

International Tax Europe and Africa June 2017

This e-newsletter gives you an overview of international tax developments being reported globally by KPMG member firms in the Europe and Africa regions between **1 June and 30 June 2017.**

<u>Africa</u>	<u>Finland</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>	<u>Switzerland</u>
<u>Belgium</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>Poland</u>	<u>United Kingdom</u>
<u>Bulgaria</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Spain</u>	
European Union	<u>ltaly</u>	<u>Sweden</u>	

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To contact the International Tax Team email internationaltax@kpmg.com.

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	Tax area concerned	Relevant date	Description of measures and publication link
Africa			
KPMG publication	Various	9 June 2017	If you are an investor, are looking to expand into Africa or are just interested in Africa countries' developments the <i>Country Snapshots</i> will provide you with a sneak-peek into: the latest country economic overview, tax, legal and compliance developments, risks overview as well key in-country contacts. Read more.

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Belgium			
Administrative and case law	Tax exemption systems	8 June 2017	On 8 June 2017, the Court of Justice of the European Union rendered its decision in the <i>Van der Weegen and Others</i> case. The Court ruled that a national tax

Read more.

Bulgaria			
KPMG publication	Various	1 June 2017	The KPMG member firm in Bulgaria offers a concise overview of taxes in Bulgaria in 2017. Read more.

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European Union			
Administrative and case law	BEPS	27 June 2017	The European Commission announced a proposal for amending a directive on administrative cooperation in the field of taxation (Directive 2011/16/EU). The proposal introduces a requirement that intermediaries disclose potentially aggressive cross-border tax planning arrangements and includes instructions for tax administrations to exchange this information. The enhanced transparency requirement is a consequence of recent revelations on harmful tax practices and the use of offshore companies (e.g. the 'Panama Papers') and disclosure rules proposed by the OECD in BEPS Action 12. Read more.

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Finland			
Administrative and case law	Withholding tax	13 June 2017	The tax administration of Finland granted a refund of taxes withheld on dividends paid to an open-ended Massachusetts business trust (one that was legally a partnership in the United States and registered as a regulated investment company). This action of the tax administration is viewed as representing a significant development because it appears to expand application of Article 63 of the TFEU (EU treaty) to third-country investment funds whose legal form is a partnership. Read more.

France			
Administrative and case law	Beneficial owners	20 June 2017	An ordinance in France transposes and implements an EU anti-money laundering directive into French domestic law, and requires the registration of 'ultimate beneficial owners' by 1 August 2017. Read more.

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Germany			
Tax legislation approved and regulatory update	Patent box regime	1 Jun 2017	The lower house (Bundestag) adopted legislation to counter harmful tax practices in connection with the licensing of rights (an anti-patent box law). The law contains a tax exemption for restructuring gains — a reaction to a federal tax court (BFH) decision of 2016 that the tax privileges for restructuring profits provided in a 2003 BMF decree violated the constitutional principle of legality of administrative actions. Read more.
Administrative and case law	Permanent establishment	30 Jun 2017	The German federal tax court (BFH) set out the rules for situations when there is a permanent establishment (PE) implications for the place where services are provided for value added tax (VAT) purposes. Read more.

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Italy			
Tax legislation approved and regulatory update	Patent box regime	15 June 2017	A law decree that amends the patent box regime and that provides other corporate tax measures was 'converted into law' on 15 June 2017. The new law decree removes trademarks from the list of qualifying intangibles under the patent box regime. The limits on the patent box regime apply to taxpayers that elect to apply the patent box regime after 2016 (for calendar year taxpayers, the patent box benefits are no longer available for income attributable to trademarks from 2017). 'Grandfathered' measures apply for elections with respect to trademarks in tax years in progress as of 31 December 2016. Read more.

Netherlands			
Administrative and case law	Intellectual property	28 June 2017	The Ministry of Finance announced that European Code of Conduct group had approved the Dutch innovation box regime. The approval relates to the version of the innovation box that (for the most part) was introduced as of 1 January 2017 and was included in the 2017 Tax Plan. Read more.

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Poland			
Administrative and case law	State aid	30 June 2017	The European Commission today announced that a Polish tax on the retail sector is in breach of EU state aid rules. Read more.

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Spain				
Administrative and case law	State aid	27 June 2017	The CJEU today issued a judgment concluding that tax exemptions for the Catholic Church in Spain may constitute unlawful state aid if and to the extent to which they are granted for economic activities. Read more.	

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Sweden			
Proposed	Corporate	20 June	Sweden's government released a memorandum proposing corporate tax cuts and new interest deduction limitation rules. The measures are proposed to be effective 1 July 2018. The memorandum will now be subject to consultation, with input required by 26 September 2017. Read more.
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Switzerland

Proposed	Corporate	15 June	The Swiss Federal Council announced new guidelines regarding a federal tax bill, commonly referred to as 'Tax Reform 17' and that would include a proposal to reduce from 21.2 percent to 20.5 percent the amount of federal income tax revenues retroceded to the cantons. Read more.
legislation	tax	2017	
			Read more.

United Kingdom			
Tax legislation approved and regulatory update	Corporate tax	26 June 2017	Proposed corporate interest restriction rules were removed from Finance Bill 2017, and tax professionals in the UK are waiting to see if they will reappear in the promised summer Finance Bill. In the meantime, corporate groups may be prudent in continuing to assume that the rules will apply from 1 April 2017. Read more.
Administrative and case law	Corporate tax	30 June 2017	In the recent case of NCL Investments Limited & Anor v HMRC, the First-tier Tribunal (FTT) found that the accounting expense relating to the grant of share options to their employees was deductible for corporation tax (CT) purposes. Read more.
KPMG publication	Corporate tax	9 June 2017	In the ninth edition of the series of articles examining the new corporate interest restriction rules, the KPMG member firm in the UK analyzes some of the administrative requirements of the new regime. Read more.

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