GCC TAX ROUND-UP
Q3 2023

INTRODUCTION

TAX HAS CONTINUED TO CHANGE AND DEVELOP VERY RAPIDLY IN THE THIRD QUARTER, DESPITE THE NORMAL SUMMER SLOWDOWN.

In Bahrain, there is a new deregistration manual, and the tax authority's inspection program continues to produce results.

Things have been a little slower in Oman over the summer, but even so, an interesting consultation has been issued linked to the OECD's Base Erosion Profit Shifting initiative, which aims to reduce cross-border tax avoidance.

Qatar has seen the issuance of an amendment to the Executive Regulations of the Income Tax Law. This includes some important changes for foreign businesses.

In Saudi Arabia, the e-invoicing implementation continues with the announcement of the criteria for taxpayers falling into the eighth wave of implementation. There has also been a further extension of the tax amnesty until December 31. This is the most recent of a series of extensions, and this might be the last. Finally, in Saudi Arabia, the exemptions from the Real Estate Transaction Tax (RETT) have been extended with the approval of changes to the RETT regulations.

From Kuwait, there has been an interesting change to the regulations relating to contributions to the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). The change is designed to encourage and enforce greater compliance. There are also important updates on VAT (still not likely to be implemented in Kuwait anytime soon), FATCA, and Pillar two.

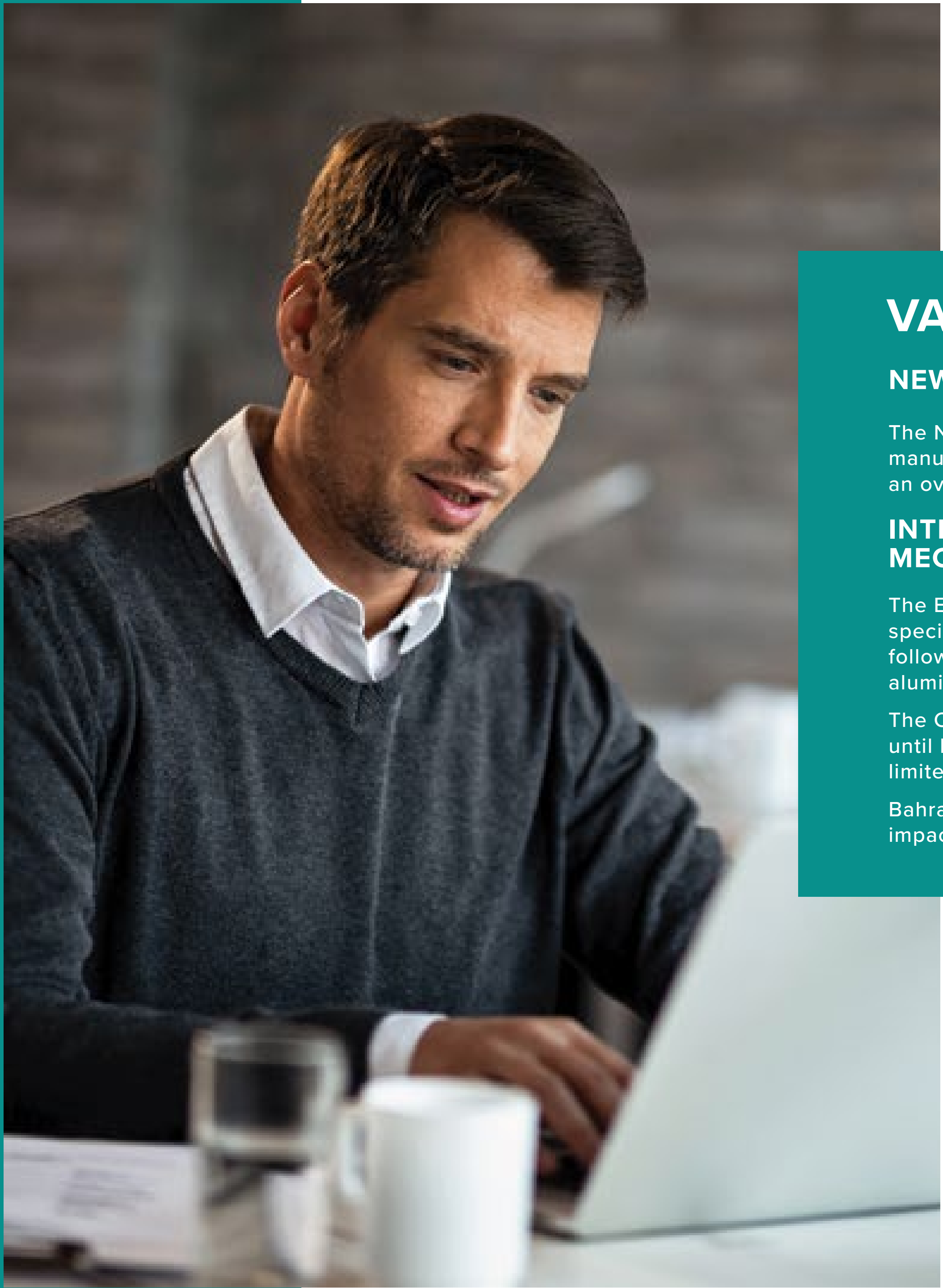
In the UAE, corporate tax dominates the headlines, with the release of many new Cabinet and Ministerial Decisions, a consultation process related to the corporate tax regime for free zone companies, and some excellent guidance material published

