



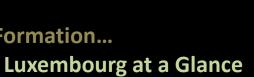




**Formation** 

**Company Formation...** 







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STA – Bespoke Legal Services

**Company Formation...** 

Luxembourg at a Glance 2013-2014



## Luxembourg & its Economy

### The Country:

 Luxembourg is a landlocked country in western Europe, bordered by Belgium, France, and Germany with Oesling and Ardennes being two principal regions.

### Luxembourg's Economy:

 According to the World Bank, Luxembourg is a developed country, with an advanced economy and the world's highest GDP (PPP) per capita.

### Political Framework:

 Luxembourg is a parliamentary democracy headed by a constitutional monarch wherein legislative powers are vested with the Chamber of Deputies elected for a five year term from four constituencies.

#### Ranking:

 United States Department of Treasury ranked Luxembourg as tenth highest foreign holder (\$147 billion) of treasury securities



Luxembourg at a Glance 2013-2014





# Popular Form of Entities

**Formation and** share capital requirements Number of **Shareholders &** liability **General Assembly Accounts & Audit** Requirements

Société Anonyme (S.A.) Public Limited Liability Company

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Société à Responsabilité Limitée (S.A.R.L.) Private Limited Company

The company is formed by a notarial deed. Company's constitutive documents (articles of association) are filed with Luxembourg trade and companies registry (the *Registry*).

Minimum share capital of S.A. form of company must be € 31,000 and 25% of this must be paid at time of incorporation.

Minimum one (1) shareholder and there is no maximum limit (individuals, companies or foreign nationals). Shareholder's liability is limited to the extent of share-capital held.

Shareholders' meeting must take place once annually.

Annual accounts must be filed before the Registry. A commissaire monitors accounts of small companies and large entities have to appoint independent auditors.

The company is formed pursuant to a notarial deed. Company's constitutive documents (articles of association) are filed with Luxembourg trade and companies registry.

Minimum share capital of S.R.P.L. form of company must be € 12,500 and 100% of this must be paid at time of incorporation.

Minimum one (1) shareholder with a ceiling of maximum forty (40) shareholders. Shareholder's liability is limited to extent of share-capital held by them.

Shareholders' meeting is required if there are more than 25 shareholders.

Annual accounts must be filed before the Registry. A commissaire monitors accounts of small companies and large entities have to appoint independent auditors (external auditor's report is not required).

**Company Formation...** 



## Other Forms of Entities



PAR ACTIONS (S.C.A.)

SOCIETE EN NOM COLLECTIF (S.N.E.C.)

SOCIETE EN
COMMANDITE SIMPLE
(S.C.S.)

Partnership Limited by Shares

**SOCIETE EN COMMANDITE** 

General Partnership

Limited Partnership



The company is formed by a notarial deed. Company's constitutive documents (articles of association) are filed with Luxembourg trade and companies registry (the *Registry*)

Formed by notarial or a private deed. The extracts of company's articles of association are published in Memorial C (duly signed by notary)

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Minimum 2 limited liability partners, or a company (resident or non-resident)

Minimum 2 investors or a company (resident or non-resident)

Minimum 2 investors or a company (resident or non-resident)



Minimum share capital must be € 30,987 and 25% of this must be paid at time of incorporation.

Shares are freely transferable

No minimum share capital requirement. Share capital as defined in company's byelaws must be fully subscribed.

No minimum share capital requirement. Share capital as defined in company's bye-laws must be fully subscribed.

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## Other Forms of Entities .. (cont'd.)



SOCIETE EN COMMANDITE PAR ACTIONS (S.C.A.)

SOCIETE EN NOM COLLECTIF (S.N.E.C.)

SOCIETE EN
COMMANDITE SIMPLE
(S.C.S.)

Partnership Limited by Shares General Partnership

Limited Partnership



Liability

General partners have joint and several liability for their contributions in the company;

The limited partners are only liable up to the level of their contributions.

In SNEC form of company, shareholders' liability is unlimited. Shareholders are jointly as well as severally liabile.

General partners have joint and several liability for their contributions in the company;

The limited partners are only liable up to the level of their contributions.



