

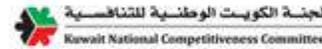


**Fifth National Report on Non-Exhaustive Reforms in
Doing Business in the State of Kuwait for DB2019
June 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018**



Submitted to:
Doing Business Unit, the World Bank Group
May 31, 2018

THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR STREAMLINING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT & ENHANCING COMPETITIVENESS IN KUWAIT



List of Acronyms

KDIPA.....	Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority
IPA.....	Investment Promotion Agency
PCK.....	Permanent Committee for Streamlining the Business Environment & Enhancing Competitiveness in Kuwait
MEW.....	Ministry of Electricity and Water
MOJ.....	Ministry of Justice
MOCI.....	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
KBC.....	Kuwait Business Centre @MOCI
OSS.....	One Stop Shop
PACI.....	The Public Authority for Civil Information
KCCI.....	Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry
KES.....	Kuwait Economic Society
KNCC.....	Kuwait National Competitiveness Committee
CMA.....	Capital Markets Authority
MOF.....	Ministry of Finance
DB.....	Doing Business
WBG.....	World Bank Group
G2G.....	Government-to-Government
PAM.....	Public Authority of Manpower
KBC.....	Kuwait Business Center
KPI.....	Key Performance Indicator
PAI.....	Public Authority of Industry
CBK.....	Central Bank of Kuwait
IT.....	Information Technology
CINET.....	Credit Information Network
KU.....	Kuwait University
KD.....	Kuwaiti Dinar
AC.....	Air Conditioning

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. **Fifth National Report:** This report is prepared by Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA), on behalf of the *Permanent Committee for Streamlining Business Environment & Enhancing Competitiveness in the State of Kuwait (PCK)*. It reflects the latest reforms implemented in cooperation with different government agencies throughout the State of Kuwait during the period from June 1st, 2017, till May 31st, 2018 intended to improve the overall business environment. KDIPA's coordinating efforts to document and communicate reforms for the upcoming DB2019 report is just a milestone in a continuous national effort to foster a more sustainable economy in view of "Kuwait vision 2035" which aims to transform Kuwait into a world class financial & commercial center, with the private sector leading economic activities.
2. **Tahseen Program & Portal:** KDIPA, during the report period and with full coordination with PCK members, and the technical support with the World Bank Group (WBG) completed the remaining three components (Getting credit, enforcing contracts, protecting minority investors) set forth within the "National Agenda for Streamlining Business Environment in the State of Kuwait" - *Tahseen Program* - addressing short to medium term measures fully adopted by each competent governmental entity to improve a total of 9 out of the 10 components (Topics) that comprise the Ease of Doing Business Index. The *Tahseen Portal* was updated as well upon receiving final approval of competent government entity of reform measures and their timeframe. The competent Government entities were the ones delegated to update their progress through *Tahseen Portal*, regarding the latest measures and amendments carried out by their authority, reflecting *Tahseen Program* Doing Business 2018 reforms agenda. The achievement level and progress recorded under the Dashboard of Tahseen portal reach as on May 31, 2018 the following:



تقديم الإصلاحات خارج نطاق الأجنحة



#	Reform Component in Tahseen Program (indicator based reform)	Reform Progress (%)
1	Starting a Business	87%
2	Dealing with Construction permits	93%
3	Getting Electricity	66%
4	Registering Property	83%
5	Getting Credit	0
6	Protecting Minority Investors	66%
7	Trading Across Borders	30%
8	Enforcing Contracts	100%
9	Resolving Insolvency	0
Overall Average Progress		58%



3. **Istidama**: KDIPA, on behalf of PCK, regularly reported as requested on September 20th, 2017, January 8th, 2018 and on March 11th, 2018 to the National Program for Economic & Fiscal Sustainability (*Istidama*) launched under MoF, as part of the second medium term development plan (2015/2016-2019/2020), and with support of Council of Ministers(CoM), through the following themes:

Pillar One: Improve Government Services to Businesses:

- Theme 1.1 Streamline Processes for business registration and operations.
- Theme 1.3 Streamline goods and passenger flow across borders.

Pillar Two: Boost Private Sector Development

- Theme 2.1 Enhance size and quality of Foreign Direct Investment

4. **Other laws & decisions**: During the period of the report several relevant laws and decisions were issued in the Official Gazette., of which 22 were listed and compiled in the table in [Appendix – 1](#) which reflects a consistent movement towards passing new economic laws or amending old ones to accommodate with best practices and enhance transparency in the business environment.

II. ADVOCACY ROLE BY KDIPA ON BEHALF OF PCK

5. **Membership**: The PCK membership extended further to include now a total of 14 members from 11 government entities including KDIPA, adding members from the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI), representing the private sector, and both the Kuwait National Competitiveness Committee (KNCC), and the Kuwait Economic Society (KES) representing the civil society.

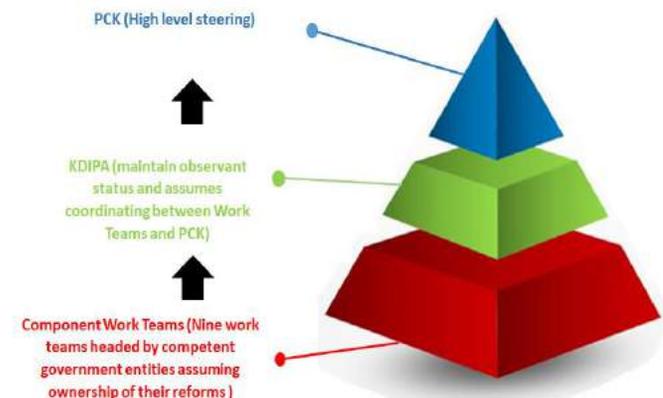
6. **Name:** The name of PCK changed to add “enhancing competitiveness” to it thus becoming *the Permanent Committee for Streamlining Business Environment & Enhancing Competiveness in the State of Kuwait* (PCK). This resonates with KDIPA’s advocacy role, as the country’s dedicated IPA, whereby its coordinating efforts to support a favorable business environment will duly contribute to foster Kuwait’s competitiveness project that KDIPA is carrying on with Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) under the country’s second medium term development plan (2015/2016-2019/2020).