by the Ministry of Finance and the Federal Tax Authority. It's not all about corporate tax, though, as there have also been some very important changes to the VAT legislation.

We hope you enjoy reading this update and find the articles of interest. If you need any information on any of the topics covered or would like to discuss any other matter related to tax, contact information for each country can be found at the end of the newsletter.

KINGDOM OF

BAHRAIN



VALUE-ADDED TAX

NEW VAT DEREGISTRATION MANUAL

The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) has issued an expanded VAT deregistration manual, which outlines guidance for the deregistration of a VAT payer and provides an overview of voluntary and mandatory deregistration requirements.

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 six emissions-intensive sectors: electricity, iron and steel, cement, aluminum, fertilizers, and hydrogen.

The CBAM comes into effect on October 1, 2023, with a transitional period that runs until December 31, 2025, during which the obligations of the EU importer will be limited to reporting obligations. The first quarterly report is due by January 31, 2024.

Bahraini businesses that export CBAM-covered goods to the EU should assess the impact that the CBAM regulations will have on their operations.

ON-SITE INSPECTION VISITS

The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) conducted 204 inspection visits during August 2023, as revealed in a purge on Value-Added Tax (VAT) and other tax evaders. NBR has taken legal action against businesses that are proven to have committed tax evasion, which may be punishable with imprisonment and a fine.

These inspections are part of NBR's ongoing efforts to protect consumer rights, enhance business compliance, and ensure the effective implementation of VAT and excise.

UPDATED EXCISE TAX GUIDE

The NBR has published an updated excise tax guide that provides an overview of excise procedures in Bahrain, a list of goods subject to excise tax, and access to excise registration, licensing, return, refund, and deduction forms. The NBR has also created Excise Tax FAQs in addition to the existing VAT FAQs section.

ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE REQUIREMENTS

ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE REQUIREMENTS (ESR) FILING WINDOW

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC) issued a circular dated August 13, 2023, clarifying that the filing window for entities carrying out any of the listed relevant activities as per the ES guidelines for the fiscal year 2022 will be open from August 13, 2023, to September 13, 2023. MOIC has also clarified that entities failing to submit the ESR returns within the filing deadline will be subject to penalties.

BDO


KUWAIT

KUWAIT FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE COMPLIANCE

The Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI) in Kuwait issued the following instructions to Kuwaiti Shareholding Companies (KSC) during August 2023:

- The Articles of Association of a KSC should be amended to include an article providing for the mandatory deduction of 1% of the net profit of the KSC to be contributed towards the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). Failure to do so can result in MOCI rejecting any approval requests by a KSC to hold an extraordinary general assembly.
- KSCs must submit an annual clearance certificate issued by KFAS, confirming the payment of the annual KFAS amount due.

