

Overview

In today's economic environment, countries around the world compete to attract investors and businesses which will contribute to the development of their economies and their workforce. An increasing number of them are creating free trade zones and other special economic zones offering a range of incentives to investors. These may include special tax or customs regimes, favorable foreign ownership rules and, in a few cases, entirely separate legal and regulatory regime and dispute resolution bodies.

These zones were pioneered in the Middle East and have been replicated around the globe. As a result of our long-standing presence in the Middle East, we have many years of experience advising governments on the establishment and regulation of free trade zones, and special economic zones and investors on the options available to them.

Dentons' clients include zone authorities needing advice on regulatory regimes and structures, inward investors seeking the most favorable economic and regulatory conditions, and many of the businesses set up in the zones. We also can advise you both inside and outside the zones, on taking advantage of the specialist courts and arbitration available in the Dubai International Financial Centre, and we can provide foreign investors with a familiar, trusted forum for the resolution of disputes in the region.