7. **Press conference:** On November 6th, 2018, the Minister of MOCI, head of WBG Kuwait office and Mr. Merza Hassan Executive Director and Dean of the Board of Executive Directors at WBG, as well as PCK head and members held a celebration and a press conference in KBC to acknowledge the improvement witnessed in Kuwait position in starting a business.



8. **PCK Meetings:** The PCK held a meeting on November 7th, 2017 at KDIPA’s headquarters to discuss Kuwait position in DB 2018 and to review the proposed “National Agenda for Streamlining Business Environment in Kuwait”, as well as discussing the latest procedures and what needs to be taken to enhance the ranking of Kuwait in the future.

9. **Work Teams:** The PCK approved KDIPA’s proposal to formulate core work teams by competent government entities for each of the nine components (out of ten) comprising the Ease of Doing Business Index that are considered under Tahseen Program(except for paying taxes). The Work Teams were addressed on December 4th, 2017, to do that designating them with the task of engaging other relevant government entities and private sector, to take charge of



implementing reforms under *Tahseen* Program, filling these reforms in *Tahseen* Portal, and filling the WBG reform templates for the upcoming DB2019. KDIPA assumed “observer status” within these Work Teams, and maintains an oversight on all submissions as part of the follow up & monitoring to gauge progress in implementing *Tahseen* Program with dates specified.

10. **Open Dialogue:** The Fourth Public-Private Open Dialogue (PPOD) on Doing Business in Kuwait, was held on



January 15th, 2018 attended by MOCI Minister, head and members of (PCK), the contributors from local legal and consulting firms and companies who filled the questionnaires for Kuwait in DB2018, the Work Teams, along with representatives of the WBG Kuwait office, and the Technical Support Office for *Istidama* Program under the MoF. head ad members of PCK and the private sector. The open dialogue availed a venue, as usual, to highlight

Kuwait position in the most recent DB report (DB2018), and to allow the private sector, mainly contributors in the DB2018 report, to directly engage with relevant government entities by sharing their remarks and feedback regarding doing business latest procedures carried out by the competent government entities. In this PPOD, and for the first time, some of the Work Teams recently formulated presented measures taken within their component under the *Tahseen* Program and beyond it to reiterate serious resolve on improving doing business in Kuwait.

11. **Meeting H.H. the Emir:** On January 16th, 2018, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah with the presence of H.H. the Crown Prince, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace the Chairman and members of the (PCK), as well as the Minister of MOCI on the occasion of



the positive results recorded in Kuwait's position in DB2018, and requested to build on this positive emerging trend based on a national consensus on adopting reform as core policy at all levels in Kuwait and acknowledging efforts exerted by various stakeholders asking to exert more to attain aspired improvements.

12. **Meeting the Prime Minister:** At the same day, Kuwait Prime Minister, Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also received the Chairman and members of the (PCK), as well as the Minister of MOCI on this occasion.



13. **Field Visits:** KDIPA carried out field visits during the period the February 4th – 14th, 2018 to the Stakeholders from the private sector that fill the Survey of the World Bank regarding Doing Business Report, the site visits were held from The Site visits were mainly about taking feedbacks from the Private Sector about the latest reforms being implied by the government as well as their feedback as what needs to be implied in the Government sector to improve the business environment in Kuwait.

14. **Obstacles Report:** upon completing the field visits, KDIPA prepared “The Fourth Obstacles & Solutions Report” that summarized the stocktaking of the main obstacles received during these field visits. The report classified the obstacles into procedural, legal and administrative barriers, as well as listed proposed solutions, to bring to the attention of PCK to follow through in coordination with other competent government entities.



15. **Technical Support:** The WBG technical support started on June 29th, 2018 to complete the remaining three components relating to Ease of Doing Business Index within the Tahseen Program. This included conducting several meetings during the period October 2nd – 5th, 2017 for the enforcing contract component with various stakeholders that included Kuwait Institute for Judicial & Legal Studies, Law Courts Palace, Systems

Development Department - Ministry of Justice, and Kuwait Commercial Arbitration Center – Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as Kuwait Society of Lawyer. Other visits took place during the period November 12th -16th, 2017 covering the two other components, protecting minority investors and getting credit, meeting with Kuwait Auditors & Accountants Society, Bursa Kuwait, Capital Market Authority (CMA), and MOCI. Consequent reports were finalized with critical remarks, about the procedures undertaken in these entities, and the latest updates were addressed to produce the final National Reform Agenda (*Tahseen* Program) as finally approved by relevant stakeholders. The technical support contract with the WBG was renewed for Phase II on January 6, 2018 to conduct Phase II to support the implementation of The National Agenda for Streamlining Business Environment in Kuwait, develop an updated action plan which should include a description of Kuwait’s results based on published DB 2019 report, as well as building the capacity of KDIPA and the Working Groups.

16. **Washington D. C. Visit:** A second meeting was conducted in Washington, DC with WBG DB Team during the period April 11th – 15th, 2018 2018. The meeting was attended by the head and members of the PCK and their Work team, along with KDIPA team, a total of 33 participants, to discuss Kuwait's position in the DB2018 Report and to present to the WBG DB team the recent achievements of the Work Teams for the first time and reform measures taken under *Tahseen* Program and beyond, as well as showing live the online services and presenting the real picture.



17. **Meeting Report:** An extensive and detailed report was prepared covering outcome and deliberations of the Washington D.C. meeting report as well as listing requirements that need to be addressed as a priority and the next steps for the way forward in order to consolidate ongoing coordination reform efforts with PCK components Work teams.



تقرير اجتماع تحسين بيئة الاعمال في دولة الكويت
واشنطن دي سي، 11-13 ابريل 2018

تجدة اللجنة التحسين بيئة الاعمال وتعزيز التنافسية في دولة الكويت
مبادرة تطوير الاستثمار الجديد

15 مايو 2018

مكون بدء الاعمال (النشاط التجاري)

عرض علم تقرير 2018

يعتبر تأسيس الشركات صعبة ومستوحاة الحجم ك أهمية خاصة في الاقتصاد الوطني لدعوة النمو وخلق الوظائف ونهضة رواد الاعمال لاجل تحقيق عمليه ضمن القطاع الرسمي للاقتصاد فيستهدفون من دعم الهيئة التشريعية والقانونية التامة للاعمال ويضمون طرفيه وعرضون اريادهم وفرصهم للنمو والحصول على تمويل.

