

27 October 2021

Bahrain

National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) carries out inspection visits and discovers more than 150 tax violations

It has been reported in the local news that NBR carried out inspection and awareness campaigns in popular trade centers in Bahrain. With more than 150 tax violations discovered, some tax violations may be considered as crimes of tax evasion while the others may be subject to administrative penalties.

NBR named as one of the top 5 public sector bodies in the National Gender Balance Report

The NBR has been named as one of the top 5 among 45 agencies operating in the Bahraini public sector in the National Gender Balance Report. Ms Rana Ibrahim Faqihi, CEO of the NBR, expressed her pride on this achievement, which reflects the policies and measures taken by the Supreme Council for Women led by HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of HRH King Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa and president of the Supreme Council for Women.

Training workshop on customs procedures conducted by Bahrain Customs Affairs

The Bahrain Customs Affairs recently conducted an online training workshop on customs procedures for commercial shipments in coordination with the Economic Development Board. The online event was attended by representatives from logistic service companies and shipment agencies.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) updates FAQ

ZATCA has recently updated the FAQs on its website to include the frequently asked questions on e-invoicing (Fatoora). The updated FAQs covers the enforcement dates, the requirements for each phase, how to prepare and more.

Click [here](#) to access the updated FAQs.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Directives for UAE nationals on building new residences issued by Minister of Finance

Directives to facilitate and expedite the tax refund procedures for UAE nationals on building new residences were recently issued by HH Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE's Minister of Finance. The Federal Tax Authority (FTA) is developing its own agenda to be in line with the UAE's principles for the next 50 years.

FTA issues initial list of requirements for Economic Substance Reporting (ESR)

The FTA has recently issued an initial list of documents and requirements for facilitating the work of FTA's ESR audit teams to ensure compliance.

Post Clearance Audit (PCA) system adopted by Abu Dhabi Customs

Abu Dhabi Customs authority has recently adopted the PCA system with facilitation and simplification of customs procedures at Abu Dhabi's various entry points as one of the main objectives.

Oman

English version of VAT Guideline on Real Estate published by Oman Tax Authority (OTA)

The OTA has recently published the English version of the VAT guidelines for real estate in Oman which provides explanations and clarifications on the VAT rules applicable to real estate related supplies including residential and commercial as well as the real estate located in the Special Zones.

Click [here](#) to access the guideline in English.

Click [here](#) to access the Tax Flash prepared by the KPMG member firm in Oman.

Kuwait

Guidance on customs fees published by Kuwait Customs

Kuwait's General Administration of Customs (GAC) has recently released a handbook on the estimated customs fees for services related to import and export activities in Kuwait. The guideline is aimed at educating importers and exporters on customs fees applicable for services related to shipments based multiple factors.

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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