

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What is Sijilat?

"Sijilat" is an integrated online commercial registration portal managed and operated by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism. It allows investors to obtain commercial registrations (CR's) and business licenses to start their business in the Kingdom of Bahrain. "Sijilat" also allows investors to make amendments to their CR's, such as: Add activities, Add branches, transfer ownership, change commercial address, as well as many other amendments (Please <u>click here</u> to view list of amendments possible through Sijilat)

The key features of Sijilat include:

- An integrated online portal involving all business licensing entities
- Instant issuance of commercial registrations
- Automatic routing of applications to licensing entities
- Provides and easy classification of commercial activities
- Allows the tracking of applications
- Available around the clock, seven days a week
- Offers information on all activities and business licenses, and their respective criteria, requirements, and conditions.

How can I access "Sijilat"?

You may access Sijilat online by visiting www.sijilat.bh

Which devices should I use to access "Sijilat?"

"Sijilat" can be accessed through any device with an internet browser

Which browsers are compatible with "Sijilat?"

All browsers are compatible with Sijilat; however, for Safari browser, you might need to adjust your browser configurations. Please follow the below steps to configure your Safari browser to be able to access Sijilat:

To access Sijilat using Safari, please deselect any option that blocks cookies. This may be done by doing the following: Preferences >> Privacy >> Select "Never" under "Block Cookies" Who is eligible to apply?

- One of the business partners.
- A registered Professional Body (via a letter of authorization) or person with a notarized power of attorney and a Bahraini smart card/CPR

What do I need to access Sijilat Portal?

In order to begin an application transaction, you must have an advanced <u>eKey</u>, otherwise you would have to apply through a professional body or a person with a notarized power of attorney and who has an advanced e-key.

What is an eKey?

The eKey is a highly secure system that allows users to access e-government services including Sijilat.

How do I get an eKey?

You may visit an e-government service center and a representative will help you in creating an e-key. As part of the process you will be asked to authenticate your biometrics (fingerprint). For more information about the key, please visit <u>www.ekey.bh</u>

How do I recover my eKey password?

You may visit an e-government service center, and a representative will assist you in recovering your password.

Where are the e-key service centers located?

At the Bahrain Investor Center, on the 2nd floor of the Bahrain Financial Harbor.

How do I register a company if I don't have a smart card/CPR?

By engaging a professional body authorized to create and submit an application on your behalf.

What is a Professional Body?

A professional body is a private entity registered with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism that may legally represent and apply for a commercial registration on behalf of investors, as well as any other service under the umbrella of Sijilat. A list of approved Professional Bodies can be found on Sijilat website under the tab 'public service'

Where can I find information on how to register and manage my business in Bahrain?

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism has created The profiler as a comprehensive guide that covers all aspects related to registering and managing a business in the Kingdom of Bahrain. By accessing The Profiler through Sijilat.bh you will get a full set of information, requirements, procedures and guidelines that would help you in your journey as an investor in Bahrain.

Where can I find the "The Profiler"?

The 'Profiler' link can be found on the homepage of the Sijilat website.

How long does it take to register a company?

The time it takes to register a company depends on the type of establishment (whether an individual establishment or Company) and whether the investors are local or foreign.

Individual Establishments and companies fully owned by Bahraini, GCC, or American Citizens: Can be registered within minutes, but may take up to a maximum of 3 working days depending on the information provided.

Companies with foreign investors (excluding GCC and Americans): May take up to 10 working days.

Please note that registering a company does not include the process of obtaining a license. The time it takes to obtain a license depends on the activity selected.

How do I start a business in Bahrain?

To start a business, investors must obtain a commercial registration along With the necessary business licenses and/or approvals. Businesses are considered legally established once registered with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism through obtaining a Commercial Registration certificate (without a license). However, in order to start practicing the activity, investors are required to obtain certain approvals and/or business licenses from licensing entities, after which they will be Issued a Commercial Registration certificate with the license(s). The detailed procedures vary depending on the legal form of the company and the activities applied for; however, below are the high-level steps, which can all be performed online through Sijilat:

	Procedure	Govt. Entity	Time	Cost
1	Submit an online application through Sijilat.bh and obtain an Electronic Certificate of Registration (e-CR) from Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism. (Applications with foreign investors, excluding GCC and US nationals will be routed to Ministry of Interior for Security Check before a CR is Issued)	MOICT	Same Day (Applications for companies may take up to 1 working day; Applications with foreign investors may take up to 5 working days)	BD50 for issuance of a CR without License
2	Obtain site approval from Municipalities (Some locations are pre-approved, in which the system shall auto-approve the application).	Municipality Affairs	Up to 3 working days	BD10
3	Obtain business license from licensing entity(ies) if applicable	Depending on license(s).		BD20 to add activity(ies) in addition to any license fees if applicable
4	Notarize memorandum of association (for companies only)	Notary staff at MOICT	1 day	BD27

What is a Commercial Registration (CR)?

