

HC

# HALSBURY CHAMBERS BULLETIN



## Frequently Asked Questions: International Business Company



### **1. What is an International Business Company in The Bahamas?**

An International Business Company is a Company which is tailored for the international business market. Such a Company is incorporated under the International Business Company Act

2000 of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

### **2. What is the purpose of an International Business Company?**

An International Business Company can be used as an investment vehicle. It may own real estate, operate foreign currency bank accounts, own shares in another company or act as a director and or officer of another company. It may also be used in conjunction with a trust.

### **3. What is the required share capital?**

Capital can be expressed in any currency and there is no fixed limit on the amount of authorized capital.

### **4. How many shareholders and directors are required to operate an International Business Company?**

A minimum of one shareholder and one director is required to operate an IBC. The shareholder and director can be one in the same. In addition, both capacities may be filled by a corporate entity rather than an individual if desired.

### **5. How long does it take to incorporate an International Business Company?**

Once the requisite documents and fees are lodged with the Registrar of Companies a Certificate of Incorporation is usually issued within 36 to 48 hours.

### **6. Can a Company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside The Bahamas continue as a company under the International Business Companies Act?**

Once the prescribed requirements for a continuation under the International Business Companies Act are satisfied a Company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside The Bahamas can continue as a company under the International Business Companies Act.

### **7. Is an International Business Company required to have a Registered Office and Registered Agent?**

Under the International Business Companies Act an IBC is required to have a Registered Office and Registered Agent.

### **8. Is an IBC Expensive to operate?**

An International Business Company is not expensive to operate. Registered Office/Registered Agent fee usually range from \$450.00 to \$500.00. The annual registration fee payable to The Bahamas Government ranges from \$350.00 to \$1,000.00 depending upon the authorized capital of the Company.

### **9. Can an International Business Company be struck off the Register of Companies?**

An International Business Company can be struck off the Register of Companies for non payment of the annual registration fee.

### **10. Can an International Business Company be restored to the Register of Companies?**

An International Business Company can be restored to the Register of Companies provided application for restoration is made and the required fees and late penalty fees are paid.



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