

15 June 2022

Bahrain

Bahrain sees 73% rise in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

It has been reported at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) that Bahrain has seen a 73% jump in FDI to USD 1.8 billion in 2021 – the second highest value in FDI inflows in a decade.

Bahrain's economic growth forecast raised to 3.5% in 2022

The World Bank has recently raised its forecast for Bahrain's yearly economic growth by 0.3% as compared to the January 2022 forecast of 3.2%.

World Trade Organization (WTO) national committee appointed

As per Decision 29 of 2022, the national committee representing Bahrain at the WTO has been appointed with the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, HE Zayed bin Rashid Al-Zayani, as its Chairman.

Bahrain exports not complying with GCC origin rules held up at King Fahd Causeway

The Customs Authority in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) has stopped clearing shipments from Bahrain that do not meet the GCC country of origin rules from entering KSA through the King Fahd Causeway, unless import duties are paid before clearance.

Click [here](#) to read our Tax Alert.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

KSA among Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) new transfer pricing country profiles

On 9 June 2022, the OECD published four new transfer pricing country profiles for KSA, Egypt, Liberia, and Sri Lanka. The profiles provide up-to-date information on each country's domestic legislation on transfer pricing.

Click [here](#) to access the transfer pricing profile for KSA.

KSA and Republic of Korea's relations reviewed

The Governor of Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA), HE. Eng. Suhail bin Mohammed Abanmi, recently met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, HE Park Yoon-Young, and his delegation to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the two countries.

KSA amends import customs duty rates of 99 tariff items

KSA has amended import customs duty rates applicable to 99 tariff items and the revised duty rates take effect on 12 June 2022.

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

ZATCA holds multiple workshops

ZATCA recently held multiple workshops including:

- An awareness session for British companies residing in KSA on ZATCA's procedures and services
- Recently launched amnesty scheme workshop

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

UAE signs agreement with Philippines to promote and protect mutual interests

The UAE has recently signed an agreement with the Republic of Philippines to protect and promote mutual interests of the 2 nations. The importance of the agreement in bolstering economic and commercial cooperation and creating an investment climate to attract capital-intensive foreign investments and provide incentives was also emphasized.

FTA shares various infographics

The FTA has recently shared several infographics and videos on its social media platforms including the following:

- Registering a Tax Agency Service Terms and Conditions
- Registration of designated zones for excise tax service terms and conditions
- Applying for a VAT refund for multiple years for visiting unregistered foreigner businesses

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.



Evolving tax landscape in the GCC



We are delighted to invite you to our in-person Tax Seminar to be held on Tuesday 21 June 2022 at the Downtown Rotana Hotel in Manama.

The regional tax landscape is undergoing a seismic shift. Four GCC countries have implemented VAT and 2 GCC countries have already increased the VAT rate. The OECD countries have agreed on a global minimum rate of tax, the UAE will be the fifth GCC country to implement corporate tax and the KSA is the first country in the region to implement e-invoicing.

With many more tax reforms and **a potential corporate tax in Bahrain** in the pipeline it's essential for tax and finance leaders to keep up to date and take preemptive measures to ensure that tax does not become a cost to the business.

This may involve revisiting existing business models, adoption of tax technology and restructuring of businesses to make best use of tax policies and incentives available.

In this session, our expert speakers will cover:

- A practical perspective on VAT disputes in Bahrain
- Corporate tax implementation in the UAE
- Potential introduction of corporate tax in Bahrain
- Practical steps businesses can take to ensure readiness

[Register now](#)

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

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