As background, KSCs are required to contribute 1% of their annual net profit (after certain tax adjustments) to KFAS, as per the provisions of the Amiri Decree of 1976. In recent years, some KSCs failed to make the required payments to KFAS and there were no penalties or clear, consistent sanctions against defaulters. The above announcements are new measures put in place by MOCI to help ensure that KSCs comply with their KFAS obligations.

FATCA - IRS RELEASES NEW W-9 FORM

On July 26, the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released a draft 2023 revision of Form W-9, “Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification.” The Form includes a new reporting line for flow-through entities such as partnerships and trusts and shows a revision date of October 2023. The draft form introduces a new tax classification for flow-through entities. W-9 forms are typically used by Financial Institutions (FIs) to collect information from their US clients (individuals as well as entities) to meet any reporting obligations to the IRS.

Under the draft form, a flow-through entity is required to complete the newly introduced line 3b with the objective of providing a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries so that it can meet any applicable reporting requirements.

Once the final October 2023 version is published, FIs will be required to use the updated form instead of the existing October 2018 version of the W-9 form.

DELAY IN VAT IMPLEMENTATION

According to Kuwaiti media reports, the Ministry of Finance in Kuwait is not considering introducing VAT in Kuwait in the near future. The recently appointed Minister of Finance in Kuwait, Mr. Fahad Al-Jarrallah, mentioned that the Ministry will work on initiatives to raise non-oil revenue without affecting the living conditions of citizens.

PILLAR TWO UPDATE

The OECD’s Pillar Two framework aims to ensure multinational enterprises with global revenues above €750 million pay a minimum tax rate on income within each jurisdiction in which they operate. The framework imposes a Top-Up Tax on profits arising in jurisdictions where the effective tax rate is below 15%.

In Kuwait, while the current corporate tax rate is 15%, the corporate tax law has, in practice, been applied only to foreign companies doing business in Kuwait. Local companies are not subject to corporate tax.

Kuwait is not a member of the Inclusive Framework and is the only GCC country that has not signed up to Pillar Two, to date. However, given the global progress in Pillar Two implementation, the Kuwait Ministry of Finance is currently undergoing internal studies to assess the implications and benefits of this instrument for Kuwait. It remains to be seen whether Kuwait will sign up to Pillar Two in order not to miss out on potential tax revenue.

SULTANATE OF

OMAN

The third quarter of 2023 has been silent primarily due to Eid and a lack of updates from the tax authority.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Oman Tax Authority has sought public comments on the proposal to replace or add to the current thin capitalization rules applied to companies according to the Income Tax Law with recommendations stated in the “Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Action (4) project. The proposal recommends that "Interest deduction could be capped at a range from 10% to 30% in a ratio of EBITD. The disallowed interest could be carried forward for deduction in future years with a limitation of a period ranging from 3 to 5 years. In addition to other recommendations stated in the OECD report. Interested parties are invited to submit their comments by October 15, 2023.

HSBC ACCOUNTS

The Oman Tax Authority has reminded all taxpayers who have registered bank accounts with HSBC Bank of the necessity of updating their new bank accounts with the Tax Authority to avoid any delay in tax refunds.


STATE OF
QATAR

INCOME TAX

AMENDMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

On May 16, 2023, Cabinet Resolution No. (3) of 2023, amending some provisions of the Executive Regulations of the Income Tax Law, was issued by Cabinet Resolution No. (39) of 2019, published in the official Gazette. The main changes are outlined below.

FOREIGN COMPANIES

THE PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT (PE) DEFINITION INCLUDES:

- Office, factory, workshop, sales outlet, warehouse, mine, oil or gas well, quarry, or any other place for the exploration, extraction, and exploitation of natural resources.
- A construction site, construction, assembly, or installation project, or related supervisory activities, provided that such a site, project, or activities continue for more than six months.
- The provision of services, including advisory services, by a project through employees or other employees designated by the project for this purpose, provided that activities of this kind continue within the country for a period of time or periods totaling more than one hundred and eighty-three days during twelve months beginning or ending in the financial year concerned.

