دخل قرار رفع نسبة الضريبة على القيمة المضافة في المملكة العربية السعودية في المئة حيّز التنفيذ، على جميع السلع والخدمات الخاضعة لها في الأسواق التجارية السعودية، وذلك بعد صدور أمر ملكي بتعديل المادة (الثانية) إلى 5 من نظام ضريبة القيمة المضافة، والمتضمّن رفع نسبة الضريبة من في الحادي عشر من مايو (أيار) الماضي.

ودعت الهيئة العامة للزكاة والدخل جميع المكلفين المسجلين في ضريبة القيمة المضافة إلى التحقق من جاهزية منشآتهم، والتعرف على كافة الأحكام الانتقالية المرتبطة برفع نسبة الضريبة، وذلك من خلال مراجعة الدليل الإرشادي للأحكام الانتقالية المتعلقة برفع نسبة ضريبة القيمة المضافة. كما حثت الهيئة المواطنين والمقيمين على التأكد من عناصر الفاتورة الضريبية، وهي "اسم المتجر، تاريخ الشراء، الرقم الضريبي، وخانة ضريبة القيمة المضافة"، داعيةً إلى التعاون معها وإبلاغ عن أي منشأة مخالفة في حال عدم تفويض تلك العناصر. وأكّد المتحدث الرسمي لهيئة الزكاة والدخل في السعودية، حمود الحربي، أن هناك مرحلة انتقالية لتسهيل تطبيق نسبة الرفع بالضريبة، تخص العقود، والتي ستراهن دفعها وتفويضها على المصادر والوزراء والملاك في ragazzo هو تاريخ 11 مايو 2020، والتي تواصل فروع الضريبة بنسبة القديمة 5% حتى تاريخ 30 يونيو 2021، ثم ترفع نسبة الضريبة عليها من 5% إلى 15% في المئة.

KSA: The Decision to Raise the 15 percent Tax on Value Added Goes into Effect

The decision to raise the value-added tax rate in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to 15 percent came into effect on all goods and services subject to it in the Saudi commercial markets, after a royal order was issued to amend Article (2) of the value-added tax system, which included raising the tax rate from 5 to 15% on the eleventh of May.

The General Authority of Zakat and Income called on all taxpayers who are registered in the value-added tax to verify the readiness of their facilities, and learn about all transitional provisions related to raising the tax rate, by reviewing the guidelines for transitional provisions related to raising the value-added tax rate. The commission also urged citizens and residents to ascertain the elements of the tax invoice, which is "store name, date of purchase, tax number, and value-added tax box", calling for cooperation with and reporting on any violation facility in case these elements were not available.

The spokesperson for the Zakat and Income Tax Authority in Saudi Arabia, Hammoud Al-Harbi, confirmed that there is a transitional stage to facilitate the application of the rate of tax increase, for contracts, supplies and invoices issued before the date of May 11, 2020, which will continue to pay the tax in the old rate of 5% until the date of June 30, 2021, then its tax percentage will rise from 5% to 15%.

Source (Al-Arabiya.net website, Edited)
The Lebanese government raised the price of the partially subsidized bread package which weighs 900 grams to 2,000 pounds from its previous level before the October crisis (1,500 pounds).

The Lebanese pound, which is officially pegged at 1,500 pounds, has lost more than 80 percent of its value since October 2019 and is now being traded on the black market at about 9000 to the dollar after sharp falls in the past few days.

Lebanon is witnessing a severe financial crisis that caused the closure of companies and a jump in prices and unemployment, and this crisis is considered the worst threat to Lebanon’s stability since the civil war that rocked the country.

In a related context, the Lebanese army leadership decided to stop using meat in meals that are provided to the military during their duty due to an unprecedented rise in its price.

Source (Al-Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper, Edited)
The IMF Adjusts its Growth Forecast for the GCC States

The International Monetary Fund expected the economies of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to record levels of strong recovery, which are among the best globally in the coming year. In this context, Jihad Azour, Director of Fund Management in the Middle East and North Africa region, pointed out that "the Gulf Cooperation Council countries will record an average growth for the GCC countries in the current year from a contraction of 2.7% in the last reports of the Fund issued last April to a contraction, its average is expected to reach 7.6% in 2020 (7% for oil sectors), due to the decline in oil prices and the cessation of economic activities in the face of the pandemic.

Azour stressed that "the expected recovery will be in the form of a letter V, which is among the highest in the world," noting that "the actual rise that will be recorded by the average growth of the GCC countries in the next year is 10% against the contraction expected to be recorded in this year," considering that "the countries of the region has managed to deal with the health crisis effectively, and were able to reduce the number of infections, and contain the spread of the virus, which helps them to move forward on the path of growth in the next stage.

Source (Al-Khaleej Newspaper-UAE, Edited)