



| States Assembly

States Greffe

Deputy Philip Ozouf
Minister for External Relations and Financial Services

BY EMAIL

27th January 2023

Dear Minister,

Briefing on Bilateral Investment Treaty (BITs) between Jersey and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

The Panel received a briefing from officers within External Relations on 13th January 2023 via Teams on the BIT between Jersey and the UAE. The Panel raised a number of questions at the briefing however, due to the limited time, the Panel was unable to ask all of its questions and it was agreed some would be followed up in writing. We also note that there is a 14 working day clause for raising issues which is due to expire on 9th February 2023.

We understand that in the event of an investor dispute, the law of the jurisdiction where the investor is based would be applied and should the dispute need to be escalated, Public International Law would apply. The Panel would be grateful if you could advise if Sharia Law would be applied to the treaty in the event of a dispute filed in the UAE. We would also be grateful if you could advise to what extent Sharia Law would be used in the treaty for other financial activity, not just the Law relating to disputes.

We would be grateful if you could respond to this no later than midday on Friday 3rd February 2023 in the event we wish to take it further before the expiration date to raise issues of 9th February 2023.

If you have any questions regarding this or our work in general, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Moz Scott
Chair
Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel