



# Algeria Tax Guide 2012

## FOREWORD

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A country's tax regime is always a key factor for any business considering moving into new markets. What is the corporate tax rate? Are there any incentives for overseas businesses? Are there double tax treaties in place? How will foreign source income be taxed?

Since 1994, the PKF network of independent member firms, administered by PKF International Limited, has produced the PKF Worldwide Tax Guide (WWTG) to provide international businesses with the answers to these key tax questions. This handy reference guide provides clients and professional practitioners with comprehensive tax and business information for 100 countries throughout the world.

As you will appreciate, the production of the WWTG is a huge team effort and I would like to thank all tax experts within PFK member firms who gave up their time to contribute the vital information on their country's taxes that forms the heart of this publication. I would also like thank Richard Jones, PKF (UK) LLP, Kevin Reilly, PKF Witt Mares, and Kaarji Vaughan, PKF Melbourne for co-ordinating and checking the entries from countries within their regions.

The WWTG continues to expand each year reflecting both the growth of the PKF network and the strength of the tax capability offered by member firms throughout the world.

I hope that the combination of the WWTG and assistance from your local PKF member firm will provide you with the advice you need to make the right decisions for your international business.

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## **PREFACE**

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The PKF Worldwide Tax Guide 2012 (WWTG) is an annual publication that provides an overview of the taxation and business regulation regimes of 100 of the world's most significant trading countries. In compiling this publication, member firms of the PKF network have based their summaries on information current as of 30 September 2011, while also noting imminent changes where necessary.

On a country-by-country basis, each summary addresses the major taxes applicable to business; how taxable income is determined; sundry other related taxation and business issues; and the country's personal tax regime. The final section of each country summary sets out the Double Tax Treaty and Non-Treaty rates of tax withholding relating to the payment of dividends, interest, royalties and other related payments.

While the WWTG should not be regarded as offering a complete explanation of the taxation issues in each country, we hope readers will use the publication as their first point of reference and then use the services of their local PKF member firm to provide specific information and advice.

In addition to the printed version of the WWTG, individual country taxation guides are available in PDF format which can be downloaded from the PKF website at [www.pkf.com](http://www.pkf.com)

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APRIL 2012

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## ABOUT PKF INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

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PKF International Limited (PKFI) administers the PKF network of legally independent member firms. There are around 300 member firms and correspondents in 440 locations in around 125 countries providing accounting and business advisory services. PKFI member firms employ around 2,200 partners and more than 21,400 staff.

PKFI is the 10th largest global accountancy network and its member firms have \$2.6 billion aggregate fee income (year end June 2011). The network is a member of the Forum of Firms, an organisation dedicated to consistent and high quality standards of financial reporting and auditing practices worldwide.

Services provided by member firms include:

- Assurance & Advisory
- Corporate Finance
- Financial Planning
- Forensic Accounting
- Hotel Consultancy
- Insolvency – Corporate & Personal
- IT Consultancy
- Management Consultancy
- Taxation

PKF member firms are organised into five geographical regions covering Africa; Latin America; Asia Pacific; Europe, the Middle East & India (EMEI); and North America & the Caribbean. Each region elects representatives to the board of PKF International Limited which administers the network. While the member firms remain separate and independent, international tax, corporate finance, professional standards, audit, hotel consultancy, insolvency and business development committees work together to improve quality standards, develop initiatives and share knowledge and best practice cross the network.

Please visit [www.pkf.com](http://www.pkf.com) for more information.

## **STRUCTURE OF COUNTRY DESCRIPTIONS**

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### **A. TAXES PAYABLE**

FEDERAL TAXES AND LEVIES  
COMPANY TAX  
CAPITAL GAINS TAX  
BRANCH PROFITS TAX  
SALES TAX/VALUE ADDED TAX  
FRINGE BENEFITS TAX  
LOCAL TAXES  
OTHER TAXES

### **B. DETERMINATION OF TAXABLE INCOME**

CAPITAL ALLOWANCES  
DEPRECIATION  
STOCK/INVENTORY  
CAPITAL GAINS AND LOSSES  
DIVIDENDS  
INTEREST DEDUCTIONS  
LOSSES  
FOREIGN SOURCED INCOME  
INCENTIVES