الحدوة المتكيفة: تخصص بتأسيس شركة محطية 100% 1م بملايينها من 10-50 لشخصية وتلطف في المدينة الرئيسية للدولة ورأس مائها 10 اضعاف معدل دخل الفرد بالدولة (بحد أقصى 300,000 دولار امريكي) وتعمل في الأنشطة الصناعية او التجارية ولا تحتفظ بنية حوزة.

يقدم عدد الاجراءات للزامه المدة الزمنية التي يستغرقها (الأيام، الثلثة) (نسبة من معدل دخل الفرد، والحد الأدنى لرأس المال (نسبة من معدل دخل الفرد) ونسبة ملاؤن ان متساوية (25% أقل منها).

وضع دولة الكويت في تقرير 2018

حصلت دولة الكويت على الترتيب 149 من أصل 190 دولة تخطت في تقرير 2018، وسجلت في مقاييس العولم من الأداء الأفضل 77.21 مرتفعة من 66.77 في تقرير 2017 وأعلى من المعدل العالمي (56.72).



عدد الإجراءات: 9- عدد الأيام: 88- الكلفة: 1.7% - الحد الأدنى لرأس المال: 8.5%.

الأزمة من المشاركين

كيف تعالج كلفة الحد الأدنى لرأس المال؟
لم لا يغير متعلق أن وجود الحد الأدنى لرأس المال الخبير الإقتراض الكفالة على مدى الجدية في تأسيس الشركات؟
لماذا يفسد اجراء وضف يوم تكون صعب الترتبة ابراء مع الحد أن هذا لا يخلق في الكويت والقالة الاعصيات بعد الاعمال التي تشكلها المرأة وكثيرا النوع الاجتماعي غير صحتها وخيريتها ولا يوجد من يستطيع ان يسع زوجة في تأسيس أعمالها؟ كما أن هناك 5 قوانين تكو العنفة التجارية في قانون التجارة وقانون الشركات والقانون الترفيهي، كما ان دستور دولة الكويت في المادة 29 يسلو بين الاثنان وهو أخطر سلطة يجب جميع القوانين.
تخون: شهدت دولة تجارة وصناعة الكويت حضورا مزمع المرأة منذ عام 1959 وإقتل الاستقلال، أذ كتمت المرأة حينها ومماثلت تأسس أعمالها والتحق في مجلس القرلة وبإقتل الاعصيات ان نسبة الرخص التجارية تتساءر مرتفعة جدا واستطيع ذلك تلك بالأرقام دستور دولة الكويت 1962 جاء ليؤكد على المساواة بين الجنسين وعم القرلة وتوافق كذا القرلة الاعصية بالعضلات التي تم ترميز ابن تأسيس الشركات.

إنتاج الإصلاحات التي ذكرت

يتمت وزارة التجارة والصناعة انه من خلال تفعيل العمل في مركز الكويت للاعمال (اوبن اوبن) والربط الالكتروني مع الجهات المعنية والتعاون المتواصل لتطبيق الأثر الإيجابي من الإصلاحات التي تمت الأخص من مرحلة التأسيس الى 1-2 يوم ومرحلة الترخيص الى 3-5 يوم فقط ولحلينا لم التمس.
الإجراء رقم 1 حسب تقرير 2018 كدولة الكويت خصص بالمرأة يجب أن يقدر كانه الجهود قبل بين امره او يوظف تلقائيا في تأسيس الشركات وكذا الخطوات التشغيلية للمرأة مرهوية ويجب ان يكون متعلقا من تقرير البنك الدولي. ولا يوجد في المحور الموضوعه عقب تأسيس كلفة منه مائة في

III. DOING BUSINESS REFORMS UPDATES

18. **Contributors:** KDIPA updated the available lists of potential private sector users of various government services, and sent them to the DB team to be considered as new contributors to broaden the engagement of

the private sector in the components/topics relevant questionnaires to convey accurately recent reform developments.

19.DB2019 Reform Templates: KDIPA submitted the WBG DB Team for the DB2019 templates in coordination with the PCK components Work Teams headed by the competent government entities according to their field of expertise to fill them accordingly and to convey developments, with supported documents, laws, decisions, e-links, that took place on the ground for the DB2019 reporting period (June 2017-May 2018). Then KDIPA dispatched the filled templates for 7 components of Ease of Doing Business by email to DB Team on April 19, 2018 and on April 30, 2018. A comprehensive list is attached in **Appendix – 2**.

Appendix - 1

Stock of Relevant Legislations from June 4th, 2017 – April 14th, 2018

#	Legislation Name	Legislation No.	Issuance Date	Enforcement Date	Concerned Gov.	Official Gazette Kuwait Al Youm No.	Official Gazette Kuwait Al Youm Date
1	قرار وزاري بشأن تنظيم شروط وإجراءات استدعاء زيادة وتخفيض رأس مال الشركات المساهمة Ministerial Decision regarding increasing or decreasing shareholding companies capital	155/2018	3/8/2018	3/18/2018	MOCI	1384	3/18/2018
2	تعديل القرار الوزاري رقم (155) لسنة 2018 بشأن تنظيم شروط وإجراءات استدعاء زيادة وتخفيض رأس مال الشركات المساهمة Amending MD 155/2018	276/2018	4/11/2018	4/15/2018	MOCI	1388	4/15/2018