A commercial registration certificate is a legal document issued to investors upon registering their establishment with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism. There are two types of commercial registration certificates issued: 1- Commercial Registration Certificate without license: Issued before obtaining approvals/licenses for activities

2- Commercial Registration Certificate with License: Issued after obtaining approvals/licenses for activities

Why obtain a Commercial Registration without a License?

A Commercial registration without a license is first obtained in order to legally register the company in the Kingdom of Bahrain, making it easier and faster for investors to set up a business. Having a CR without a license allows investors to perform initial tasks related to the establishment of the company, such as leasing commercial space, approach banks, engage with vendors, secure a commercial name, as well as any other task not requiring a business license to be obtained.

What information do I have to provide when applying for a Commercial Registration?

- 1. Applicant's name, nationality, communication address, national ID or passport number as the case may be
- 2. Legal Form of entity
- 3. Authorized Signatories
- 4. Commercial Name (If available)
- 5. Type of activity desired (Can be changed at a later stage)
- 6. Establishment's Capital (if available)
- 7. Commercial Address (if available)
- 8. Legal representative's name, address, nationality, and national ID or passport number as the case may be (if applicable)
- 9. Other information could be requested by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism as deemed necessary and as stipulated by the other laws

What information does the Commercial Registration contain?

The Commercial Registration includes the following information:

- 1. Commercial Registration number and establishment date.
- 2. Name of the legal representative of the establishment
- 3. Legal form of the establishment
- 4. Commercial name of the establishment (if provided)
- 5. Registration expiry date.
- 6. Activity/Business License (once the necessary approvals/licenses have been obtained)
- 7. Other data determined by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism.

What is a business activity?

A business activity dictates the nature of goods and/or services an establishment/company will provide. Each business activity has its own terms and conditions and investors may require the approval of other concerned government entities before practicing the activity. Click here to view the list of Business Activities.

What are the banned activities in the Kingdom of Bahrain?

	Manufacturing	 Production of alcoholic beverages Production of Narcotics Manufacturing of Weapons Production of Cigarettes/Cigars 		
	Importation	 Import of all types of waste, treatment, storage and disposal of radioactive materials and toxic waste in Bahrain Import, manufacture and trade of asbestos and its products (not including asbestos removal contractors) Import and use of banned chemicals 		
	Others	 Gambling Cultivation of pearls Cigarette Vending machines Letter post/Mail (exclusive to Bahrain Post) 		
	Wh	at are the commercial activities that are limited to Bahraini nationals only?		
•	 Public Transportation Distribution of newspapers and magazines and promotional materials transport companies Mobile Food Service Activities Publishing activities Brokerage in Real Estate Individual Lawyers (Legal 			

What are the types of company legal forms allowed in Bahrain?

- Individual Establishment
- Single Person Company (S.P.C)
- With Limited Liability Company (W.L.L)
- Partnership Company
- Limited Partnership Company
- Limited Partnership by Shares
- Bahraini Shareholding Company (BSC)
- Bahraini Shareholding Company Closed (B.S.C closed)
- Foreign Company Branch (Representative Office)

What is an Individual Establishment?

An organization owned by one person who is fully liable to the debts and obligations of the establishment. The person applying for an Individual establishment must be a Bahraini, GCC, or American citizen.

What is a Single Person Company (S.P.C)?

A company whose capital is wholly owned by one person or entity. The owner is liable to the company's debits and obligations only to the extent of the value of his/her shares.

What is a With Limited Liability Company (W.L.L)?

A company with a maximum of 50 partners, with each only liable to the extent of his/her share in the capital.

What is a Partnership Company?

A company established by two persons or more in which the partners are jointly liable for the company's obligations

What is a Holding Company?

A Holding Company is a parent organization that owns and controls shares in a Bahraini and/or foreign companies, and is set up to have no other business than to hold shares in those companies.

FAQs – Pre Registration {Legal forms}

What is a Limited Partnership Company?

