





TAX UPDATE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 08 - **November** 2024





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For comprehensive information on UAE Corporate Tax, please refer to the following links:

UAE Corporate Tax Legislation

https://tax.gov.ae/en/legislation.aspx

FTA Guides on Corporate Tax

https://tax.gov.ae/en/taxes/corporate.tax/corporate.tax.guides.references.aspx

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From the Desk of The CHAIRMAN



Dear Esteemed Members,

As we approach the close of another eventful year, the festive spirit is all around us. This season of celebration and gratitude offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the progress we've made and to prepare for the opportunities ahead. On behalf of the ICAI (Dubai) Chapter, I extend my warm wishes to you and your families for the festive season and beyond.

This month, we bring you another insightful edition of our tax updates newsletter, featuring topics of great relevance:

- Public Clarification Regarding Grace Period to Update Information in Tax Records:
 This article provides guidance on the recently announced grace period, enabling businesses to ensure their tax records are accurate and updated to maintain compliance with regulatory requirements.
- Public Clarification Regarding Tax Assessment Reviews: We explore the Federal Tax Authority (FTA)'s clarifications on the process and considerations for tax assessment reviews, empowering members to effectively address any discrepancies in their tax assessments.
- Tax Procedures Guide on Private Clarifications: This guide offers insights into the procedure for requesting private clarifications from the FTA, a critical tool for resolving specific tax uncertainties.
- Tax Return Guide on Filing and Completing the Corporate Tax Return: A practical guide outlining the steps and best practices for accurately filing and completing corporate tax returns, ensuring compliance and efficiency in tax reporting.

Our dedicated editorial team and contributors have meticulously crafted these articles to ensure they address the critical issues faced by our members. Your feedback and active participation continue to be invaluable in enhancing the quality and relevance of this publication.

As the year-end festivities draw near, let us celebrate the spirit of togetherness, knowledge-sharing, and growth within our community. I encourage you to leverage the resources and opportunities provided by the ICAI (Dubai) Chapter to further your professional development.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm for our initiatives.

Warm regards, CA Rajesh Somani Chairman, ICAI (Dubai) Chapter NPIO









Registrants are required to inform the FTA within 20 business days of the occurrence of any event that might require the amendment of information related to their tax records kept by the FTA as per TAXP007. Failing to inform the FTA within such period may constitute a tax violation and result in the imposition of administrative penalties.

Grace Period regarding intimation to the FTA

To encourage registrants to update their records with the FTA, a grace period has been implemented within which registrants may update their tax records without incurring administrative penalties.

The grace period shall be active, starting from 1 January 2024 until 31 March 2025. Furthermore, if an administrative penalty was imposed on registrants during the period from 1 January 2024 until the implementation date of the grace period for failing to update the information in their tax records held by the FTA, such penalty will be reversed.

Where the registrants have settled the administrative penalty, the result of the reversal is that the reversed administrative penalty amount shall be added back to the persons' tax accounts. Registrants are not required to contact the FTA to obtain a reversal of the administrative penalty, as this will be done automatically.









The FTA introduced an optional mechanism for persons to dispute tax assessments and related administrative penalties, before submitting a request for reconsideration. This Public Clarification (TAXP008) clarifies the instances in which a person may submit a request for a tax assessment review.

Requesting a Tax Assessment Review

A person may request a tax assessment review if they reasonably believe there were errors in applying tax laws or treaties, calculation mistakes, or audit procedural issues resulting in determination of incorrect tax differences or administrative penalties.

A person desiring a tax assessment review must submit the request to the FTA within 40 Business days of the date the person is notified of the tax assessment. If unable to do so, the person may request the FTA to extend the deadline based on valid reason for the inability.

If the person wishes to introduce new information or additional documentary evidence/facts that were not presented to the FTA during the audit process, the person may apply for reconsideration instead of a tax assessment review. It is not permitted to submit a tax assessment review request in respect of which the person has already applied for reconsideration.

When to apply for a Tax Assessment Review?

The following are examples of instances where a person can apply for a tax assessment review, provided the request is submitted within the prescribed period.