3	قانون في شأن حظر تعارض المصالح Law forbidding conflict of interest	13/2018	4/10/2018	4/15/2018	H.H. the Emir	1388	4/15/2018
4	قرار وزاري بشأن إصدار اللائحة التنفيذية لقانون الشركات رقم 2016/1 MD issuing Executive Regulations of Companies Law 1/2016	287/2016	7/12/2016	7/17/2016	MOCI	1297	7/17/2016
5	تعديل القرار الوزاري (287) لسنة 2016 بشأن إصدار اللائحة التنفيذية لقانون الشركات رقم 2016/1 Amending MD 287/2016	258/2018	4/10/2018	4/15/2018	MOCI	1388	4/15/2018
6	قرار مجلس وزراء بإنشاء لجنة التظلمات من قرارات مجلس إدارة الجهاز المركزي للمناقصات العامة CoM Decision to establish a grievances committee at the central agency for public tenders	187/2018	1/29/2018	1/29/2018	CoM	1379	2/11/2018
7	قانون بشأن بلدية الكويت Law regarding Kuwait Municipality	33/2016	7/4/2016	7/12/2016	H.H. the Emir	1296	7/12/2016
8	تعديل بعض أحكام القانون رقم (33) لسنة 2016 بشأن بلدية الكويت Amending Law 33/2016	1/2018	1/30/2018	2/4/2018	H.H. the Emir	1378	2/4/2018
9	قرار وزاري بشأن تحديث قائمة مكاتب التدقيق المعتمدة لدى الإدارة الضريبية MD updating list of accredited audit firms at the Tax Department	1/2018	1/4/2018	1/4/2018	MoF	1375	1/14/2018
10	قرار وزاري بشأن سريان القرار الوزاري رقم (14) لسنة 2017 بتطبيق الحد الأدنى لأجور العاملين في القطاع الأهلي والنفطي MD applying minimum wage for workers in the private sector and in the oil sector	21/2017	10/22/2017	11/12/2017	Minister of Social Affairs & Labor	1366	11/12/2017

11	تعديل بعض أحكام القرار الوزاري رقم (287) لسنة 2016 بإصدار اللائحة التنفيذية للقانون رقم (1) لسنة 2016 بشأن قانون الشركات - إضافة مادة 122 مكرر الاكتفاء بمجرد أخطار وزارة التجارة بجدول الأعمال و ميعاد ومكان الاجتماع لانعقاد الجمعية العامة العادية وغير العادية قبل انعقاده بسبعة أيام على الأقل دون الالتزام بتقديم البيانات المالية أو أية اشتراطات أخرى) Amending MD 287/2016 adding Article 122-repeated on calls of general assembly meetings	598/2017	10/17/2017	10/17/2017	MOCI	1363	10/22/2017
12	قرار وزاري بتعديل بعض أحكام لائحة المناقصات MD amending provisions in executive regulations of tenders law	41/2017	10/10/2017	10/10/2017	Public Authority for Housing Welfare	1363	10/22/2017
13	قرار بشأن ضوابط وشروط عمل أصحاب المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة MD regulating conditions for SMEs	715/2017	6/22/2017	7/2/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1347	7/2/2017
14	تعديل المادة الأولى من القرار الإداري رقم (715) لسنة 2017 بشأن ضوابط وشروط عمل أصحاب المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة Amending MD 715/2017 regarding conditions for SMEs	1123/2017	10/3/2017	10/3/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1361	10/8/2017
15	قرار مدير عام بإصدار نظام قيد الشركات والمكاتب الاستشارية لتقديم الطلبات بالنيابة عن المستثمرين DG Decision regulating qualifications of consulting firms to submit applications on behalf of investors	246/2017	8/3/2017	8/3/2017	KDIPA	1353	8/13/2017
16	قرار إداري في شأن ضوابط وشروط استخراج شهادة براءة الذمة لأصحاب المشروعات الصغيرة Administrative Decision regulating issuance of deed of release for SMEs	714/2017	7/5/2017	7/5/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1348	7/9/2017

17	قرار إداري في شأن ضوابط تحويل العمالة المسجلة لدى أصحاب المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة Administrative Decision regarding transfer of workers registered at SMEs	712/2017	6/22/2017	6/22/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1347	7/2/2017
18	قرار إداري في شأن ضوابط تقدير للاحتياج لعمالة المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة Administrative Decision regarding estimate of labor needs for SMEs	713/2017	6/22/2017	6/22/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1347	7/2/2017
19	قرار بشأن إضافة ضوابط نشاط أمين الحفظ Decision to add conditions for regulating the custodian function	95/2017	6/22/2017	6/22/2017	CMA	1347	7/2/2017
20	قرار إداري في شأن إصدار تصاريح العمل Administrative Decision regarding issuance of work permits	647/2017	6/7/2017	6/7/2017	Public Authority for Manpower	1344	6/11/2017
21	قرار وزاري بشأن تنظيم أعمال البناء MD regarding regulation of construction works	206/2009	4/30/2009	10/24/2010	State Minister for Municipal Affairs	998	10/24/2010
22	تعديل بعض أحكام القرار الوزاري رقم 206/2009 بشأن تنظيم أعمال البناء والجداول الملحقة به Amending some provisions of MD regarding regulation of construction works and annexed tables	336/2017	6/6/2017	6/6/2017	State Minister for Municipal Affairs	1344	6/11/2017

List of reforms reported for Kuwait in DB2019

Starting a Business

1. Ministerial Decision 258/2018 amending some articles in ministerial decision 287/2016 amended by ministerial decision 496/2017 for the issuance of executive regulations for law 1/2016 amending the companies law amended by law 15/2017 to help reduce the cost of establishing a limited liability company and eliminating procedures
2. Ministerial Decision 220/2017 amending ministerial decision 411/2013 (reference article 1) regarding the fees for establishment and issuance of commercial licenses reducing the cost of establishing a limited liability company
3. To bring awareness to the private sector and agents who register commercial business activities through the launch of an integrated and continuous advertising campaign that shows all services performed through the one-stop shop (KBC)
4. Law #15 of 2017 amending Law #1 of 2016 (Article 97 cancelling depositing minimum capital thus cancelling the need for bank certificate)
5. To reduce the number of days with PACI from 15 days as in DB 2018 and eliminate procedure 9 in DB 2018 to immediate online civil number through the real time e-link established through the KBC and PACI, fully activating the e-link and using a unified screen system
6. To reduce the number of procedures and number of days needed to establish a company and issue a commercial license

