focuses on monitoring the follow-up of any recommendations resulting from jurisdictions' stage 1 peer review report.

Click [here](#) to read more.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Czech Republic and UAE hold first round of negotiations for tax treaty

Czech Republic and UAE held the first round of negotiations for tax treaty in Dubai from 21-23 September 2021.

Once signed by both nations, the new tax treaty will replace the Czech Republic – UAE income and capital tax treaty of 1996.

Federal Tax Authority (FTA) adopts new design for digital tax stamps for tobacco products

On 30 August 2021, FTA issued Decision No. 3 of 2021 introducing a new design for the digital excise tax stamps for tobacco products. This decision will come into effect on 1 October 2021.

Click [here](#) to access the new decision. Click [here](#) to read more.

FTA encourages VAT registrants to benefit from the administrative penalties redetermination

On 14 September 2021, FTA encouraged VAT registered taxpayers to benefit from the administrative penalties redetermination provisions introduced earlier this year.

Click [here](#) to read more.

UAE elected as Vice President of Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum

UAE was elected as Vice President of the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Forum for the second time in row, during meetings that were attended by participants from 57 countries around the world.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Ministry of Finance (MoF) conducts awareness workshop on Common Reporting Standard (CRS)

On 14 September 2021, UAE MoF held an awareness workshop on CRS compliance requirements in the UAE.

Dubai Customs seizes 64 live falcons hidden in a vegetable truck

Dubai Customs announced that it has successfully stopped an attempt to smuggle 64 live falcons into the country through Hatta border crossing.

Click [here](#) to access the post on Dubai Customs official twitter account.

Oman

Oman Tax Authority (OTA) reminds taxpayers to submit the VAT return for the tax period ending 30 June 2021

OTA reminds taxpayers who have not submitted the VAT return for the tax period ending on 30 June 2021, to submit the VAT return before 23 September 2021, to avoid any legal penalties that reach up to OMR 5,000.

Click [here](#) to access the announcement.

KPMG Tax Learnings

Our latest KPMG Tax Learnings is about recent cases of penalties imposed by the NBR for incorrect application of VAT at the zero rate on recharge of certain expenses and considerations for taxable suppliers prior to claiming bad debts relief.

Click [here](#) to access it.

The above is for general information only and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular scenario. Please seek professional advice in relation to your particular circumstances.

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

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