- Issuance of tax audit notifications after the expiry of 5 years from the end of the relevant tax period.
- Failure to notify the person of a tax audit, prior to conducting the audit, and issuing a tax assessment.
- The person believes that the FTA relied on undocumented /uncertified confirmations by external parties in order to determine the value of the person's taxable supplies, on the basis of which the tax assessment was issued.
- The person believes that the FTA failed to request information that could impact the validity of the tax audit findings.
- The person believes that there were errors in determining the value of supply or in the calculation of tax due.
- The person believes that there were errors in the mechanism used in calculating the excess inventory for





Excise Tax purposes.

- The person believes that the issuance of estimated tax assessments was based on an incorrect estimation basis.
- •The person believes that there are calculation errors in accounting for/calculating the due tax
- The person believes that there were errors in the tax treatment of a transaction due to incomplete tax audit procedures or disregarding documents provided during the tax audit period.
- The person believes that the issuance of a tax assessment was for tax periods not covered in the tax audit notification.
- •The person believes that the FTA failed to send the tax audit results to the person's registered address.

Review of a Tax Assessment

If the person submitted the tax assessment review request within the prescribed period, the FTA shall consider the request and reasons provided by the person and issue a decision within 40 business days from receiving the request, unless the FTA has notified the person that a longer period is needed to make the decision.

The FTA may decide to:

- Reject the request if the procedural requirements are not met, e.g. if the request was not submitted within 40 business days after the person was notified of the tax assessment and administrative penalties assessment, or where new information was presented.
- · Adjust the previously issued tax assessment (and related administrative penalties assessment, where applicable)
- Uphold the previously issued tax assessment (and related administrative penalties assessment, where applicable)

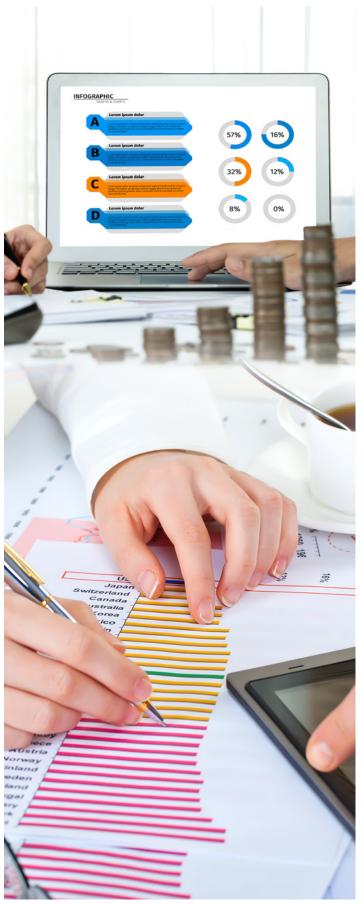
The FTA shall inform the applicant of the decision within 5 business days from the date the decision is issued.

Request for Reconsideration

If the person does not agree with the outcome of the tax assessment review, or if the decision is not issued within 40 business days (or a longer period where the person is notified of an extension), the person may submit a reconsideration request.

A person may opt to forego the option to request a tax assessment review and submit a reconsideration request if the person wants to dispute the tax assessment and related administrative penalties assessment.

As part of the reconsideration process, the person may submit additional information and documentary evidence that were not available during the tax audit.









This guide is designed to provide guidance on the nature of private clarifications and the process to apply for a clarification. It includes details regarding the nature of a clarification, eligibility, instances where a clarification may or may not be provided and the clarification process. For more details on the application process, refer to the following:

https://tax.gov.ae/en/services/tax.clarifications.request.aspx

Nature of Clarifications

Private clarifications are issued by the FTA to a specific taxpayer in the form of a document that is stamped and signed by the Director General or his delegate/representative. The FTA's response relies solely on the information provided by the applicant. The FTA will not verify the facts but may request additional information if needed.

The clarification provided by the FTA is only applicable to the specific Applicant in respect of the specific questions asked based on the facts provided for the specific tax type indicated. Clarifications should not be used by persons other than the Applicant. The FTA considers itself administratively bound by the Clarification if the facts align materially with those in the request.