Dealing with Construction Permits

1. Municipality Law 33/2016 (Article 32, Item 8, Point C) that allows private sector to submit building-related permits and clearances applications online (without having to submit in hard-copy)
2. Administrative Circular 10/2018 that reduces administrative procedures and improves service delivery by disseminating consistent information internally
3. Circular No. 12/2018 to improve work environment and overcome any problems from utilizing e-transactions in order to speed up issuing construction permits in a seamless process
4. Official law, Provisions and requirements of building permits to speed the process and reduce procedures for issuing construction permits

5. Administrative Decision 13/2018 that creates a continuous mechanism amongst 8 competent government entities in addition to Kuwait Municipality to reduce time and measures in issuing construction permits and promote a link between all entities
6. Building list 206/2009 that improves transparency for construction permit applicants which will make the process easier, faster and consistent
7. Ministerial Decision No. (677) for the year 2017
 - The international codes of building systems were introduced
 - Taking into account the international study of the World Bank and the Amiri Diwan
 - Taking into account the views of civil aviation regarding permitted altitudes
8. Administrative Decision No. (161/2009)
 - The establishment of an electronic program where all contractors are registered in the municipality
 - The avoidance of professional errors and their legal consequences between the contractor/owner & the contractor/engineering office and also the main contractor and subcontractor
 - The new regulations require obtaining a safety license prior to construction and demolition as well as the planning of any implementation of the demolition.
9. Administrative Decision 105/2017 where a working group consisting of the heads of the municipal sector has been formed with members of the World Bank, consultancy firms and the Federation of Engineering Offices.

Getting Electricity

1. Internal Circular 6/2017 that holds engineering firms accountable for accuracy of information and floorplans presented to the ministry online to increase precision and eliminate errors.
2. Letter from Kuwait Municipality addressed to MEW regarding e-links to facilitate electricity connection procedures dated 17 April 2018. Under the fast track, the online e-link between MEW and Kuwait Municipality reduced the 22 calendar days to 6 days. Procedure #5 cancelled as no design drawing is required, thus cutting 21 more days, reducing the number of procedures and number of days for getting electricity, procedures were reduced from 7 to 4 procedures, and days from 85 to 17 days on average based on DB 2018. procedure 6: the cost mentioned is not KD 6189.95 but KD 3186, because the insurance paid is refunded to the applicant (client)
3. Fast completion, and reducing the number of procedures

Registering Property

1. Internal Circular 175/2017: The following shall be excluded from the following automated transactions:
 - Transactions executed pursuant to judicial decisions
 - Transactions for owned apartments
 - Organizational cutoff transactions and division projects
2. Circular 166/2015 to ease the looking up information
3. Circular 19/2016, dated January 26, 2016 that allows for completion, training and shortening of the documentary cycle where the transaction is completed by one employee (the comprehensive employee)
4. Ease of information and indicators of the status of the real estate sector in Kuwait, daily, weekly, monthly and upon request for property transactions and average selling prices for the governorates in Kuwait
5. Providing information and clarifying the documents required for registration procedures of real estate property and easy access to all forms without having to come to the ministry
6. Ease of access and confirmation of the state of the property (foreclosure)
7. Save time for people by enhancing existing for IT-links infrastructure and validate the soundness of the systems between competent authorities for pre-clearance and post-clearance certificates
8. Administrative Circular 13 2017 that allows the submission of the application through the website reduces the time and reduces the burden on the people
9. Administrative Circular 26/2016 that allows ease of transmission between departments and ministries
10. Ministerial Decision 121/2017 that eases the burden on consumers
11. Disclosure and dissemination of information on the internet in accordance with the principle of transparency and making registering property easier.

List of Laws:

1. Improved responsiveness of Capital Markets Authority to needs and timeliness of business community. The CMA Executive Bylaws sets out time periods for implementation of some procedures such as registration, listing, and mergers and acquisitions. The Capital Markets Authority is also moving to a paperless system and introducing electronic disclosures through the XBRL platform which will reduce time and procedures.
2. Offer specialization and continued training for judges and court officials. The Capital Markets Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies designed to share experience in the field of training and qualification.
3. Establish a clear separation of roles and functions of market supervision, clearing and trading in securities. The Capital Markets Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Bank of Kuwait which delineates each entity's authority. Other ongoing projects include the privatization of Boursa Kuwait and the implementation of the post-trade model.
4. Ensure internal accountability for proper conduct of general meetings of shareholders. On 8 March 2018, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued Ministerial Decree No. 156 of 2018 in regards to the acceptance of minutes of general assembly meetings of shareholding companies and attendance of Ministry of Commerce and Industry representatives. The requirements to accept the minutes of general assembly meeting are as follows:
 - a. Minutes of meeting are to be signed by the Chairman or the person who heads the meeting.
 - b. A certificate should be issued by the Kuwait Clearing Company in regards to the total shares of the company and number of shares that have the right to vote and the number of shares and percentage which attended the meeting.
 - c. Acknowledgement to be signed by the Chairman or person who heads the meeting acknowledging the correctness of the procedures and the facts as reflected in the minutes.

Accountability for proper conduct of general meetings of shareholders has been handled by Ministerial Decree No. 156 of 2018.

5. Chapter Seven "Acquisitions and Protection of Minority Rights" of the Law contains five articles regulating acquisitions, the content of which attempts to own more than 30% of the shares of a listed company and control any issues that may arise. The legislator set out a special chapter defining the general framework of this process and means of preserving the rights of the minority. Articles (71) to (75)

