



# ASTANA INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE

Unlock new opportunities.

AIFC

## GATEWAY TO EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION (EAEU)

AIFC provides access to a relatively untapped market with huge potential. EAEU has some of the largest reserves of natural resources and is one of the largest producers of agricultural products in the world.

## DELIVERY UNIT FOR “BELT AND ROAD” INITIATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING OFFICE

Recreation of the legendary Silk Road, deemed as the biggest project with the most regional collaboration and the largest infrastructure build-out in the history, can reshape the global trade.

AIM

TO BECOME A FINANCIAL HUB FOR CENTRAL ASIA, EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION, THE CAUCASUS, WEST CHINA, MONGOLIA, AND EASTERN EUROPE.



## PRIVATISATION OF STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES

Kazakhstan’s privatisation program presents a great opportunity for global investors.

Astana International Exchange will provide the platform for the most anticipated IPOs of the uranium company, flagship air carrier, railway operator, petroleum company, power generation company, mining companies, etc.

## MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS

Today, Kazakhstan has accumulated \$112.4 billion in government funds and is currently reviewing its investment strategy.

National Oil Fund	\$ 58,3 bln.
FX reserves	\$ 30,7 bln.
Pension Fund	\$ 23,4 bln.

(Dec 2017)

## AIFC IS NOW A FULLY-FLEDGED FINANCIAL CENTRE

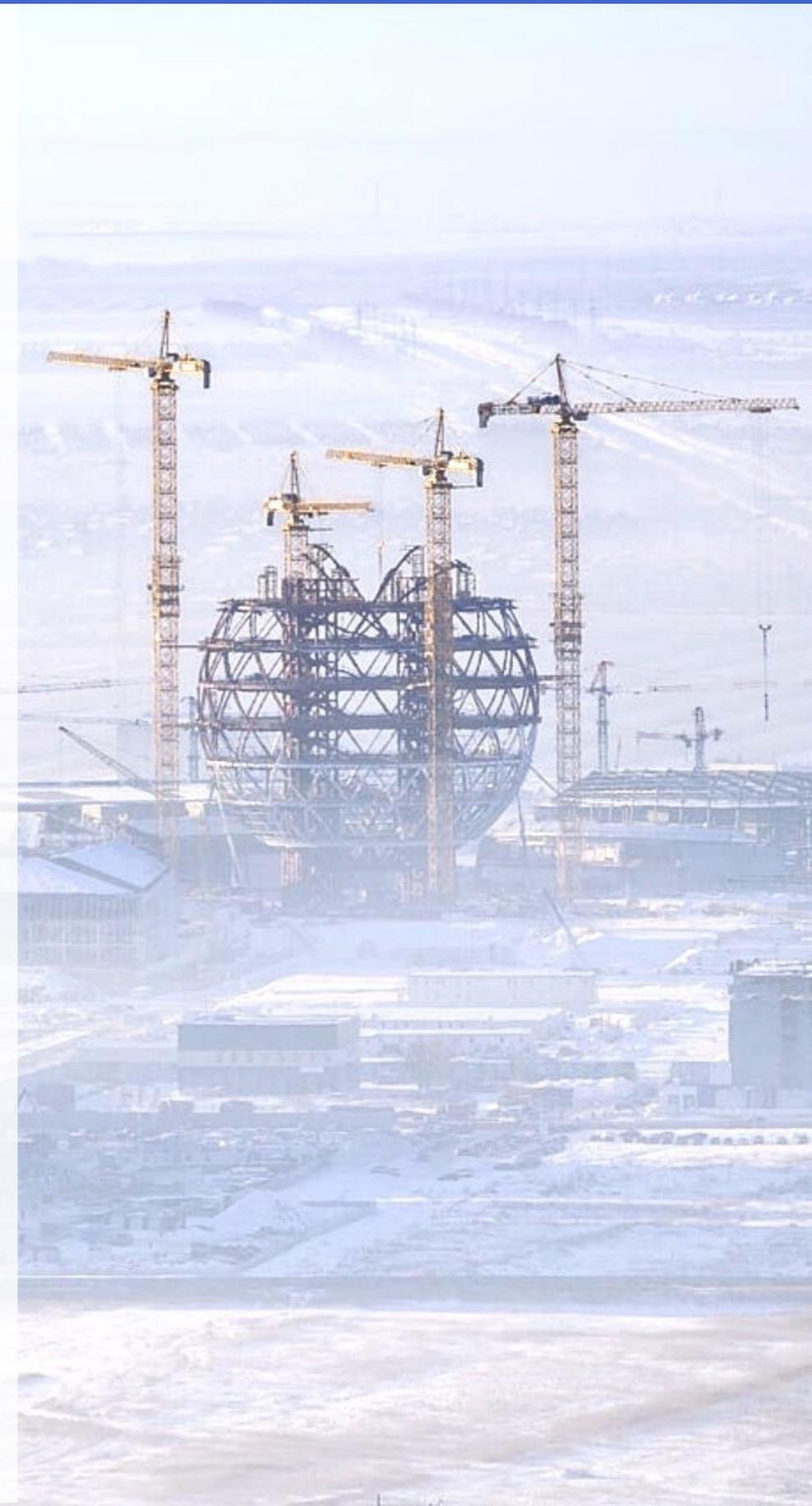
- The legal and regulatory framework commenced on January 1, 2018.
- Astana Financial Services Authority, AIFC Court and International Arbitration Centre are successfully established.
- AIFC Authority signs the agreements with Shanghai Stock Exchange and Nasdaq Inc. to create a new stock exchange in Kazakhstan.
- AIFC Bureau for CPD and AIFC Expat centre are established to provide the favorable environment for the best talent.
- AIFC Management Council determines the AIFC development strategy and the structure of AIFC bodies.
- AIFC Authority provides the organisational support to other AIFC bodies.
- The Constitutional Statute of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the Astana International Financial Centre” provides the legal basis for the establishment of the AIFC.
- The establishment of the AIFC is part of the “100 Concrete Steps” Plan of the Nation aimed at delivering five institutional reforms.