A Clarification is considered void ab initio if:

- •The facts differ from those in the request or subsequent submissions.
- •There is fraud, misrepresentation, or non-disclosure of material facts.

•The conditions or assumptions of the FTA are unmet. A Clarification ceases to apply if the relevant tax law is repealed, amended, or superseded by a public clarification or guide. The FTA is not required to notify the Applicant in such cases. The FTA may withdraw a Clarification, but the Applicant may rely on the Clarification until the withdrawal's effective date.

Eligibility Criteria for a Clarification: Eligible Persons

There are two types of eligibility criteria to consider, firstly whether the relevant person is eligible to submit a Clarification request and secondly whether the specific request is eligible to be considered under the Clarification process.

In the case of a tax group, only the representative member of that tax group is permitted to request the Clarification. Furthermore, the representative member of a VAT tax group may not submit a Corporate Tax Clarification request in respect of a member of its VAT group, unless the persons are part of the same Corporate Tax group and the person is also the parent company of that Corporate Tax group, and vice versa.

The person's tax agent or legal representative may apply on behalf of the person. Note that only a tax agent registered with the FTA for the specific tax type the request relates to, may submit the Clarification request on behalf of the person. Even in such a case, the request must be submitted in the name of the taxpayer. Clarification requests submitted by tax advisors/consultants or any other person that is not the taxpayer's





tax agent or legal representative will not be accepted.

Clarifications will only address the tax matters of uncertainty of the Applicant and not the tax affairs of any other person. In exceptional cases, more than one person may submit a joint Clarification request, e.g. where they are parties to the same transaction and the factual background information is agreed between them. These instances will be evaluated on a case-bycase basis to determine whether the parties may be co-Applicants.

Eligibility Criteria for a Clarification: Eligible Matters

A taxpayer may apply for a Clarification if there is a specific tax matter(s) of uncertainty, if the following requirements are met:

- •The request relates to federal taxes/ penalties.
- The request clearly indicates the relevant tax type the request relates to.
- •The request relates to tax legislation as applied to the facts and circumstances of the taxpayer submitting the request, i.e. the Clarification issued by the FTA is not applicable to a third party.
- The request contains all the relevant information the FTA needs to consider for deciding on the correct tax treatment of the subject of the request.

If all of the above requirements are not met, the FTA may reject the request for a Clarification.

Grounds for Rejection

The FTA shall not accept a Clarification in the following instances:

- Where the Applicant is not eligible to submit the Clarification request
- Out-of-Scope cases
- Cases of incomplete or incorrect Clarification requests
- Cases that do not represent a tax matter of uncertainty
- •Tax audits and assessments cases
- Other cases, as specified

Detailed examples of the above have been prescribed in the Tax Procedures Guide.

Clarification Process

Clarification requests are only accepted via EmaraTax. The Applicant may request a Clarification in English or Arabic. Clarifications are issued in the same language the Clarification request is submitted in. To submit a Clarification request, the Applicant should select the "Tax Clarification Request" tile on the FTA's website.

The fee for applying for a Clarification in respect of a single tax is AED 1,500 per Private Clarifications application. If the Clarification request relates to more

than one tax, the fee is AED 2,250 per application. These fees are non-refundable, except for the cases listed by the FTA. The fees can only be paid via the EmaraTax portal using a valid bank card.

Applicants can save draft versions of the request, but it must be submitted within 40 business days of initiation, or it will be closed. Requests submitted after 3pm are considered received the next business day. Applicants may withdraw their Clarification request within two business days, but the fee will be forfeited if withdrawn later.

Issuance of Clarification

The FTA will issue Clarifications for indirect taxes within 50 business days of receiving the request, or within 50 business days from receiving any requested further information. For Corporate Tax, Clarifications will be issued within 60 business days of the request, or within 60 business days from receiving additional information. In complex cases requiring consultation with other stakeholders, the FTA may request an extension for the same.

Refund and Disagreement

The FTA may refund the fee paid for a Clarification request relating to one tax or more taxes, if the FTA decided not to issue the Clarification in the event of prescribed cases. In any other instance, the Clarification fee will not be refunded to the Applicant.