A Limited Partnership Company is a company that consists of one person or more who are jointly liable in all their funds for the obligation of the company and between one partner or more who have funds therein and are not part of the administration; they are called limited partners. None of the limited partners shall be liable for the obligation of the company except by the amount of their share in the share capital.

What is a Limited Partnership by Shares Company?

A Limited Partnership by shares is a company that consists of two categories of partners, one of which is that of joint partners who are jointly liable to the extent of all their property for the company's obligations, and the other category is that of sleeping partners who are not liable for the company's obligations except to the extent of their shares in the capital.

What is a Bahraini Shareholding Company (BSC)?

A company with shareholders who own shares that can be offered to the general public on the stock market exchanges. The shareholders are liable for the company's debts and obligations only to the extent of the value of their shares.

What is a Bahraini Shareholding Company Closed (B.S.C closed)?

A company with shareholders who own shares that are not offered to the general public on the stock market exchanges. The shareholders are liable for the company's debits and obligations only to the extent of the value of their shares.

What is a Foreign Company Branch (representative office)?

A company incorporated and registered outside the Kingdom of Bahrain that established branches for its operations or offices in the Kingdom under the Companies Law What is a Commercial Name?

A commercial name is the legal term for the name an establishment/company has been given to operate under. The name must be registered with the Ministry of Industry Commerce and Tourism.

What are the rules to follow when choosing a commercial name?



What language should the documents submitted be in?

Documents are accepted only in Arabic or English. However, to notarize documents in Bahrain the documents must be in Arabic except for the following which can be in English:

- Acknowledgment
- Trusts
- Investment Limited Partnership Agreement
- Investment Limited Partnership Formation Statement
- Protected Cell Company Articles of Association
- Single Purpose Vehicle Articles of Association (SPV)

How can I attest/authenticate foreign legal documents?

There are two methods of attestation/authentication:





Only one method is required.

What is Regular Authentication?

A process in which legalization is handled by the Embassy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of both the parent country and Bahrain

What is Apostilling?

An apostille certificate/stamp proves the authenticity of a document, making it valid internationally.

Can all countries Apostille documents?

Only the 116 countries that are members of the Hague Apostille Convention can Apostille documents

What is the process of Apostilling?



Notarize documents through a public notary



Submit notarized documents to the relevant authority in the country of origin

When do I have to notarize the Memorandum/Articles of Association of the company?

We suggest notarizing the Memorandum/Articles of Association after obtaining all approvals and licenses. Notarizing is the final step before being issued a commercial registration with a license.

Can I notarize the documents in any country?

Documents must be notarized in the Kingdom of Bahrain in order to register a company in Bahrain

Where is the public notary located?

Bahrain Investor Center located on the 2nd floor of the Bahrain Financial Harbor

What language should the documents be in for them to be notorized?

Documents must be in Arabic except in the following cases, in which they can be in English:

- Acknowledgment
- Trusts
- Investment Limited Partnership Agreement
- Investment Limited Partnership Formation Statement
- Protected Cell Company Articles of Association
- Single Purpose Vehicle Articles of Association (SPV)

What are the solutions for a foreign speaker when signing in Arabic?

The foreigner should bring a translator to the signing
 OR
 The foreigner should provide the documents in both English and Arabic
 What is the process of notarization?
 Obtain all approvals on the application, including a draft MoA/AoA
 Shareholder/s or authorized signatory must be present to sign
 Sign the documents at the public notary or through a

How long does the notarization process take?

private notary

It takes the public notary 1 working day to notarize the documents.

Where can I notarize the documents?

Public notary

Be present at the public notary

Private notary

Choose a representative that will be present on your behalf at your preferred location (certain fees will apply) Can the commercial address be shared with more than one Commercial Registration?

Yes, subject to approval by the concerned authorities.

What is a Commercial Registration with License Certificate?

Is a certificate granted by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism showing that all necessary requirements and licenses were obtained in order to perform commercial activity

What are the licensing entities?

They are governmental regulating entities responsible for issuing licenses or approvals for commercial activities that fall under their regulation as per the law and regulations of the Kingdom of Bahrain

How long does it take to issue a license by the licensing entities?

Each entity has a public target set as per the activity requested. The public target is in the form of working days and can be found in the activity description section.

What amount should be mentioned in the Bank Certificate?

The capital amount mentioned in the commercial registration application

Is there a minimum capital required to obtain a CR?