6. The legislation seeks to give the rest of the shareholders the opportunity to choose between staying in the company under the new management, withdrawing from them and selling their shares," said the explanatory note to the law. Except by obliging the acquire to make an offer to buy the rest of the shareholders' shares in the company at a certain price. Article 74
7. To enable stakeholders to exercise their right to resort to one of the Commission's organs, represented by the complaints and grievances committee of a special nature in terms of composition, procedures and rules of work, and to challenge their decisions by submitting a complaint to this Committee regarding any mistake made by a licensed person. Article 15
8. With reference to the provisions of Article (10-3) "Reverse Acquisition" of Chapter 3 "Acquisition" of the Ninth Book (Mergers and Acquisitions) of the Executive Regulation of Law No. 7 of 2010 on the establishment of the Capital Market Authority and the regulation of securities activity and their amendments, During the issuance of procedures for the implementation of reverse operations under resolution No. (99) for the year 2017. (4) of the procedures for the implementation of reverse acquisitions in Annex 8 of the Ninth Book (Mergers and Acquisitions) of the Executive Regulation of Law No. 7 of 2010 on the establishment of the Capital Market Authority and the regulation of securities activity and their amendments, To provide the Authority with the necessary documents to obtain the approval of the Authority to start the procedures for the implementation of the reverse acquisition plan of the company's board of directors to provide alternatives for the departure of shareholders and pledge and approval of the submission of this plan, which guarantees the rights of small shareholders of the listed company. Articles 3-10 from Book 9
9. Chapter Eight of the 15th book (Corporate Governance) regulates the issue of respect for shareholders' rights in terms of ensuring fairness and equality among all shareholders, regardless of their levels, and through continuous monitoring of shareholders' data on participation and voting in the meetings of the company's associations, Shareholders without regard to their different levels. All provisions of Chapter 9 (Rule Eight: Respect for Shareholders' Rights) of Book XV (Corporate Governance)
10. The provisions of Book X of the Implementing Regulations regulate the rules of disclosure and transparency applicable to listed companies, exporters and other persons committed to disclosure, including: 1. The beneficiary who has an interest representing 5% and more of the capital of a listed company, directly or indirectly, including: Disclosure of indirect interest or alliance with others. • Disclosure of the Group. • Disclosure of collective investment systems. In addition to obligating the Beneficiary to disclose the interests that may arise from various sources or funds provided for in the Regulations. 2. Informed persons o The person is familiar with the listed company in the following cases• The members of the Board of Directors and the administrative body of the listed company, its subsidiaries and the parent company. • Any person or other entity that has direct contact with them and has internal information regarding the listed company and its customers. In addition, insurers

are required to disclose to both the listed company and the stock exchange. Finally, the listed company is required to disclose in a timely manner the material information that has an impact on the decisions of the public of securities traders. One of the following images is disclosed: 1. If information is available during the working hours of the Commission and the Stock Exchange, disclosure shall be made as soon as the material information is available. 2. If the information is available outside the working hours of the Authority and the Stock Exchange, the disclosure shall be made fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of the next trading session. In addition to the listed company's commitment to ensure that material information is not disclosed on its website prior to the disclosure of the stock exchange. All the provisions of Book X

11. In the second chapter (merger), the provisions included in Book 9 (mergers and acquisitions) were included. For example, Article (12.12) provided that documents relating to the merger process should be made available at the headquarters of the companies involved in the merger process for the shareholders. Appendix (1) of the procedures and requirements is a guarantee to the shareholders of the companies involved in the merger. In addition to the foregoing in the previous clauses relating to the acquisition, for example, Article (3.1.1) requires the equal treatment of the shareholders of the company of the same company and the availability of information to all shareholders, and Article 3.1 - 8) which required the Board of Directors of the Offering Company to avoid any conflict of interest when making recommendations to the Company's shareholders regarding an offer of acquisition. All the provisions of the ninth book.
12. The Ninth Book (Merger and Acquisition) of the Executive Regulation of Law No. 7 of 2010 on the establishment of the Capital Market Authority and the regulation of the securities activity and their amendments contains the rules governing the operations of any person owning at least 5% and not more than 30% of the shares of any listed company, (3-12) "Protection of Minority Rights" of Chapter 3 "Acquisition" of the Ninth Book (Merger and Acquisition) of the Executive Regulations of the Law. The Annual General Meeting of HumanSoft Holding Company held on 21/03/2016 on the approval of the voluntary withdrawal from the Kuwait Stock Exchange: • Al-Imtiaz Investment Group and Sankta Capital Group filed a complaint against the Ordinary General Assembly resolution held on 21/03/2016 regarding the approval of the voluntary withdrawal from the Kuwait Stock Exchange. • Decision of the Board of Commissioners of the Capital Markets Authority issued its meeting No. 16/2016 held on 01/05/2016 to accept the complaint as a subject to prove the damage to the rights of the minority from the resolution of the Ordinary General Assembly of HumanSoft Holding held on 21/03/2016 on approving the voluntary withdrawal Of the Kuwait Stock Exchange, which resulted in the cancellation of the General Assembly resolution referred to. • The share price of Human Soft Holding Company was 650 fils when submitting the grievance referred to on 30/03/2016 while the trading price of the company's shares was currently KD 3.799 as of: 22/01/2017. General Assembly Resolution On the approval of the voluntary withdrawal from the Kuwait Stock Exchange: • Boubyan Petrochemical Company filed a complaint against the decision of the Ordinary General Assembly of Nafais Holding Company held on 13/12/2016 on the approval of the voluntary withdrawal from the Kuwait Stock Exchange. • Decision of the Board of Commissioners of the

Capital Markets Authority was issued at its meeting No. 07/2017 held on 15/02/2017 to accept the grievance in form to be submitted on the legal date and reject the grievance in respect of the subject. The Commission did not prove the damage to minority rights in the company due to the issuance of the General Assembly resolution Nafais Holding Company held on 13/12/2016 approving the voluntary withdrawal from the Kuwait Stock Exchange. Article 3-12 from Book 9

