Ministry of Finance Issues a Decision Related to Settlement of Taxes in Foreign Currency Via POS

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The Lebanese Ministry of Finance (MoF) issued on August 27th, 2026 decision No. 745/1 related to tax payments. The decision establishes a mechanism allowing taxpayers to settle LBP-denominated taxes, fees and fines in U.S. dollars through point-of-sale (POS) terminals. This decision determines the mechanism for implementing paragraph C of Article 22 of Law No. 40 (2026 General Budget Law) issued on February 10th, 2026. This article (Article 22) allows taxpayers to settle their taxes and penalties due in Lebanese Pounds (LBP) in its equivalent amount in USD through POS.

The decision stipulates that electronic center at MoF the Electronic Center is responsible for establishing an electronic mailbox for recording daily exchange rates applied by the Central Bank (BDL). In details, the Foreign Exchange department at BDL sends at the end of each working day the official closing exchange rate to the Treasury Directorate through an email.

Then, staff members within the Treasury Directorate, designated by the Minister of Finance, are responsible for entering the US dollar exchange rate on a daily basis into an electronic system linked to the Ministry of Finance' s cashier and revenue collection systems. The electronic center is required to implement all technical measures essential to control and monitor the entry of the US dollar exchange rate, confirming that no tampering or unauthorized amendments occur. The Treasury Directorate publishes this information daily on the Ministry of Finance' s website.

Taxpayers accountable for taxes, fees, or fines—arising from principal or additional charges issued by the tax administration in Lebanese pounds—may settle these amounts through POS terminals in either Lebanese pounds or US dollars. The Electronic Center converts the amount due into its equivalent in US dollars based on the exchange rate adopted by the BDL on the closing exchange rate applicable on the day preceding the payment date.

The electronic center is responsible for modifying the receipt field to reveal the amount in Lebanese pounds together with its equivalent in US Dollars when a taxpayer settles the due amount in US Dollars via POS terminals. It also handles the electronic recording of accounting entries for these taxes, fees, or fines—as denominated in Lebanese pounds—and makes the essential adjustments to the financial resources ledger to reflect these collections and the subsequent daily deposits at the BDL.

This decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and on the Ministry of Finance' s website, and shall be effective upon publication in the Official Gazette.

Analytically, this decision launches an official channel for the Treasury to receive tax-related payments directly in U.S. dollars. Additionally, it establishes a standardized valuation methodology upon linking the conversion of LBP-denominated liabilities to the BDL exchange rate applicable on the preceding day. More broadly, it represents an operational step toward adapting the widespread use of foreign currency in Lebanon's local transactions within the government's tax-collection framework.

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