THE PE DEFINITION DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Use of the facilities only for the purpose of storing or displaying goods or merchandise owned by the project.
- Maintaining a stock of goods or merchandise owned by the enterprise for the purpose of storage or display, or for the purpose of being processed by another enterprise.
- Maintaining a fixed place of business for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or collecting information for the project, or for the purpose of practicing any other activity of the project.
- Maintaining a fixed place of business only for any group of activities mentioned in the preceding subparagraphs of this paragraph, provided that such activity, or the overall activity of the fixed place of business, has a preparatory or auxiliary character.

FOREIGN PROJECT TAXABLE PROFIT WILL APPLY ONLY TO:

- The PE itself.
- Sales in the State of goods or merchandise of the same type or of a type similar to those sold through that permanent establishment.
- Other business carried out in the State of the same type or of a similar type to the business carried out through that permanent establishment.

In determining the profits of a PE, it is permitted to deduct expenses incurred for the purposes of the PE's business, including general operational and administrative expenses incurred, whether in the State or elsewhere.

As an exception, it is not permitted to deduct amounts paid by the PE (other than actual expenses) to the project headquarters or any of its other offices as royalties, fees, or other similar payments for the use of patents or other rights, or as commissions, for certain services rendered or for management, or as interest on funds lent to the permanent establishment, except in the case of a banking project.

In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, the amounts charged by the permanent establishment (other than the payment of actual expenses) to the project headquarters or any of its other offices as royalties, fees, or other contingent payments for the use of patents or other rights, commissions for certain services rendered or for management, or as interest on funds lent to the business headquarters or any of its other offices, except in the case of a banking enterprise, shall not be taken into account.

For the purposes of the application of this article, profits attributable to the permanent establishment shall be determined in the same manner year after year, unless there is a justified and acceptable reason to the contrary.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH COMPETENT AUTHORITIES:

The Authority has the right to obtain information and documents for the purpose of conducting a tax examination or for the purpose of exchanging them with the competent authorities of other countries, in accordance with tax agreements and agreements on administrative assistance and the exchange of information for tax purposes.

The Authority has the right to obtain information and documents from any person in the State who has such information in his possession or control, even if there is a legal obligation on such person to maintain the confidentiality of the information. The information is under the control of a person if he or she has the legal right or the authority or ability to obtain the information or documents in the possession of another person.

Any Qatari project must exercise substantial activity and have a real presence in the State. Residents of the State shall not facilitate structures or arrangements aimed at generating profits that do not reflect substantial activity in the State.


SAUDI ARABIA

E-INVOICING

The implementation of e-invoicing continues in the Kingdom. Under this implementation, the e-invoicing solution must be integrated with the systems of the Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority (ZATCA), and e-invoices must be generated in accordance with a prescribed format.

The implementation process has been structured in a series of waves, based on the taxpayer’s taxable sales. On August 18, 2023, ZATCA determined the criteria for taxpayers in the eighth wave of implementation. This includes all taxpayers with taxable sales exceeding SAR 40 million during the calendar year 2021 or 2022. The taxpayers meeting the criteria should integrate their e-invoicing solutions with the FATOORA Platform (ZATCA’s platform) starting from March 1, 2024.

VALUE ADDED TAX

On July 25, 2023, ZATCA announced the extension of its Amnesty Scheme for an additional 7 months (i.e., up to December 31, 2023), allowing no financial penalties and fines for regularizing tax compliance and payments. It is possible this could be the last extension granted.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION TAX

ZATCA has approved amendments to the Real Estate Transaction Tax (RETT) regulations that expand the scope of the exemption from RETT.

RETT was imposed in the KSA in 2020 and applies to all land and property sales, assignments, transfers, and similar activities that take place in the country. The RETT rate is 5% of the value of the relevant land and property.

AN EXEMPTION FROM RETT NOW APPLIES TO:

- The disposal of real estate by an individual or a company established in the KSA that owns, directly or indirectly, all of the company’s units or shares, and there is no change in the ownership percentage in the company for at least five years from the date of the disposal.
- The disposal of real estate by a company whose units or shares are owned directly or indirectly by the same person (whether an individual or legal entity), provided there is no change in the ownership percentage in the company for at least five years from the date of the disposal.
- The disposal of real estate by a person to a real estate developer licensed to engage in “off-plan” sale and leasing activities in accordance with the KSA laws, regulations, controls, and instructions, provided the real estate is designated for an off-plan sale project, and a license has been issued by the Off-Plan Sale and Leasing Committee.