### **C. FOREIGN TAX RELIEF**

### **D. CORPORATE GROUPS**

### **E. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

### **F. WITHHOLDING TAX**

### **G. EXCHANGE CONTROL**

### **H. PERSONAL TAX**

### **I. TREATY AND NON-TREATY WITHHOLDING TAX RATES**

## INTERNATIONAL TIME ZONES

### AT 12 NOON, GREENWICH MEAN TIME, THE STANDARD TIME ELSEWHERE IS:

#### A

Algeria	. . . . . 1 pm
Angola	. . . . . 1 pm
Argentina	. . . . . 9 am
Australia -	
Melbourne	. . . . . 10 pm
Sydney	. . . . . 10 pm
Adelaide	. . . . . 9.30 pm
Perth	. . . . . 8 pm
Austria	. . . . . 1 pm

#### B

Bahamas	. . . . . 7 am
Bahrain	. . . . . 3 pm
Belgium	. . . . . 1 pm
Belize	. . . . . 6 am
Bermuda	. . . . . 8 am
Brazil	. . . . . 7 am
British Virgin Islands	. . . . . 8 am

#### C

Canada -	
Toronto	. . . . . 7 am
Winnipeg	. . . . . 6 am
Calgary	. . . . . 5 am
Vancouver	. . . . . 4 am
Cayman Islands	. . . . . 7 am
Chile	. . . . . 8 am
China - Beijing	. . . . . 10 pm
Colombia	. . . . . 7 am
Croatia	. . . . . 1 pm
Cyprus	. . . . . 2 pm
Czech Republic	. . . . . 1 pm

#### D

Denmark	. . . . . 1 pm
Dominican Republic	. . . . . 7 am

#### E

Ecuador	. . . . . 7 am
Egypt	. . . . . 2 pm
El Salvador	. . . . . 6 am
Estonia	. . . . . 2 pm

#### F

Fiji	. . . . . 12 midnight
Finland	. . . . . 2 pm
France	. . . . . 1 pm

#### G

Gambia (The)	. . . . . 12 noon
Georgia	. . . . . 3 pm
Germany	. . . . . 1 pm
Ghana	. . . . . 12 noon
Greece	. . . . . 2 pm
Grenada	. . . . . 8 am
Guatemala	. . . . . 6 am

Guernsey	. . . . . 12 noon
Guyana	. . . . . 7 am

#### H

Hong Kong	. . . . . 8 pm
Hungary	. . . . . 1 pm

#### I

India	. . . . . 5.30 pm
Indonesia	. . . . . 7 pm
Ireland	. . . . . 12 noon
Isle of Man	. . . . . 12 noon
Israel	. . . . . 2 pm
Italy	. . . . . 1 pm

#### J

Jamaica	. . . . . 7 am
Japan	. . . . . 9 pm
Jersey	. . . . . 12 noon
Jordan	. . . . . 2 pm

#### K

Kazakhstan	. . . . . 5 pm
Kenya	. . . . . 3 pm
Korea	. . . . . 9 pm
Kuwait	. . . . . 3 pm

#### L

Latvia	. . . . . 2 pm
Lebanon	. . . . . 2 pm
Liberia	. . . . . 12 noon
Luxembourg	. . . . . 1 pm

#### M

Malaysia	. . . . . 8 pm
Malta	. . . . . 1 pm
Mauritius	. . . . . 4 pm
Mexico	. . . . . 6 am
Morocco	. . . . . 12 noon

#### N

Namibia	. . . . . 2 pm
Netherlands (The)	. . . . . 1 pm
New Zealand	. . . . . 12 midnight
Nigeria	. . . . . 1 pm
Norway	. . . . . 1 pm

#### O

Oman	. . . . . 4 pm
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#### P

Panama	. . . . . 7 am
Papua New Guinea	. . . . . 10 pm
Peru	. . . . . 7 am
Philippines	. . . . . 8 pm
Poland	. . . . . 1 pm
Portugal	. . . . . 1 pm
Puerto Rico	. . . . . 8 am

