



Below are the latest development in middle east tax in the GCC:

UAE

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Federal Tax Authority (FTA) has published the E-Commerce VAT guide. E-commerce (also known as “electronic commerce” or sometimes loosely referred to as the “digital economy”) generally refers to supplies of goods and services over the internet or a similar electronic network, with goods and services being sourced or supplied by electronic means, such as through a computer, phone website or electronic applications.

The E-Commerce guide discusses the following types of transactions:

- goods purchased through an electronic platform; and
- services supplied by electronic means.

The purpose of this guide is to provide guidance on how VAT affects businesses which operate within the e-commerce sector.

[*Read More*](#)

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Federal Tax Authority (FTA) has published an updated version of its guide on Value Added Tax (VAT) refunds for UAE nationals building new residences.

The guide has been updated with details about the scheme, whereby UAE nationals who own or acquire land in the UAE on which they build or commission the construction of their residence may request a refund of the VAT incurred on certain expenses related to the construction. The guide further clarifies the FTA’s interpretation of what it considers a ‘residence’ for the purposes of the scheme, and criteria for recoverable expenses. In addition, Appendix 3 includes a table setting out eligible and non-eligible expense items.

[*Read More*](#)

SAUDI ARABIA

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) General Authority of Zakat and Tax (GAZT) has published a guide on the extension of the Value Added Tax (VAT) amnesty from 30 June 2020 to 30 September 2020. The guide provides additional details on the extension relating to late payment penalties, late filing penalties, failure to register, and other compliance issues.

The taxpayers should use this opportunity to review their current and historic VAT position to ensure that their compliance and tax affairs are compliant with VAT law.

[*Read More*](#)

The Bahrain National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) has updated their FAQs for questions regarding the 'Reviews and Appeals' and 'VAT Appeals Review Committee'.

The FAQs outline the role of the NBR's Reviews & Appeals section, the requirement to notify the R&A section within 15 days, and confirmation that the disputed amount is not required to be paid before objecting to the R&A section.

The VAT Appeals Review Committee (VARC) is a body independent from the NBR. Appeals to the VARC should be submitted in Arabic within 30 days of the NBR decision via email to appealscommittee@nbr.gov.bh.

The disputed amount must be paid when appealing and the FAQs state that fees are also required to be paid for the appeal.

[Read More](#)

The Bahrain National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) has published a new VAT guide on the transfer of a going concern (TOGC). Any VAT payer intending to sell or otherwise transfer a business to another person should read this guide with a view to determining whether the transfer may be a surrender of an economic activity for VAT purposes, resulting in the transaction being outside the scope of Bahrain VAT.

The guide details the VAT implications of situations that may arise during a business transfer, such as a transfer of assets over a period of time, certain assets not used to continue the business, and successive transfers of business assets. The guide also discusses the treatment of input VAT incurred in relation to a qualifying TOGC, the application of TOGC rules to VAT groups, and the treatment of capital assets under a TOGC.

[Read More](#)

The Bahrain NBR has published a new VAT guide on economic activity. The guide clarifies the NBR's interpretation of what it considers an 'economic activity', the determination of which is a key component for assessing VAT registration obligations.

The guide includes the following:

- ✓ Indicators to consider in order to determine whether or not an economic activity is being carried out;
- ✓ Types of economic activity;
- ✓ Requirements for an economic activity to exist;
- ✓ Activities indicating the start and end of an economic activity; and
- ✓ Special cases (e.g. contract staff, board members, charities, joint ventures, and public sector entities)

[Read More](#)

Who We Are

Nishe is a boutique professional services firm based in the UAE specialising in the provision of accounting, Value Added Tax (VAT) and other related services to clientele in GCC.

Nishe aspires to work towards uplifting underprivileged women by providing them with the support they require to grow. Nishe is exclusively made up of women professionals who are fiercely determined to make a positive impact on everyone they work with – be it our clients, women who seek our support or anyone else.

For further details, please visit www.nisheconsulting.com.