In addition, a refund of RETT is available where excess tax is paid, where RETT is paid in error or on an incomplete disposal of real estate, as well as where RETT is paid on a canceled disposal if certain requirements are met. The dates and periods stipulated in the RETT regulations will be calculated according to the Gregorian calendar.


UAE

CORPORATE TAX

GENERAL GUIDES

To help taxpayers understand their obligations under the UAE Corporate Income Tax law, the UAE Federal Tax Authority (FTA) has issued a series of General Guides.

GENERAL GUIDE TO UAE CORPORATE INCOME TAX

The Corporate Tax-General Guide provides a detailed analysis of the UAE CT Law along with all the cabinet and ministerial decisions issued by the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to date. The Guide provides simple yet effective examples to address common queries. It also provides key insights into compliance obligations and general administration under the CT Law.

CORPORATE TAX GUIDE ON REGISTRATION OF JURIDICAL PERSONS

The registration guide provides a detailed and comprehensive analysis of the registration and de-registration obligations of taxable persons in the UAE. This Guide is issued in furtherance of the detailed corporate tax registration user manual issued by the FTA in May 2023. This provided a walkthrough of the Emara Tax Portal from a CT perspective. The key aspects covered in the Guide are:

- An overview of the corporate tax registration process
- Registration obligations of taxable persons and exempt persons
- Specific aspects in relation to resident juridical persons
- Power of FTA to register a person for corporate tax
- Corporate tax de-registration

CORPORATE TAX GUIDE ON SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF

This guide provides guidance on the benefit of small business relief. It also provides a series of examples that demonstrate the exact mechanics and functioning of small business relief. The key aspects covered in the guide are as follows:

- What is small business relief?
- Eligibility conditions for small business relief
- Impact of small business relief on other corporate tax rules
- Compliance obligations for small business relief
- Implications on artificial separation

CORPORATE TAX CONSULTATION PAPER ON FREEZONE RELIEF

The UAE MOF has issued a Consultation Paper to seek feedback on the list of Qualifying Activities and Excluded Activities specified under the Freezone Tax Regime.

The consultation paper provided the proposed coverage for each activity along with relevant illustrations that can assist the freezone businesses in determining the impact and their proposed eligibility for the freezone relief.

The Consultation should help the MOF to consider the viewpoint and opinion of the industry regarding the detailed scope of each Qualifying Activity and Excluded Activity.

The consultation has now been closed for public comments. However, the results of the consultation have not been released and are eagerly awaited by the freezone business community.

CABINET DECISION FOR IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

The UAE confirmed the administrative penalties for CT in Cabinet Decision No. (75) of 2023. Effective from August 1, 2023, such penalties target corporate tax-related violations, including failure to register, missing deadlines for filing and payment, incorrect tax return submissions, and inadequate record-keeping. Notably, voluntary disclosure penalties are also introduced, aligning the UAE's corporate tax system with VAT.

The penalties aim to encourage tax compliance and deter evasion.

New Executive Regulation for Tax Procedures:

The Executive Regulation on Tax Procedures (Cabinet Decision No. 74 of 2023) is effective from August 1, 2023. The regulations provide guidance on issues such as the maintenance of records, general procedures for registration, de-registration, amendment of registration data, and flexible language options.

OECD PILLAR TWO

The MOF, in cooperation with the OECD, recently hosted a Regional Forum on the Global Minimum Tax. The Forum, attended by senior tax experts and specialists, focused on the importance of the 15% global minimum tax rate, the “top-up tax,” the need to understand the rules and how they are implemented, and legislative approaches.

During the meeting, the MOF reaffirmed the government’s commitment to support international efforts to address tax base erosion and profit shifting and contribute to the continuous improvement of the global economic environment.