**Q**

Qatar . . . . .8 am

**R**

Romania . . . . .2 pm

Russia -

    Moscow . . . . .3 pm

    St Petersburg . . . . .3 pm

**S**

Sierra Leone . . . . . 12 noon

Singapore . . . . .7 pm

Slovak Republic . . . . .1 pm

Slovenia . . . . .1 pm

South Africa . . . . .2 pm

Spain . . . . .1 pm

Sweden . . . . .1 pm

Switzerland . . . . .1 pm

**T**

Taiwan . . . . .8 pm

Thailand . . . . .8 pm

Tunisia . . . . . 12 noon

Turkey . . . . .2 pm

Turks and Caicos Islands . . . . .7 am

**U**

Uganda . . . . .3 pm

Ukraine . . . . .2 pm

United Arab Emirates . . . . .4 pm

United Kingdom . . . . .(GMT) 12 noon

United States of America -

    New York City . . . . .7 am

    Washington, D.C. . . . .7 am

    Chicago . . . . .6 am

    Houston . . . . .6 am

    Denver . . . . .5 am

    Los Angeles . . . . .4 am

    San Francisco . . . . .4 am

Uruguay . . . . .9 am

**V**

Venezuela . . . . .8 am

Vietnam . . . . .7 pm



**ALGERIA**Currency: Algerian Dinar  
(DZD)

Dial Code To: 213

Dial Code Out: 00

Member Firm:

City:  
AlgerName:  
Lassad MarouaniContact Information:  
213 21 28 11 75  
pkf.marwani@gnet.tn**A. TAXES PAYABLE****FEDERAL TAXES AND LEVIES  
COMPANY TAX**

All companies, except partnerships and joint ventures under the Commercial Code, are liable for corporate income tax on their profits arising from any business they carry on in Algeria. Companies are liable for corporate income tax at the rate of 25%. Reinvested earnings are subject to a reduced rate of 12.5% under some conditions.

Foreign companies not established in Algeria and foreign companies with no permanent establishment in Algeria are subject to the company tax or personal income tax based on their legal status and any tax must be withheld by the company or client institution established in Algeria.

**SALES TAX/VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)**

VAT is an indirect tax, in that the tax is collected from someone who does not bear the entire cost of the tax. All economic activities conducted in Algeria, including industrial and handicraft activities and liberal or commercial professions, are subject to VAT. Exports by definition are consumed abroad and usually are not subject to VAT. Any VAT charged under such circumstances is usually refundable. This avoids downward pressure on exports.

**TWO DIFFERENT VAT RATES APPLY IN ALGERIA :**

- A special reduced rate of 7% applies to products, commodities, wares, merchandise and operations related to printing, materials for agriculture, products of traditional crafts, plants and domestic animals ( aquaculture products), excluding fish and other edible products of sea and various other items
- 17% for operations related to services and goods not subject to another rate.

The Finance Act 2012 provides an exemption from VAT for banks and financial institutions which conduct acquisitions under leasing contracts. Under the chapter on the simplification and harmonisation of procedures, the project law offers the possibility of taxation of capital grants over the amortisation period rather than the current fixed duration of five years. In fact, this provision is to match the amortisation annuity with the portion of the grant of equipment to be attached to the product. This mechanism is "in accordance with the rule of accounting for grants under the new system of accounting and finance (SCF)." The Finance Act 2012 also provides an alignment of the event for the TAP on the VAT. TAP is a 2% professional tax based on turnover that goes to the territorial administration.

**FRINGE BENEFITS TAX**

As fringe benefits are considered to be a part of the salary paid to an employee, they are subject to social security and income taxes. Taxable fringe benefits are evaluated on the basis of their market value.

**OTHER TAXES AND LEVIES  
SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES**

The social security rate is 9% for employees and 26% for employers.

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING TAX**

Companies that employ more than 20 employees are subject to a tax of 0.5% of annual payroll for vocational training and an additional tax of 0.5% for learning. The government is not subject to these taxes. An additional 0.5% tax applies to promote employee accommodation.

**B. DETERMINATION OF TAXABLE INCOME**

Taxable income is determined on the basis of regular accounting results. When there are discrepancies between fiscal rules and accounting principles, adjustments are made to the accounting results. Profits are habitually considered to be gross revenue less production, salary and wages and rental expenses.

Generally, all expenses generated by the conduct of business are deductible if they are incurred in gaining or producing assessable income.

**DEPRECIATION**

Fixed assets owned by the company are normally written off over their normal useful life. For tax purposes, the straight-line method is normally adopted but other methods may be used in certain circumstances.

## STOCK/INVENTORY

For the determination of net income, inventories must be evaluated at their cost price. If, at the end of the year, the market or realisable value is lower, the company must set up reserves for depreciation of inventories.