Legal Form	Minimum Capital Required
Individual Establishment	None
Single Person Company (SPC)	None
With Limited Liability	None
Partnership Company	None
Limited Partnership Company	None
Limited Partnership by Shares	None
Bahraini Shareholding Company (BSC)	BD1 million
Bahraini Shareholding Company Closed (B.S.C closed)	BD 250,000
Foreign Company Branch (Representative Office)	None

How do I calculate my company's capital?

Nominal value of each share X No. of shares = Capital

How can I obtain an original copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate?

While an electronic version of the commercial registration is considered an official certificate, if you would still like to have an original hardcopy copy, you may visit the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism's Bahrain Investors Center located at Bahrain Financial Harbour.

What is the cost of obtaining an original hardcopy copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate?

The fees to obtain an original copy is BD20

How long is the commercial registration certificate valid for?

The commercial registration certificate is valid for one year from date of issuance

How often does the Commercial Registration have to be renewed?

The commercial registration must be renewed Annually

Are we able to renew the Commercial Registration prior to its expiration date?

Yes, you may to submit an application to renew the commercial registration 3 months prior to the expiration date

How can I apply for a CR renewal?

You may apply online through Sijilat.bh. <u>Click here</u> for the detailed process

What happens if I fail to renew the CR?

If the Commercial Registration owner fails to renew the commercial registration before the expiry date, the Registration Department at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall delete the commercial registration. The deletion of the commercial registration, however, does not end the liability of the owner and the registered management, as their liabilities shall continue as if the commercial registration is still valid.

Can I revive a commercial registration after it has been deleted?

Yes, you may revive your commercial registration. <u>Click here</u> for the detailed process

In which cases does the Ministry withhold from making amendments to the commercial registration?

- If the CR holds a violation from any concerned entity, such as municipality
 - If the CR owners have committed breaches or have financial amounts pending to the Ministry related to the CR

Can I stop practicing my business activity while holding on to my Commercial Registration?

The commercial registration owner must not stop practicing the business activity for more than one year without a reasonable justification, otherwise the Ministry of Industry Commerce and Tourism has the right to delete his commercial registration.

What laws and regulations regulating the commercial environment?

- Decree-Law No. (27/2015) concerning the Commercial Register
- Decree Law No. (28/2015) amending certain provisions of the Commercial Companies Law No. (21) of the year 2001
- Commerce Minister's Resolution No. (126/2016) to issue the executive regulations of the Legislative Decree No. (27/2015) regarding the Commercial Register
- Commerce Minister's Resolution No. (127/2016) amending certain provisions of the executive

regulations of the Commercial Companies Law issued by Resolution No. (6/2002)

- Commerce Minister's Resolution No. (128/2016) concerning the Commercial Register fees
- Commerce Minister's Resolution No. (129/2016) on the financial penalty for delay in renewing the registration in the commercial register
- Commerce Minister's Resolution No. (130/2016) related to fees for conducting commercial activities

On which day should the fiscal year end??

The fiscal year must end at the end of the month only.

What is the minimum age for doing business?

The minimum age for doing business is 18 years old (some licenses may require a different minimum age)

Can Bahraini public sector employees apply for a commercial registration?

Public Sector employees may only hold shares in companies and be registered as shareholders only. Public sector employees may not solely own a company or an individual establishment.

Can Bahraini nationals be registered as Directors or Authorized Signatories?

- Yes, if he/she is not an employee in the public sector
- Private sector employees must provide a letter of no objection from their employer

Can non-Bahraini nationals residing in Bahrain be registered as Directors or Authorized Signatories?

- Yes, is he/she is not an employee in the public sector
- If he/she is a private sector employee, then he/she is required to provide a letter of no objection from the employer

What is the definition of corporate governance?

A methodology for corporate leadership, direction and monitoring, which includes mechanisms for regulating various relationships between the Board of Directors, the Executive Directors, shareholders and stakeholders. Corporate governance rules focus on creating better management and fewer ethical or legal complications.

What are the benefits of corporate governance?

- Corporate governance limits the potential for bad behavior of employees by instituting rules to reduce potential fraud and conflict of interest
- Corporate governance includes instituting policies that require the company to take specific steps to stay compliant with local, and international rules, regulations and laws.
- Strong corporate governance maintains investors' confidence, as a result of which, company can raise capital efficiently and effectively.

What is the Bahrain Corporate Governance Charter?

On 19 March 2018, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism have issued the Corporate Governance Charter, via Resolution No. (19/2018), which will be enforced on all shareholding companies except for the companies licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain.

