

The binding document is the one the registrar issues. In Saudi Arabia every company has a memorandum, except a joint-stock company, a simplified joint-stock company and a one-person limited liability company, which each have **articles** (نظام أساس). Both documents are in Arabic (Article 7 of the Companies Law, Royal Decree No. M/132 of 1/12/1443H). [1] In the one-person company the owner holds the powers of the general assembly, and a reference to the memorandum means the articles (Article 157). [1] Incorporate through the Saudi Business Center and use the documents it generates. [2] In the UAE, Federal Decree-Law No. 32 of 2021. Which document each form needs is under review. [3]

🔗 **Companies Law:** <https://laws.boe.gov.sa/BoeLaws/Laws/LawDetails/a8376aea-1bc3-49d4-9027-aed900b555af/1>

🔗 **Saudi Business Center:** <https://business.sa/>

🔗 **UAE Commercial Companies Law:** <https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/business/Doing-business/doing-business-on-the-mainland/full-foreign-ownership-of-commercial-companies>

UAE: Federal Decree-Law No. 32 of 2021. Which constitutional document each form needs is under review. No article number. [3][4]

Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman: under review. No article number is stated.

Articles of association

A founders' checklist for articles of association (نظام أساس) in the GCC: name, form, objects, office, capital, management and winding up. It does not incorporate the company and it does not replace the document the registrar issues. Replace every [placeholder].

1. Name and form

Company name: [●]. Form: [joint-stock company / simplified joint-stock company / one-person limited liability company]. The official document uses the name the registrar accepts.

2. Objects and activities

Objects: [describe the activities]. Each activity is carried on only after the licence the competent authority requires.

3. Head office and term

The head office is in [city, country]. The company may open branches by a decision of [the manager / the board / the owner].

The term is [●] years from registration, and it renews [automatically / by decision] unless [the owner / the shareholders] decide otherwise.

4. Capital

The capital is [●], divided into [●] shares of [●] each, held as Annex 1 sets out.

In-kind contribution: [describe it, who contributes it, and how it is valued]. Title passes to the company as the registrar requires.

5. Management and the owner's powers

[A manager / a board / the owner] manages the company: [name, ID]. The appointment runs for [●].

Powers: [day-to-day management, signing, bank accounts]. A written decision is required for: [borrowing above ● / disposing of assets above ● / opening a branch].

6. Decisions

Decisions are taken in a meeting or by circulation. Quorum and majority: [fill these from the registrar's form; do not leave them blank at registration].

Decisions are written, signed and kept in the company's record.

7. Profits and transfer

Distributable profits are shared in proportion to the shares, after [what is set aside]. Losses are borne in proportion to the shares, within the limit of each share.

A transfer of shares follows the registrar's form and, after incorporation, the [share transfer agreement](#) if a sale is agreed.

8. Dissolution, language and signatures

The company ends when its term ends, when [the owner / the shareholders] agree, or for another cause the registrar accepts. [The liquidator] winds it up. What remains after debts are paid is distributed in proportion to the shares. Arabic and English, with Arabic prevailing (Article 7).

Founder / owner: name [●] · shares [●] · signature [●] · date [●]

Saudi Arabia notes

Companies Law, Royal Decree No. M/132 dated 1/12/1443H. [1][2]

Item	What the text states
Which forms have articles	A joint-stock company, a simplified joint-stock company and a one-person limited liability company. The others have a memorandum. Both documents are in Arabic (Article 7). [1]
One-person LLC	The owner holds the powers of the general assembly; decisions are in writing; a reference to the memorandum means the articles (Article 157). [1]
Filing	Incorporate through the Saudi Business Center and use the documents it generates. This checklist is not that form. [2]

UAE notes

Which document each form needs is under review. [3][4][5]

Item	What to do
The statute	The Commercial Companies Law is Federal Decree-Law No. 32 of 2021. [3]
Which document	Under review. No article number is stated for the memorandum-versus-articles split.
The binding document	The form of the authority that registers the company, not this checklist.

Annex 1 – Capital and shares

The percentages should add up to 100. Value any in-kind contribution in writing.

Founder / owner	Cash	In kind	Shares	Percentage
[Founder / owner 1]	[●]	[describe the asset and its value]	[number of shares]	[%]
[Founder 2, if any]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]
Total	[●]	[●]	[●]	100%

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How we prepared this template: we drafted it from the official legislation and government platforms listed under Sources, and checked each legal statement against the official text on the review date. Where an official form or platform exists, we link to it and you should use it. Laws change; check the sources before use and have the final text reviewed by a licensed lawyer.

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Sources

- [1] Companies Law, Royal Decree No. M/132 dated 1/12/1443H (30 June 2022)
<https://laws.boe.gov.sa/BoeLaws/Laws/LawDetails/a8376aea-1bc3-49d4-9027-aed900b555af/1>
- [2] Saudi Business Center, incorporation platform (geo-restricted outside KSA) <https://business.sa/>
- [3] UAE Government portal (u.ae), Commercial Companies Law (Federal Decree-Law No. 32 of 2021)
<https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/business/Doing-business/doing-business-on-the-mainland/full-foreign-ownership-of-commercial-companies>
- [4] UAE Government portal (u.ae), Where to find the UAE's federal laws
<https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/justice-safety-and-the-law/Law/how-are-uae-laws-issued-and-how-to-find-them/where-to-find-uae-federal-laws>
- [5] UAE Legislation, Federal Decree-Law No. 32 of 2021 on Commercial Companies, official text (PDF), Article 268: a holding company is a joint-stock company or a limited liability company that sets up subsidiaries inside the State and abroad, or controls existing companies by owning stakes or shares that let it control their management and influence their decisions <https://uaelegislation.gov.ae/ar/legislations/1542/download>