13. The licensed person who carries out the following activities (investment portfolio manager, group investment manager, underwriter, custodian) shall classify his clients as professional or ordinary clients and notify each customer of the type of classification, whether at the beginning of the transaction or when changing this classification. Associated with a change in classification. Therefore, the licensee must prepare a special customer classification record that includes the type of customer classification and a copy of the notification, decisions and agreements. In addition, the Licensed Person is obliged to provide the Client in writing with the information required in the Regulations before providing services related to securities activities. Finally, the licensed person is committed to execute the orders of his clients through optimal care to achieve the best possible results, through the development of policies and procedures that enable him to provide the best service to the customer and in particular the implementation of orders and instructions of customers. All provisions of Chapter II (Customer Classification) and Chapter V (Optimal Execution of Customer Orders) of Book VIII (Business Ethics)
14. The authorized persons who manage or retain the assets and assets of the clients, including the Investment Portfolio Manager (the Manager of the Collective Investment System / Custodian / Clearing Agency) shall take the necessary measures to care for and preserve the Client's funds and assets, whether cash received or possession by any person authorized in favor of Client or on his behalf to mark any activity of securities or all non-monetary funds of securities or other assets. The licensed person must take into account the complete separation between the transactions and orders executed by the licensed person for his own account and the transactions he executes for the customer's account, and to ensure that the client is the beneficiary of all transactions related to his money, This is done through the retention of the authorized person with the records and accounts that guarantee the separation of the client's assets and funds belonging to another client or the authorized person. In addition, the Licensed Person deposits the Client's funds in an independent bank account with a local bank and pays attention to the person who is keen to select and follow up the depositing bank with the client's cash money. Finally, the Licensed Person shall always keep in mind the interest of the Customer to achieve the duties of care by doing his best to achieve the interests of his clients and to sponsor their investments. He shall act in all cases in good faith for the benefit of the Clients by complying with the duties of the Secretariat. The Seventh Book The Executive Regulations of Law No. 7 of 2010 and their amendments
15. The provisions of this Chapter shall regulate the shareholder's equity and obligations in the face of the company in detail, and the principle of equality between the founders of the company and its shareholders. Chapter six

16. Any individual shareholder may file a lawsuit in which any decision issued by the Board of Directors of the Company, the Ordinary General Assembly or the Extraordinary General Assembly in case of violation of the law or the company's contract, or is intended to harm the interests of the company. • The Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly Resolutions may be challenged against the rights of the minority and shall be challenged by a number of shareholders of the Company holding 15% of the issued share capital of the Company. Article 220
17. The availability of the disclosures and their publication on the bourse website to be available to all investors, including small investors
18. Supplement No. 5 of the third book, "Law Enforcement" of the Regulations, which includes the rules governing the receipt, examination and disposition of communications. These are the detailed procedures for regulating the receipt of communications in the Authority and the rules for their examination and disposition. Violations, crimes and protection of the amount. The third book is the executive regulation of Law No. 7 of 2010 and its amendments
19. The provisions of the Regulations have imposed disciplinary sanctions in the exercise of any person's irregularities or illegal trading practices which may mislead the public in securities. Article (3-5) of the Fourteenth Book (Market Behavior) Regulations of Law No. 7 of 2010 and their amendments
20. Improve the way dividends are distributed so that small investors avoid the problems that have previously resulted from changing the Board's recommendation during the General Assembly. Thus, with this change, the investor has time to determine his investment decision based on distributions. Kuwait Clearing Company Rules + Executive Regulation Book 12 (Listing)
21. The Board of Directors shall determine the maturity date of the Company's shareholders for cash dividends, free bonus shares or other procedures that result in entitlement to shares and the date of their distribution. In the event of a decision by the ordinary and extraordinary general assembly of the listed company regarding the distribution of cash dividends and bonus shares by the Board of Directors, its decision shall include an authorization to the Board of Directors to amend the timetable for the implementation of its decision if the procedures of the month prior to the date of maturity are not completed with at least eight days' notice. Shareholders are finally entitled to cash dividends, bonus shares or other actions that result in them at the end of the due date. Decree No. (62) for the year 2017 concerning the amendment of some articles of the executive regulations of Law No. (7) for the year 2010 regarding the establishment of the Capital Market Authority and the regulation of securities activity and its amendments.
22. Pursuant to the provisions of Decree No. (63) for the year 2017 concerning the amendment of the Implementing Regulations of Law No. 7 of 2010 concerning the establishment of the Capital Market Authority and the regulation of the securities activity and their amendments, parts of the fifth book, parts of the twelfth book and article of the fifteenth book have been amended regarding the obligations of the licensed person To inform the Commission of the agenda of the General Assembly

and the minutes of the meeting and to provide it with the financial statements, the obligations of the listed companies in this regard and the organization of the General Assembly's invitation to the shareholders to meet. Fifth, twelfth, and fifteenth books The executive regulations of Law No. 7 of 2010 and their amendments

23. The top section of the Premier Market will allow for immediate disclosures in both Arabic and English, as well as a quarterly conference of financial analysts, which will increase transparency and access to all investors, including small investors (the text of the conference should be translated in Arabic and English). Boursa Rule Book MD2
24. Regulating the right to file a complaint against a specific AGM/EGM decision that imposes harm to minority investors. Article 73 of Law No.7 of 2010 as amended by Law No.22 of 2015. Article 3-12 of Module 9 of the CMA Executive Bylaws
25. Introduce DvP model 1 settlement (Gross Funds - Gross Securities)
26. Introduce international corporate action timetable where companies are required to disclose relevant dates (such record date) ahead of time
27. Regulating the delisting resolution procedures. Article 2-8-2 of Module 12 of the CMA Executive Bylaws
28. Regulating the voluntary delisting resolution procedures. Article 2-9-2 of Module 12
29. Improve responsiveness of Capital Markets Authority to needs and timelines of business community. The CMA Executive Bylaws sets out time periods for implementation of some procedures such as registration, listing, and mergers and acquisitions. the Capital Markets Authority is also moving to a paperless system and introducing electronic disclosures through the XBRL platform which will reduce time and procedures. Module 9 and Module 12 of CMA Executive Bylaws
30. Offer specialization and continued training for judges and court officials. The Capital Markets Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies designed to share experience in the field of training and qualification.
31. Establish a clear separation of roles and functions of market supervision, clearing and trading in securities. The Capital Markets Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Central Bank of Kuwait which delineates each entity's authority. Other ongoing projects include the privatization of Bourse Kuwait and the implementation of the post-trade model.
32. Ensure internal accountability for proper conduct of general meetings of shareholders. On 8th of March 2018, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued Ministerial Decree No. 156 of 2018 in regards to the acceptance of minutes of general assembly meetings of shareholding companies and attendance of Ministry of Commerce and Industry representatives. The requirements to accept the minutes of general assembly meeting are as follows: (1) Minutes of meeting are to be signed by

the Chairman or the person who heads the meeting. (2) A certificate should be issued by the Kuwait Clearing Company in regards to the total shares of the company and number of shares that have the right to vote and the number of shares and percentage which attended the meeting. (3) Acknowledgement to be signed by the Chairman or person who heads the meeting acknowledging the correctness of the procedures and the facts as reflected in the minutes.