The extent of the refund is determined based on the number of taxes covered under the request. A Clarification is not considered a decision that is issued by the FTA and, therefore, is not subject to the dispute resolution process. Consequently, Applicants cannot apply for a reconsideration or review of a Clarification, but may however, apply for a new Clarification.

Common Errors

The FTA identified a number of common errors based on Clarification requests received, which lead to either rejection, or a request for further information, which have been specified in the Tax Procedures Guide.

Applicants may consider structuring their cover letter around the following headings to ensure that all the relevant information is submitted as part of the Clarification request:

- Background Information
- Request for Clarification
- Legislation and Guidance considered
- Analysis of the matter and detailed assessment
- Alternative Tax Treatment

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The guide is intended to provide a general overview of the information to provide in response to each field in the Tax Return in the order in which they normally appear. It may be referred to by any person that is required to file a Tax Return for the relevant Tax Period.

Overview of Tax Return

A Taxable Person is required to submit a Tax Return and pay any Corporate Tax due to the FTA within 9 months of the end of its Tax Period.1 This is a self-assessment process. The Tax Return consists of 9 parts, allowing the person to report taxable income and include relevant adjustments.

In the EmaraTax Portal, the Taxable Person should only see fields and schedules which may be applicable to them. If the Taxable Person believes a field is relevant to them but it does not appear in their Tax Return, the Taxable Person needs to ensure that the information which they have provided during the Tax Registration process was correct.

Part A: Taxable Person Information

Some of the information in Part A will be prepopulated, based on the information provided by the Taxable Person at the time of CT registration. Information required in this section includes TRN, no. of businesses, turnover,

details relating to MNE Group, QFZP status, Tax Groups, etc.

Part B: Elections

This part of the Tax Return deals with elections available to a Taxable Person. Elections that are not available or, which have previously been made in a prior Tax Period, may not appear in your Tax Return. In addition, certain elections may require additional fields and schedules to be completed later in the Tax Return. The major elections available in this section are Realization Basis, Transitional Rules, Small Business Relief, Business Restructuring Relief, etc.

Part C: Accounting Schedule

This schedule is for disclosure purposes only and does not result in any inputs into the computation of Taxable Income. It consists of 4 parts, i.e., Income Statement, Statement of other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, and Audit.

Part D: Accounting Adjustments & Exempt Income

This part of the Tax Return contains all the adjustments required in order to arrive at Taxable Income, which can be a positive or negative amount. Some of the figures will be prepopulated from the schedules and some will need to be input manually. Exempt income and income





from foreign PE's shall also be disclosed in this section.

Part E: Relief

This section is applicable to Taxable Persons seeking relief with regards to Transfers within a Qualifying Group, Business Restructuring Relief, etc. Clause relating to eligibility and clawback of such reliefs are available within this section.

Part F: Other Adjustments

This section of the Tax Return is applicable to all Taxable Persons. All details regarding non-deductible expenditure, net interest expenditure, transactions with related parties and connected person, etc is required to be stated here.

Part G: Tax Liability and Tax Credits

The Taxable Income for the period is automatically calculated here, based on the inputs provided in the previous sections. Any information regarding carried forward tax losses or tax credits must be mentioned in this section.

Part H: Review and Declaration

Once the Tax Return is completed, the person responsible for filing the Tax Return is required to make a declaration in the 'Declaration' part of the Tax Return confirming that the information provided in the Tax Return is correct. Details of the person preparing the Tax Return is to be provided along with the confirmation.

Part I: Schedules

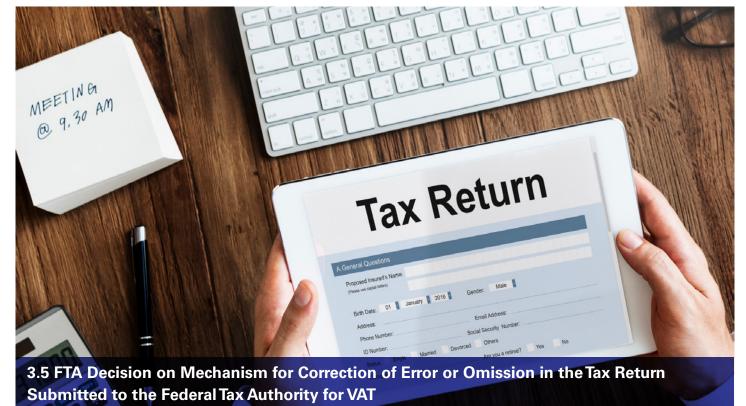
The Tax Return consists of a number of schedules that are required to be filled based on the transactions/ activities undertaken by the Taxable Person. These schedules include;