## DIVIDENDS

Dividends to non-resident shareholders are subjected to a withholding tax at the source of 15%.

## LOSSES

Losses may be carried back three years and forward five.

## FOREIGN SOURCED INCOME

Revenues from a foreign source that are subject to tax payment in the country of origin are not subject to tax in Algeria.

Non-resident legal entities are taxable on their Algerian source income and on the gain from the disposal of buildings and the disposal of shares in real estate companies. The taxable capital gain is the difference between the sale price and the purchase cost. Relief from foreign taxes in Algeria depends on whether a double tax treaty has been concluded by Algeria.

## INCENTIVES

The Algerian tax legislation has established a number of incentives to investment in and creation of projects in certain sectors that are aimed at accelerating growth rate and job creation within activities related to fields determined by the specific legislation. Major incentives are available for investments made by enterprises located in areas that need development.

The Finance Act 2012 has removed the debit tax (3%) on the operations of reinsurance and the exemption from the TAP of the promoters of activities or projects eligible for support from the National Fund to support micro-loans.

Also, the Finance Bill 2012 proposes the re-assignment of the 10-year participatory social housing (LSP) payments and to authorise recipients a payment for the settlement of the sale price of state land to be given to areas of real estate held for the production of promoted assisted housing programs (LPA).

## C. FOREIGN TAX RELIEF

Relief from foreign Taxes in Algeria depends on whether the country in question has agreed a double tax treaty with Algeria.

Algeria has concluded 20 non-double imposition treaties.

## D. CORPORATE GROUPS

When an Algerian company holds 90% or more of the shares of one or more Algerian companies, the group may choose to be taxed as a single entity. Hence, the subsidiaries are treated as branches of the parent company and corporate tax is payable only by the parent company.

To benefit from the results integrating scheme, the parent company must make the commitment to list its shares on the stock market before the end of the year. Under this system, the profits and losses of all controlled branches, subsidiaries and partnerships in Algeria and abroad are consolidated.

## F. WITHHOLDING TAX

For certain categories of income, the payer of income has to withhold tax at source, file tax returns and submit the amount of tax withheld to the financial authorities.

## H. PERSONAL TAX

With respect to the international taxation agreements, personal income tax is a direct tax levied on the income of an individual. Taxpayers are classified into residents and non-residents.

Income subject to tax is called assessable income and is divided into seven categories:

1. Industrial profits, commerce and craft
2. Professional non-profit business
3. Income from agriculture
4. Income from rental properties (built and unbuilt)
5. Income from movable capital
6. Wages, salaries, pensions and life annuities
7. Gains from transfer for value of buildings or undeveloped and related rights.

For each category of income, certain deductions and allowances are allowed in the calculation of the taxable income. Taxpayer shall keep the books in compliance with the accounting legislation in order to benefit from these deductions. In general, a person liable to Personal Income Tax has to compute his tax liability, file tax return and pay tax, if any, accordingly on a calendar year basis.

Married couples file tax returns as separate individuals. Income of children is reported on the tax return of the head of family. A spouse can report income of the children on his/her tax return in certain circumstances.

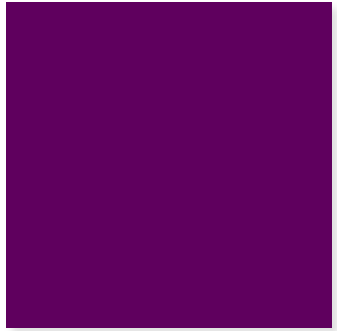
## INCOME TAX RATES

Through 2012	Rate (%)
0 to 60,000 DZD	0%
60,000,001 to 180,000 DZD	10%
180,000,001 to 360,000 DZD	20%
360,000,001 to 1,080,000 DZD	30%
1,080,000,001 to 3,240,000 DZD	35%
Over 3,240,000 DZD	40%

From 2011, a flat 25% rate applies to professionals and small business whose turnover is between 5 and 10 million DZD.

### I. TREATY AND NON-TREATY WITHHOLDING TAX RATES

- 18%: Fees, royalties and non-trading activities compensation paid to non-resident
- 18%: Capital gains paid to non-resident
- 18%: Interests on loans paid to banks non established in Tunisia
- When a treaty exists, apply the treaty rate if less than 18%



\$100

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