33. Transfer execution of securities related judgments to Boursa Kuwait and the Kuwait Clearing Company. The Capital Markets Authority has amended Articles 10-20 and 10-22 as well as Appendix 10 of Module 11 (Dealing in Securities) of the CMA Executive Bylaws, shifting the role of the Capital Markets Authority to Boursa Kuwait. However, in relation to the Execution Department, it registers the beginning of the procedures, conducts attachment of securities, and confirms the sale of securities. Therefore, the Execution Department has no material role in the execution procedures that may cause delay. Articles 10-20 and 10-22 as well as Appendix 10 of Module 11 of the CMA Executive Bylaws
34. A working group was created by KDIPA in December 2017 which includes two representatives from the capital markets authority and one from the ministry of commerce and industry
35. Require an external report before the authorization of related party transactions. The capital markets authority has added Article 7-7 to module 15 (corporate governance) of the CMA executive bylaws and amended article 1-2 of the same module to make article 7-7 mandatory
36. There is no restriction in Module 15 of the CMA Executive Bylaws in regards to the joint membership of the Risk and Audit Committees. So in practice in the Capital Markets Authority, these two committees can be merged. The link shows one example of such Capital Markets Authority approval to merge the two committees which has been submitted as evidence
37. Require the prior authorization of general meeting of shareholders for major transactions involving the acquisition of 50% (or more) of a company's total assets. The Capital Markets Authority has amended Article 9-9(4) of Module 15 (Corporate Governance) of the CMA Executive Bylaws to reflect this requirement
38. Increase disclosure requirements of related-party transactions to the public and market regulators. The Capital Markets Authority has amended Article 4-1-1 of Module 10 (Disclosure and Transparency) of the CMA Executive Bylaws. However, The Capital Markets Authority does not agree with setting a percentage because the current method related to material effect provides for border protection than the suggested 10%, because even 1% in some companies may have a material effect and should be disclosed to the shareholders. Article 4-1-1 of Module 10

39. Require companies to pay dividends within a maximum period set by law after the declaration date. The Capital Markets Authority has amended Article 1-7-1 of Module 12 (Listing Rules) of the CMA Executive Bylaws. Additionally, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued Ministerial Decree No. 156 of 2018 relating to this matter. Article 1-7-1 of Module 12 of the CMA Executive Bylaws.

Trading Across Borders

1. Reduce procedures and speed of release to operationalize the agreement between Kuwait General Administration of Customs and Dubai Customs on electronic link for information exchange
2. Customs Instructions No. 90 of 2016 which is to reduce the number of documents by eliminating the certificate of origin requirement from both exports and imports documents on condition it is included in the original invoice (certified), the time to complete to exports and time to complete import procedures should be considered 17 hours for each out of 174 for exports and 178 for imports, using the unified screen system for the customs window
3. Linking between customs and MOCI for issuing import licenses and renewal of licenses and sending the manifest
4. Reduce the time and control and the speed of customs clearance
5. To enhance risk management and reduce cases illegal transactions
6. Customs instructions #88/2017 dated 25 July 2017 that speeds up time and procedures to ensure smooth flow of electronic goods for both exports and imports

Enforcing Contracts

1. The text of the first article of Decree-Law No. 40 of 1980 promulgating the law regulating experience and amended by Law No. 25 of 2016 to facilitate procedures through the law regulating experience, shortening the time and improving quality of judicial process, and reducing the time for trial and judgement
2. Law No. 46 of 1989 on low-value suits and amending Article 29 of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law No. 38 of 1980 that serves disputes that arise with regards to small or medium-sized entities
3. The Civil Service Bureau shall, in accordance with certain agreed regulations, set out specific provisions that conform to the rules of performance development that includes justice and equality in evaluation, and promote awareness for public parties
4. Law No. 25 of 2016 amending some of the provisions of the law regulating experience issued by Decree Law No. 40 of 1980 - Kuwait Today Newspaper Issue 1294 that increases speed of adjudication and decision-making, reducing the time for trial and judgement, and expediting the process

5. The Supreme Judicial Council Decision No. 33 of 2003 issued on 13/5/2003
 - Decree No. 23 of 1990 on the Law on the Organization of the Judiciary
 - Decision of the President of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary 9 of 2017
 - Decision of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary 1 for the year 2018
 - Book of the continuous and specialized training plan for the training season 2017-2018
6. Law No. 20 of 2014 - electronic transactions, Law 26 of 2015 - amending the provisions of the commercial and civil procedural code issued by decree 38 of 1980 regarding approving e-announcements, #26B ministerial decision 450/2015 regarding conditions and regulations for issuing legal announcements, issued by Minister of justice, 30 November 2015
7. Decree Law No. 15 of 1979 regarding the Civil Service and its amendments, Decree issued on 4/4/1979 concerning the civil service system and its amendments, Decision of the Civil Service Council No. 41 of 2016 regarding the attendance allowance for the meetings of the committees in the governmental bodies, The Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Promotion of the Business Environment and the Promotion of Competitiveness (HTA / 781) dated 2017/12/3, Approval by the Technical Committee at its meeting 2018/1 dated 2018/1/14
8. Decision No. 36 of 2006 regarding the rules, rules, procedures and dates for evaluating the performance of the supervisors and organizing it, Decree No. 15 of 2017 on the amendment of the Civil Service Council Resolution No. 36 of 2006
9. Ministerial Decree No. 450 of 2015 (Organizing the Declaration Procedures), Law No. 26 of 2015 (Amending the Code of Civil and Commercial Procedures), Decree Law No. 39 of 1980
10. Section XII (Arbitration) Article 173 and Law No. 11 of 1995 on Judicial Arbitration and Civil and Commercial Articles (11/1995) that allows for the speed of dissolution of disputes without complying with the rules and procedures stipulated in the Code of Procedure and to reduce time for enforcement of judgment
11. Section IV (Session system and consideration of the case, and Decree Law No. 38 of 1980 promulgating the Code of Civil and Commercial Procedures to establish alternative dispute for mediation facilities
12. Amendment of the provisions of Law No. 42 of 1964 that regulates lawyers and court fees.