2018

2017

2016

2015

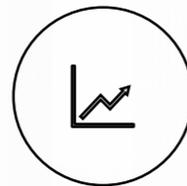


## CORE PILLARS OF THE AIFC DEVELOPMENT

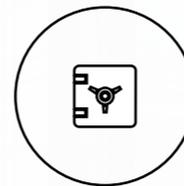
The main objectives of the AIFC are to develop the non-banking financial sector of Kazakhstan and provide favourable environment for investments. Positioning Astana as a main financial centre in the region shall be achieved through the development of the following five core pillars:



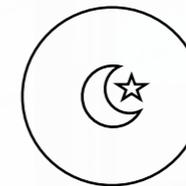
CAPITAL MARKETS



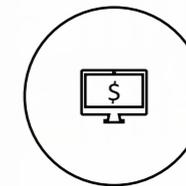
ASSET MANAGEMENT



PRIVATE BANKING



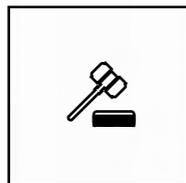
ISLAMIC FINANCE



FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY

## SUCCESS COMPONENTS

The following key priorities shall serve as the building blocks for a successful creation of favourable environment and a strong base for AIFC to become the main financial hub in the region:



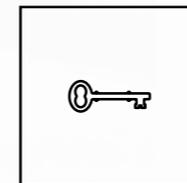
BEST  
LEGAL SYSTEM



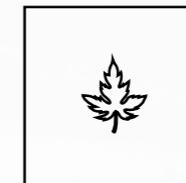
INDEPENDENT  
REGULATION



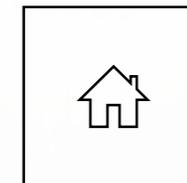
EXCHANGE  
INFRASTRUCTURE



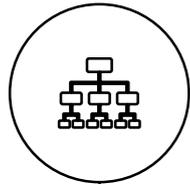
ACCESS TO SWF  
MANAGEMENT



GREEN  
FINANCE



BEST  
ENVIRONMENT



The Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan is the highest law of Kazakhstan.

As stated in Article 2 of the Constitution, special legal regime in the financial sphere may be established within the territory of Astana in accordance with the Constitutional Statute of the Republic of Kazakhstan *“On the Astana International Financial Centre”*.



