

KPMG REG CRS Alert

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Germany: Issued CRS Newsletter 02/2020

On 08 May 2020, the Federal Central Tax Office of Germany (BZSt) released Infobrief CRS 02/2020. The newsletter contains the following updates:

- Informed the public that a filing deadline extension is not available, as of now. Communication regarding any potential extensions will be shared on the official website and through an information letter,
- Data transmission for the 2019 reporting period: The production environment for the 2019 reporting period is now available for transmission of CRS data, irrespective of the possible CRS deadline extension. CRS reports need to be submitted based on the 2019 state exchange list, until the final 2020 state exchange list is announced,
- Conversion of the ELMA header: The ELMA header will be adapted as a part of the CRS schema update to version 2.0, from 01 January 2021. The XML structure of the ELMA header has been standardized for the transmission of CRS data via the ELMA mass data interface and is included in the CRS data record description V2.0. Data transmission will be required based on the new schema via BZStOnline portal (BOP), and ELMA will begin on 01 December 2020. Any data transmission using the old schema after November 2020 will be rejected,
- Communication manuals: The revised communication manual related to the new CRS XML schema V2.0 is available on the website. The new “ELMA Standard” communication manual, which contains information related to data transmission via the ELMA interface to the BZSt, will replace the CRS 3a communication manual, beginning on 01 December 2020. However, the CRS 3b communication manual will continue to remain valid,

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Test environment: The test environment related to data transmission via the ELMA interface is available for users. The test procedures only relate to the ELMA mass data interface by referring to the preliminary 2020 country list. The test option with the new schema is expected to be available from early January 2021, — Transmission of real data to the test environment: This section highlights that only test data or anonymized data can be imported to the test environment. The test database was previously deleted at the beginning of February 2020. References to deliveries received before February 2020 are no longer available, — German version of the CRS manual: The second edition of automatic exchange of information on financial accounts in tax matters has been published in German on its website; and, — Video tutorials: The video tutorials related to registration with the BZSt and the BZSt online portal, use of ELMA mass data interface and certificate integration into the browser are available on the website under the CRS section. 	
<p>Reference (German): BZSt CRS Infobrief [PDF 202KB]</p> <p>For information on KPMG’s global AEOI network professionals, please email KPMGREGqueries@kpmg.com.</p>	

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