- Free Zone Schedule
- UAE Dividends Schedule
- Foreign PE Schedule
- •Tax Credit Schedule
- Related Party Transaction and Connected Person Schedule
- Tax Losses Schedule
- Participation Exemption Schedule
- Interest Capping Schedule
- •Tax Relief Schedule
- Transitional Rules Schedule
- Other Schedules









The FTA has released Decision No.8 of 2024 on "Mechanism for Correction of Error or Omission in the Tax Return Submitted to the Federal Tax Authority for VAT". Following is the extract from the Decision.

If the Taxpayer discovers an error or omission in the Tax Return submitted to the Authority, where there is no difference in the Due Tax, they shall correct such error by submitting a Voluntary Disclosure if any of the following cases take place:

- 1. Reporting standard rated Taxable Supplies in relation to an Emirate in the box of another Emirate.
- 2. Incorrect reporting of zero-rated Taxable Supplies, whether by understating or overstating.
- 3. Incorrect reporting of Exempt Supplies, whether by understating or overstating.









Residents and Non residents

CA Jini Jain

The term immovable property is not defined explicitly under FEMA. It includes all type of properties – agricultural land, commercial/residential properties, plantations etc.

To determine the extent to which the regulations are applicable to a particular transaction entered into by a person, residential status under FEMA is the starting point. It leads the way to denote the restrictions and prohibitions under the regulations applicable to various transactions entered into by the individual/entity.

It is important to understand the following definitions used in the rules and regulations:

- Non-Resident Indian (NRI): NRI is a person resident outside India who is a citizen of India.
- Overseas Citizen of India (OCI): OCI is a person resident outside India who is registered as an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder under Section 7(A) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

FEMA provides various benefits to individuals who have or had ties with India even if they are currently Nonresident. To qualify for it, a Non-resident should either hold an Indian passport to be considered as NRI or should hold an OCI card if the Indian Passport has been surrendered.

Since gifting is largely permitted between relatives, one must note that FEMA uses the definition of relative as per Companies Act, 2013 and not Income Tax Act, 1961. 'Relative' means a relative as defined in Section 2(77) of Companies Act, 2013 i.e.

- a. Members of Hindu Undivided Family
- b. Husband and wife
- c. Father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, son's wife and daughter's husband

GIFT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY SITUATED IN INDIA

Provisions for gift of immovable property in India as per Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules, 2019 are summarized as under:





Donor/Giver	Donee/Recipient	Permissible Type of Property	Conditions
Person resident in India	NRI or OCI	Immovable property other than agricultural land / farm house / plantation property	They must be Relatives
NRI or OCI	NRI or OCI	Immovable property other than agricultural land / farm house / plantation property	They must be Relatives
NRI or OCI	Person Resident in India	Any immovable Property	-

Note: No person being a citizen of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, China, Iran, Nepal, Bhutan, Hong Kong or Macau or Democratic People's Republic of Korea can acquire or transfer immovable property in India without prior approval of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This prohibition is not applicable to an OCI Cardholder.

GIFT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OUTSIDE INDIA

Provisions for gift of immovable property outside India as per Foreign Exchange Management (Overseas Investment) Rules, 2022 are summarized as under:

Donor/Giver	Donee/Recipient	Permissibility
Person resident in India	Person resident in India	Permitted
Person resident outside India	Person resident in India	Not Permitted

Note: The holding of investment in immovable property or transfer thereof in any manner will be permitted only if the initial investment in immovable property was permitted under the law.