As stated in Article 4 of the Constitution Statute, the acting law of the AIFC is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan and consists of:

1. the Constitutional Statute; and
2. AIFC Acts, which are not inconsistent with the Constitutional Statute and which may be based on the principles, legislation and precedents of the law of England and Wales and the standards of leading global financial centres, adopted by the AIFC Bodies in the exercise of the powers given by the Constitutional Statute; and
3. the Acting Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which applies in part to matters not governed by the Constitutional Statute and AIFC Acts.

## AIFC GENERAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK REGULATIONS AND RULES\*

*(Commenced on January 1, 2018)*

Regulations on AIFC Acts	Companies	Contract	Implied terms in Contracts and Unfair terms	Obligations
Damages and Remedies	Employment	General Partnership	Limited Partnership	Non-profit Incorporated Organisations
Security	Netting	Payment System Settlement Finality	Data Protection	Insolvency
Personal Property				

\* For more information visit [www.laws.aifc.kz](http://www.laws.aifc.kz)



The regulatory regime at AIFC is consistent with recognised international standards (IOSCO, Basel, IAIS, FATF, etc.) and promotes fairness, transparency and efficiency of the financial market, protection of the interests of investors and financial services customers, minimisation of systemic risk.



Astana Financial Services Authority (AFSA) was launched on 1 January 2018 as the independent regulator of both financial and non-financial services activities in the AIFC. Its functions include: (1) registration and incorporation, (2) authorisation and recognition, (3) policy making, (4) supervision and enforcement.



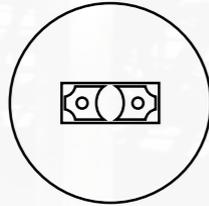
AFSA licenses a broad range of financial services including investment and asset management, private banking, fund management and administration, providing and arranging custody, islamic finance, and other activities including operating a representative office. AFSA also licenses professional services that support the financial services industry. (*see General Rules*).

## AIFC REGULATORY FRAMEWORK\*

(Commenced on January 1, 2018)

Financial Services Framework Regulations	General Rules	Prudential rules for Investment firms	Collective investment scheme Rules	Special purpose company Rules
Prudential rules for Insurance intermediaries	Fintech regulatory sandbox guidance	Islamic banking Prudential rules	Islamic finance Rules	Representative office Rules
Auditor Rules	Authorised market institution Rules	Recognition Rules	Market Rules	AML, CTF and Sanctions Rules
Conduct of business Rules	Dematerialised investments Rules	Fees Rules		

\* For more information visit [www.afsa.kz](http://www.afsa.kz)



## LIBERALISED CURRENCY CONTROL

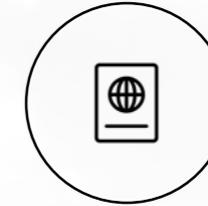
Transactions of AIFC Participants may be denominated and executed in a currency agreed between them. Trades at AIX are to be denominated and executed in a currency specified by the Exchange rules.



## PREFERENTIAL TAX REGIME

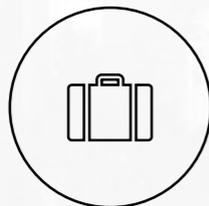
AIFC participants are exempted corporate tax income received from providing the financial and ancillary services as well as from capital gains for 50 years (until 1-Jan-2065).

Their employees are similarly exempted from individual income tax.



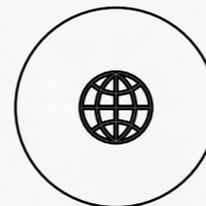
## SIMPLIFIED VISA REGIME

AIFC provides visa waiver up to 30 days for citizens of OECD countries, UAE, Malaysia, Singapore, and Monaco. Employees of the AIFC Body/Participant and their family members will enjoy special visa regime with extension up to 5 years.



## SIMPLIFIED LABOR REGIME

Foreign nationals who are employed by the AIFC Participant or AIFC Body are exempt from the obligation to obtain work permits in Kazakhstan.



## ENGLISH AS THE MAIN LANGUAGE

The official language of AIFC is English. AIFC Acts, court proceedings, records, all transactions that are committed to writing, responses to requests must be in English.



## ONE-STOP SHOP

AIFC implements one-stop shop system: visa issuance, registration, and other AIFC-related procedures all located in one place (*AIFC Expat centre*).