Ordinary shareholders' annual meeting must be held once every calendar year

As provided in company's constitutive documents

As provided in company's constitutive documents



Shareholders are under legal obligation to file balance sheet, profit and loss, annexes and management report once approved in the shareholders' meeting.

A commissaire monitors accounts of small companies and large entities have to appoint independent auditors.

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**Company Formation...** 

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Guide to Luxembourg Holding Company SOPARFI



### Guide to Luxembourg Holding Company: SOFARI

#### Overview

The SOPARFI is a Holding Company. A SOPARFI tax status was established on 24 December 1990 by a Grand Ducal regulation on tax provisions of parent companies and subsidiaries (Mémorial A No 82 of 31/12/1990).

The term SOPARFI is an abbreviation of French term Société de participations financières. It is a Luxembourg resident and fully taxable entity that is limited by shares. In practice, SOPARFI is generally formed in form of Société Anonyme as it offers flexibility in operation and management.

#### SOPARFI: Definition

There is no specific legal definition for the term 'SOPARFI'. In simplest terms, the term means 'a commercial entity formed pursuant to laws of Luxembourg and subject to tax whose primary activity is to act as 'holding company'.

SOPARFI form of company may either be a Société Anonyme (S.A., public limited а company), Société а responsabilité limitée (S.à r.l., a limited liability company), or a Société en commandite par actions (S.E.C.A., a partnership limited by shares) as disccussed above in detail.

#### SOPARFI as Public Limited Company (SA)

Features of SOPARFI as public limited company:-

- ✓ securities forming part of share capital may be in form of bearer shares allowing shareholders to transfer shares in a simplified manner;
- ✓ It is possible to denominate the share capital of the company in any currency;
- ✓ It is possible to list company's shares on stock market;
- ✓ no restrictions on nationality or residence of directors; and
- minimal share capital requirement.

#### SOPARFI as Private Limited Company (SARL)

Features of SOPARFI as private limited company:-

- ✓ very easy to form and involves minimal formalities;
- External auditor's report is not required for this form of entity;
- ✓ minimal share capital requirement for setting up SARL (€ 12,500);
- ✓ Shareholders liability is limited to their contribution;
- ✓ minimal share capital requirement;
- ✓ shareholders can be natural person, legal entity, resident or even non-resident in order to set up this form of company.

### Our range of services

Our attorneys can provide legal and strategic advice on all forms of corporate, commercial and business matters including but not limited to banking and finance, company and commercial law including M&A, construction and real estate law, health-care, intellectual property, employment law, insolvency and restructuring law and so on.

At STA, each business area is split into separate practice group and each practice group is undertaken by a partner or senior attorney. Our corporate advisory covers and includes advising on operational arrangements, strategic alliances and joint venture and other arrangements including code sharing, frequent flyer programs and policies, e-commerce and business to business models, ground-handling, and maintenance and operational arrangements, fuel supply and intellectual property. We also handle and negotiate settlement and restructuring agreements, and give advice on bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings.

#### **Bespoke Legal Advice:**

- Our team advises on defining and structuring the form in which new businesses should be operated and/or controlled, advising on complex shareholding structures for existing business entities, domestic and cross border acquisition, advising on contentious shareholder disputes, setting forth the terms and conditions for the ownership and operation of the business and the disposition of the owners' respective interests in the business.
- advising on private equity/venture capital areas including strategizing over optimal deal structures, registration rights, put and call provisions, co-sale rights, drag along rights, preemptive rights, liquidation preferences and participation rights, anti-dilution provisions, exit strategies, preferential voting provisions, board membership and other corporate governance issues, conversion and redemption features, information rights and optimal allocations of equity (whether in the form of capital stock, options, warrants or otherwise);
- advising on franchise law including UAE Commercial Agencies law, franchise, distribution and area development contracts, structuring of franchise programs, advice on domestic as well as cross-border acquisition of franchise distribution companies, including preparing franchise offering circulars, complying with federal and local regulatory requirements, and registering the franchise agreement with relevant regulatory authorities; and
- ✓ advising on incorporation, administration and domiciliation of all types of entities across the United Arab Emirates, India, United Kingdom, Luxembourg, and Russia.



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This Company Incorporation Pack is not intended to offer legal advice and you should not act upon the matters referred to within it without taking specific advice.

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