However, there are reports that the UAE may not implement Pillar Two rules in 2024. Instead, the MoF will hold a public consultation on the rules and their impact on UAE taxpayers in Q1 2024. Given this, it appears UAE-headquartered businesses will not be subject to the global minimum tax in the UAE in 2024, although the implications of Pillar Two in other jurisdictions will have to be analyzed. UAE businesses that are part of a multinational group covered by Pillar Two may also have to calculate the top-up tax in the headquartered jurisdiction.

VALUE ADDED TAX

NEW TAX PROCEDURES EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS

On July 29, 2023, the MOF announced the issuance of Cabinet Decision No. (74) of 2023 on the Executive Regulation (New Tax Procedures Executive Regulations) of Federal Decree-Law No. (28) of 2022 on Tax Procedures (New Tax Procedures Law). The Cabinet Decision repeals and replaces the existing Executive Regulation to the Tax Procedures with effect from August 1, 2023, and aligns definitions, procedures, and processes, among other matters, with the New Tax Procedures Law, which is effective from March 1, 2023.

The New Executive Regulations to the Tax Procedures Law clarify the position on voluntary disclosure, specify timelines related to record-keeping or extension of timelines by the FTA, list updated requirements for Tax Agents, and many more. The FTA has also published Tax Procedures Public Clarification (TAXP006) to explain the key changes in the New Tax Procedures Executive Regulations.

A few noteworthy changes are:

Article reference	Summary of changes in the Law
Article 2 - Record Keeping	All supporting documents in relation to the accounting records and commercial books of the business have to be retained. This includes, but is not limited to: ○ Relevant correspondence, invoices and tax invoices, licenses, and agreements/contracts. ○ Documents containing details of any election, determination or calculation made by a taxable person in relation to its tax affairs, including the basis, method of estimation, determination made, and calculation performed. ○ Documents with respect to related party transactions and with respect to the circumstances under which such transactions were made, including, for example, transfer pricing documents.

Article reference	Summary of changes in the Law
Article 3 – Period of Record Keeping	The period of retention of documents is updated as follows: ○ Real estate – The retention period is updated to seven years from the end of the calendar year in which such a record or document was created. ○ General document retention – In case of voluntary disclosure submission, a general period of five years will be extended by one year starting from the date of submission of voluntary disclosure in the fifth year from the end of the relevant tax period. ○ Legal representatives are required to retain the required books and records of the person they represent for one year from the date on which such legal representation ends.
Article 6 - Procedures of Tax Registration, Deregistration and Amendment of Registration Data	The list of instances where registrants are required to notify the FTA of changes to their business data has been updated to include notification of the following changes: ○ E-mail address. ○ Trade license activities. ○ Legal status and partnership agreement for unincorporated partnerships. Furthermore, the FTA may deregister a registrant at its discretion if the registrant fails to deregister within the controls and procedures stated in the Tax Law.
Article 10 – Voluntary Disclosure	In line with the New Tax Procedures Law, the New Tax Procedures Executive Regulation now requires the submission of a voluntary disclosure when a taxpayer discovers an error or omission in a tax return submitted to the FTA, even if it did not impact the due tax. This includes cases where the taxpayer has failed to report VAT on services imported when there's full input tax recovery or reported supplies in Box 1 of the VAT return against an Emirate other than the Emirate in which supplies should have been recorded. Voluntary disclosure applications are now required in the following instances: 1. VAT on errors/omissions exceeds AED 10,000 in a tax period. 2. There is no VAT liability on errors/omissions (e.g., Emirate-wise reporting). 3. There is no other tax period in which the error/omission can be reported.