## AIFC BODIES

### AIFC MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Management council is the highest governing body and chaired by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

### GOVERNOR OF AIFC

Governor ensures an establishment and effective functioning of AIFC Bodies as well as successful development of AIFC

AIFC AUTHORITY

ASTANA FINANCIAL SERVICES  
AUTHORITY

AIFC COURT

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION  
CENTRE

## OTHER KEY PLAYERS

AIFC EXPAT CENTRE

BUREAU FOR CONTINUING  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ASTANA INTERNATIONAL  
EXCHANGE

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF  
GREEN TECHNOLOGY

AIFC FINTECH HUB

# AIFC COURT AND INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE

The AIFC Court provides a common law court system that operates to the highest international standards to resolve civil and commercial disputes in the AIFC.

The AIFC Court is separate and independent from the Republic of Kazakhstan judicial system. It has its own court of final appeal, its own procedural rules, a special fast track for small claims, and its decisions are supported by a robust enforcement system within the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Its Chief Justice and judges are among the most experienced and distinguished judges from the common law world with global reputations for absolute independence, impartiality, integrity, unconditional application of the rule of law, and incorruptibility.

The International Arbitration Centre provides an independent and expeditious alternative to court litigation and operates to the highest international standards to resolve civil and commercial disputes in the AIFC.

It has its own panel of world leading arbitrators and mediators comprising global reputations for absolute independence, impartiality, integrity, unconditional application of the rule of law, and incorruptibility.

Arbitration awards of the IAC may be enforced within the Republic of Kazakhstan as Court Orders of the AIFC Court and enforcement is supported by a robust enforcement system.



## LEGISLATION\*

AIFC Court Regulations
AIFC Court Rules
AIFC Arbitration Regulations
AIFC Arbitration and Mediation Rules

\* For more information visit [www.aifc-court.kz](http://www.aifc-court.kz) and [www.aifc-iac.kz](http://www.aifc-iac.kz)

## DIVERSE VENUE FOR GLOBAL INVESTOR COMMUNITY

Strategic partners of the AIX include world-leading stock exchanges which contribute to the development of the stock market liquidity and provide modern and recognisable trading platform solutions for the AIX:

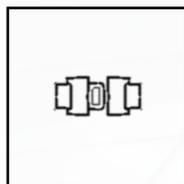


Shanghai Stock Exchange (shareholder) cooperates with AIFC on strategy and technology consulting, business planning, product design, market expansion and liquidity growth, and supports AIX on the “Belt and Road” Initiative.



Nasdaq’s (strategic partner) delivered its trading technology to AIX which provides all investors with easy and comfortable access to AIX. Nasdaq Matching Engine system offers exceptional performance and functionality.

## KEY DRIVERS OF AIX DEVELOPMENT



### “BUCKLE OF THE BELT”

AIX to provide diversified financial services, incl. bond and equity issuance, currency risk hedge instruments, RMB off-shore centre.



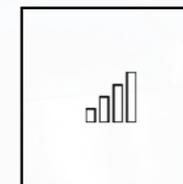
### PRIVATISATION

AIX will be a main venue for IPO of national companies within the Comprehensive Privatisation Plan 2016-2020 framework.



### PRODUCT DIVERSITY

The new infrastructure will allow to trade securities, commodities, derivatives denominated in KZT, RUB, USD, RMB.



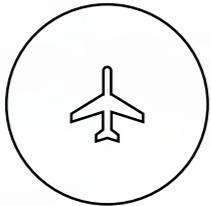
### PLATFORMS

The exchange will provide subsoil companies with access to financing through the private, junior and main listing boards.

## ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY TO AIFC BY ESTABLISHING DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM ASTANA TO LEADING FINANCIAL HUBS IS A PART OF THE “100 CONCRETE STEPS” PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE.



Astana is already connected with direct flights to Frankfurt, London, Paris, Seoul, Bangkok, Beijing, Istanbul, Abu Dhabi and Dubai.



In the next few years the government aims at connecting with Hong Kong, Singapore, Tokyo, Zurich, New York and Shanghai. It will be done through a phased liberalisation of air traffic at Astana airport to foreign carriers on the principle of Open Skies.

