July 2026

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Ministerial Decision No. 96 of 2026

Top-Up Tax on Multinational Enterprises – New Commentary & Guidance Adopted

What we need to know - Article wise summary

1

Article 1 - New Guidance Adopted

The Commentary and Agreed Administrative Guidance set out in the Annexure to this Decision are formally adopted for the purposes of **Cabinet Decision No. 142 of 2024** on the Imposition of Top-Up Tax on Multinational Enterprises.

2

Article 2 - Effective Period

This Decision applies to **Fiscal Years starting on or after 1 January 2025**. MNEs must ensure their Pillar Two compliance posture reflects this updated guidance retroactively from that date.

3

Article 3 - Prior Decision Repealed

Ministerial Decision No. 88 of 2025 — the prior Commentary and Agreed Administrative Guidance decision — is hereby repealed and fully replaced by this Decision.

4

Article 4 - Immediate Effect

This Decision is effective **from the date of its issuance** (22 June 2026) upon publication. No transitional period applies — review your compliance frameworks immediately.

Three OECD Publications Now Incorporated

The Annexure to Ministerial Decision No. 96 of 2026 formally incorporates the following OECD publications as the basis for Commentary and Agreed Administrative Guidance in the UAE:

1

GloBE Consolidated Commentary (2026)

OECD (2026) - *Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – Consolidated Commentary to the Global Anti-Base Erosion Model Rules (2026)*. Inclusive Framework on BEPS, OECD/G20, OECD Publishing, Paris.

2

Administrative Guidance - Central Record (2026)

OECD (2026) - *Administrative Guidance on the Global Anti-Base Erosion Model Rules (Pillar Two), Central Record for Purposes of the Global Minimum Tax*. Inclusive Framework on BEPS, OECD.

3

GloBE Information Return (January 2025)

OECD (2025) - *GloBE Information Return (January 2025)*. OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, OECD, Paris. Sets out standardised reporting requirements for in-scope MNEs.

Immediate Steps for MNEs & Advisors

The Annexure to Ministerial Decision No. 96 of 2026 formally incorporates the following OECD publications as the basis for Commentary and Agreed Administrative Guidance in the UAE:

1. Audit and Update Internal Reference Materials

Replace all citations to the six old documents across internal policies, compliance manuals, tax technology tools, and working papers with references to the three updated publications. Any document that points to the standalone 2024/2025 administrative guidance or the old Central Record should be flagged, reviewed, and updated to align with the 2026 Consolidated Commentary and its integrated Annex B.

2. Re-Screen the Entity Map Against the Updated Central Record

Run a fresh qualified status check across all jurisdictions where the group has constituent entities, using the updated Annex B as at 1 May 2026. Pay particular attention to jurisdictions newly added to the record and confirm whether IIR, QDMTT, or SbS safe harbour rules now apply where they previously did not.

3. Validate Existing Filing Positions and Safe Harbour Claims

Review any GloBE filings, elections, or safe harbour positions taken in prior periods against the consolidated 2026 guidance to confirm they remain supportable. Where those positions relied on provisions from the now-superseded standalone documents, document the continuity to the equivalent 2026 text before audits or enquiries arise.

4. Brief the Finance and Tax Reporting Teams

Ensure that internal finance teams — particularly those responsible for deferred tax accounting, effective tax rate calculations, and GloBE Information Return preparation — are aware that the interpretive framework has been consolidated. The 2026 Commentary is now the single reference for how GloBE calculations and disclosures are to be approached, and team members should not continue working from the old documents.

5. Establish a Monitoring Protocol for Future Central Record Updates

Since Annex B of the 2026 Commentary is updated on a rolling basis rather than through discrete new publications, the group needs a standing process to track changes. Assign responsibility for monitoring OECD releases, set a review cadence aligned with fiscal year planning cycles, and ensure that newly qualifying jurisdictions are factored into top-up tax modelling before rather than after they become effective.

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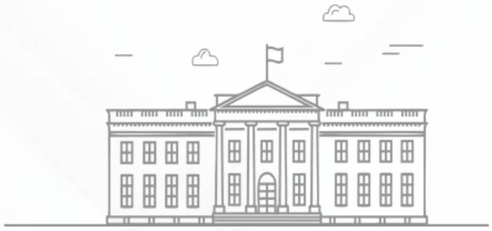

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