Article reference	Summary of changes in the Law
Article 12, 13 and 14 – Tax Agents	For natural persons, it is no longer a requirement for the Tax Agent to be able to communicate in both Arabic and English, as fluency in either of these languages is acceptable, or to submit proof that the person is medically fit to perform the duties of the profession. A juridical person can become a Tax Agent, subject to meeting the requirements as specified within the regulations. ○ Listing and de-listing: Tax Agents are required to pay the relevant fees within 20 business days from the FTA's approval of the registration. Every natural person is required to renew his/her Tax Agent registration every three years, whereas juridical Tax Agents are required to renew their registration every year. If a Tax Agent fails to apply for renewal before the expiry of the listing, the person will be removed from the Tax Agent list, and the person will no longer be allowed to practice as a Tax Agent. ○ Obligations & rights: In addition to the existing obligations, the following have been added: • Tax Agents have to meet Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements, as specified by the FTA. • Tax Agents are required to retain information, documents, records, and data in respect of any person the Tax Agent represents.
Article 15 to 19 - Tax Audits	○ Period of Audit Notice: The FTA is now required to give a person at least 10 business days' notice before conducting a tax audit. ○ Right to Mark and Dispose: The FTA reserves the right to mark any original documents and dispose of an asset after notifying the specified person. ○ FTA's Timeline: The timeline for the FTA to respond to a person's request to view or obtain documents, data, and information on which the FTA based an assessment of due tax is updated to 10 business days (previously 20 business days).

REVERSE CHARGE MECHANISM ON THE SALE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE UAE

The Ministry of Finance has announced the issuance of Cabinet Resolution 91 of 2023 regarding the Application of the Reverse Charge Mechanism on Electronic Devices among Registered Businesses in the UAE.

The supply of Electronic Devices to a registered business for the purpose of resale or the production/manufacture of other Electronic Devices shall be subject to a reverse charge mechanism. The recipient will have to account for VAT on the value of such supplies. Electronic Devices are defined as mobile phones, smartphones, computers, tablets, and their parts and components.

The Cabinet Resolution specifies certain conditions and documentation required to be maintained for both the supplier and the recipient.

Requirements for Recipients* of Electronic Devices	Requirements for Supplier of Electronic Devices
Providing the supplier with a written statement confirming the purpose of purchasing the Electronic Devices before the tax point of the transaction	Receiving and maintaining such written confirmations from each customer
Providing VAT registration status and documentation in support of this	Verifying the registration status by the customer in ways approved by the Federal Tax Authority

*Only recipients who intend to resell the Electronic Devices or use the Electronic Devices for the production or manufacture of other Electronic Devices.

The FTA has clarified that a decision will be released to specify the standards to be followed while defining the parts and components of Electronic Devices.

The Cabinet Resolution is applicable 60 days after the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

BDO INSIGHTS

The announcement of a reverse charge mechanism on the supply of Electronic Devices will be a welcome move for Electronic Device businesses in the UAE. Electronic Devices have been an attractive sector for both tourists and consumers in the UAE.

The UAE has previously implemented a similar mechanism for other key sectors like gold and diamond trade and oil and gas trade between registered businesses. Given the value and volume of transactions undertaken, the reverse charge mechanism will help Electronic Device traders manage their cash flows on account of VAT more effectively. Furthermore, the reverse charge mechanism is a measure adopted by the Tax Authorities to reduce the risk of tax leakages, such as the collection of VAT and non-payment to the government.

UPDATED GUIDES

The FTA has recently updated the guides on the following topics:

- Submission of VAT Voluntary Disclosure by VAT Registrants
- Process of the Final VAT Return - VAT 201
- VAT Returns Form - VAT 201
- Resubmit VAT Voluntary Disclosure

The guides have been updated to cover the procedural changes after the introduction of the Emara Tax portal.

ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE REGULATIONS

UAE PASS

The MOF has recently changed the login authentication method for the ESR Portal. Going forward, login on the ESR Portal will be exclusively based on the national digital identity solution - UAE Pass. Licensees are now required to download the UAE Pass Application on their mobile phone devices and create an account using the already registered email address on the ESR portal. The option to log in using the email address and password has been disabled.

CUSTOMS DUTY

Pursuant to Cabinet Resolution 38 of 2022 on the Attestation of Commercial invoices of a value of AED 10,000 and above for imports of goods into the UAE, all importers have to obtain an invoice attested by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs with effect from 1 February 2023. Failure to comply with the above-mentioned cabinet resolution will result in a fine of AED 500 being issued to the consignee for each unattested invoice.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has upgraded its eDAS system to allow all clients to link their attested invoices to their customs declaration in one easy step. The linking of attested invoices to customs declarations through the EDAS portal will ensure that no fines or penalties are imposed.

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