CONCLUSION

If one feels there is an ambiguity in interpreting the law in a particular case or a transaction is not specifically permitted, one can seek RBI's approval before entering into the transaction. Considering various restrictions imposed under various regulations and the fact that non-compliance could lead to adverse consequences, it is important to understand the possible implications that could arise from all the angles including FEMA. One should also be mindful of taxability of such gifts in India as well as foreign country.





5. INVITATION TO WRITE ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS

Dear Members,

We invite contributions from Chartered Accountants who are members of the Chapter to share insightful articles on Corporate Tax, Value Added Tax and Excise Tax matters for our newsletter.

Please submit your articles by clicking on the link https://icaidubai.org/articles

Kindly adhere to the following guidelines:

Intellectual Property Responsibility: The articles/ writeups/ views shared are from your own research and you should take full responsibility that it does not breach any copyright, patent or any other IP or any other types of rights.

Content Guidelines: The article should not contain any objectionable contents including but not limited to such as taboo topics like religion, politics, culture and sex.

Editorial Modification: The author should not have an objection if the Managing Committee makes any changes to the shared articles/ writeups/ views to make it fit for the purpose of inclusion in the Journal/ Newsletter/ Publication of the ICAI Dubai Chapter.

Author Attribution: The articles/ writeups/ view is selected for publication, only the author name with photo will be published in the Newsletter/ Journal/ Publication in which its being published.

Publication Decision: The submission of articles/ writeups/ views does not create an/any obligation on/to the Managing Committee of the ICAI Dubai Chapter to publish it or to make it as part of their any publication. The decision of the Managing Committee will be final and binding on the author.

Submission Deadline: Submit the complete article with relevant information by the 25th of the month to be considered for publication in the upcoming newsletters.

We look forward to receiving your contributions, which will enrich our newsletter with valuable insights and updates. Please use the above mentioned link for submitting your article. For any clarifications please contact below persons,

CONTACT PERSONS

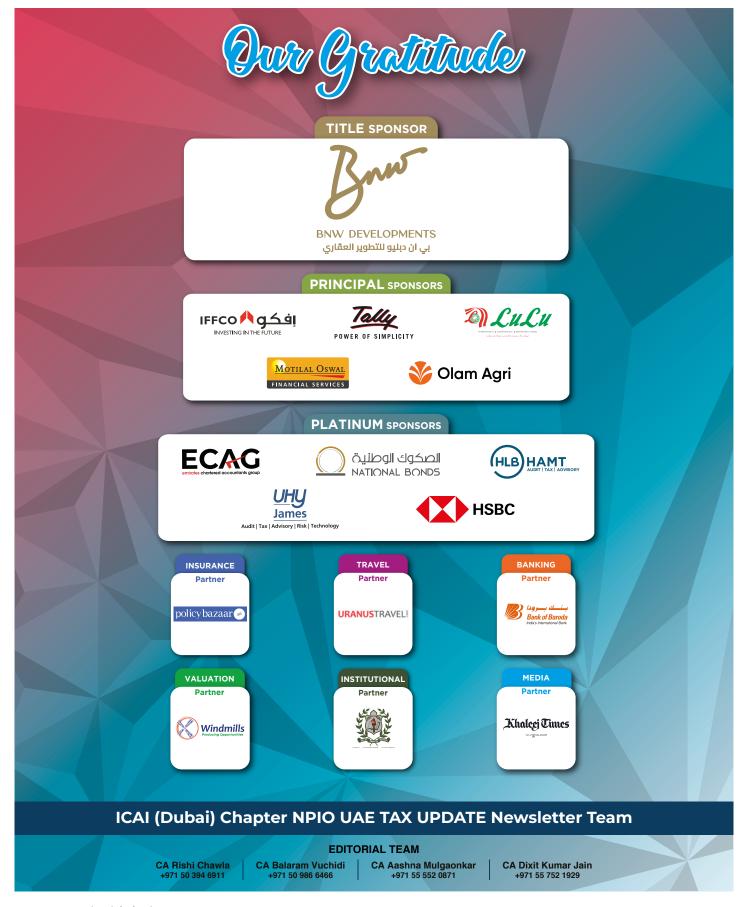
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ISSUE 08 - **November** 2024