



MOA AND AOA

YOUR GUIDE TO STARTING A BUSINESS IN DUBAI

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Embarking on the journey to start your business in the UAE but feeling overwhelmed by the intricacies of MOA and AOA?

Don't worry, we've got you covered. Effective from 1 January 2024, the submission of a signed Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association (MOA/AOA) has become a mandatory step in the IFZA License Application process.

Whether you're a seasoned entrepreneur or a budding visionary, this guide will help you navigate the revised requirements for company setup in Dubai, providing clarity on the importance of MOA/AOA in the IFZA License Application process.

Memorandum of Association (MOA)

A MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION (MOA) IS A FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENT THAT ACTS AS THE CONSTITUTION OF YOUR COMPANY.

Think of it as the blueprint outlining your company's structure. It lays down the scope of the company's activities, and objectives for which it is formed, and determines the scope of its authority and how it relates to the outside world.



MOA creation is one of the initial steps toward company registration in the UAE. During company formation, members must subscribe to the MOA. Subscribing means to put a mark or signature on the document as attestation or approval of its contents.

What Does an MOA Include?

EVERY COMPANY MOA SHOULD INCLUDE:

01

NAME CLAUSE

Clearly specify the name of your company.

02

REGISTERED OFFICE CLAUSE

Define the registered office address of your company.

03

OBJECT CLAUSE

Clearly state the objectives for which the company is formed.

04

LIABILITY CLAUSE

Determine the extent of liability of the company's members.

05

CAPITAL CLAUSE

Outline the company's share capital structure.

Articles of Association (AOA)



The Articles of Association contain rules and regulations governing the conduct of your company's business and managing internal affairs.

It is subordinate to the MOA of a company and plays a crucial role in defining internal rights, workings, management, and duties.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE AOA SHOULD BE IN SYNC WITH THE MOA AS WELL AS THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013.

What Does an AOA Include?

01

Details regarding share capital.

02

Director's qualifications, appointment, powers, remuneration, duties, etc.

03

Rules regarding company dividends and reserves.

04

Details regarding company accounts and audit.

05

Provisions relating to the company's borrowing powers.

06

Rules governing the conduct of meetings.

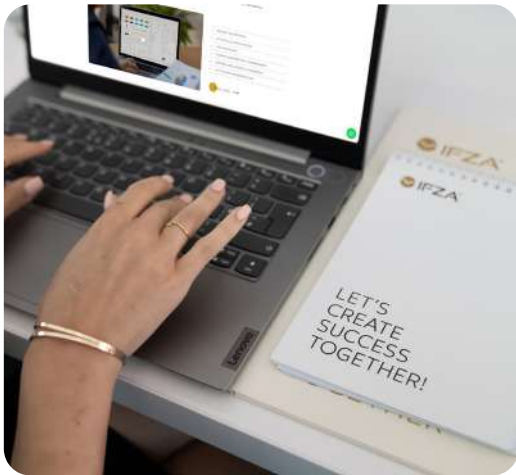
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Process of winding up the company.

What is the Difference Between MOA & AOA?

Simply put, the MOA contains essential details about the company and AOA consists of rules and regulations designed by the business. The MOA serves as the company's constitution, whereas the AOA acts as by-laws for internal functioning.





Convenient Digital Process

The MOA/AOA process is conveniently digital, seamlessly integrated into the license approval and release process, ensuring efficiency and ease for businesses venturing into the vibrant landscape of Dubai.

Impact on Existing IFZA-Registered Companies

While mandatory for new applications and renewals, existing IFZA-registered companies are strongly encouraged to adopt the new process for future transactions. A new process will be introduced shortly for existing companies to update their MOA/AOA. All license applications submitted up to 31 December 2023 will continue to follow the current process.

THIS MEANS THAT YOUR IFZA-REGISTERED CLIENTS WILL NOW HAVE STANDARDIZED MOA AND AOA THAT ARE:

- Electronically signed by the shareholders
- Officially registered.
- Compliant with the New Companies Regulations.
- Verifiable through a unique QR code, which will help facilitate transactions such as corporate bank account application.



Get In Touch

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR CLARIFICATION, CONTACT YOUR DEDICATED IFZA CLIENT RELATIONS OFFICER (CRO) OR EMAIL PARTNER@IFZA.COM.



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