What does the Bahrain Corporate Governance Charter aim to achieve?

The Corporate Governance Charter aims to enhance the credibility and transparency of the commercial environment of the Kingdom of Bahrain, by regulating the relationship between the boards of directors and shareholders and stakeholders. It sets the criteria related to the qualifications of the members on Board of Directors, which will guarantee that the companies are managed by qualified individuals.

What are the principles of the Bahrain Corporate Governance Charter?

- The company must be under the chairmanship of an effective, scientifically qualified and experienced board of directors.
- Board members and employees must have full loyalty to the company
- The Board of Directors shall have strict control over financial audit, internal control and compliance with the law
- The Company must have strict procedures for the appointment, training and evaluation of Board members
- The Company must reward Board members and senior officials in a fair and responsible manner
- The Council must establish a clear and effective management structure
- The Board of Directors should communicate with shareholders and encourage them to participate in decision-making
- The company should disclose its own governance
- A company that describes itself as Islamic must adhere to the principles of Islamic law

What is Sijili?

"Sijili"is a commercial registration that does not require a commercial address to be obtained. The main features of "Sijili" are:

- 1. Allows the practice of commercial activities without bearing the cost of a commercial space
- 2. Flexibility in conducting a business
- 3. Gives free lancers a legal avenue
- 4. Allows free lancers to sign with other companies that require vendor's to have a commercial registration

What is the eligibility criteria to apply for a Sijili?

- Applicant must be a Bahraini national
- Applicant does not work in the public sector
- Applicant must submit a "No Objection Letter" if he works in the private sector
- Applicant must not, at the point of applying, have an individual establishment or a Single Person Company, or is a director/partner in a company (unless he/she is registered as a shareholder only)

Why is an address or email required for Sijili?

Due to the fact that Sijili does not require a physical address, the Ministry of Industry Commerce and Tourism would still need an official correspondence address in order to communicate with applicants.

Can I apply for work permits if I have a Sijili?

No work permits can be obtained with a Sijili

What is the cost of obtaining a Sijili commercial registration?

A Sijili commercial registration fee is BD50

What are the activities available under 'Sijili'?

Technology	 Software publishing Motion picture, video, and television programs Sound recording and music publishing Computer Consultancy and Computer Facilities Management Computer Programming Data processing, hosting and related activities Operations of websites / web portals
Education	 Sports instructions (football-basketball-swimming or any other sport) Horse riding Martial arts Fitness / Yoga Design of training programs Performing arts/drama school Other education
Support Service	 Management consultancy Public Relations Translation and interpretation Packaging - Food Packaging Other business support services Landscape care and maintenance Packaging - packaging cosmetics or herbs

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Leisure	 Production of live theater performances, concerts and other Sculptors, painters, cartoonists, engravers and others Producers and organizers of sports events Organize personal events activities Photography
Design	 Fashion Design Interior Design Graphic Design Jewelry Design Other Specialized Design Activities
Personal service	 Personal Events Planners Repair shoe and leather goods Repair personal and household goods Iron all types of clothing, including fur and textiles Laundry textile and fur products
Trade	 Trade/sale handicrafts, antiques, art galleries, stamps, and archeological currency and equestrian supplies

Can employees in the public or private sector obtain a Sijili?



Can a Company/Individual conventional commercial registration be converted to Sijili?

Yes. Click here for the detailed process

What are the condition of converting a Company/individual CR to Sijili?



There should not be multiple branches associated with the CR



All work permits listed under the CR must be canceled



The owner of the CR must be Bahraini



The company legal form must be changed to an Individual Establishment What are the cases in which the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism can terminate/delete a commercial registration?

- Enforcement of any order or judicial decision
- Violation of the law, regulations and decisions
- Non-fulfillment of one or more of the registration conditions
- Not practicing the activity for a year strait

Can an owner of a deleted commercial registration apply for a different commercial registration?

The Registration Department may issue a new commercial registration after payment of any outstanding amounts, on previously deleted CR due to:

- Failure to obtain the required approvals and licenses from the related entities
- Non-renewal or discontinuation of activity
- Deletion of the registration and closure of the place of activity in implementation of a court decision
- Violating the law, regulations and decisions

After obtaining a commercial registration, how much time do I have to apply for a license?

Owner's of a commercial registration without a license, must obtain a license within 1 year after being issued the commercial registration. Failure to do so without a reasonable justification will result in the commercial registration to be deleted by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism.

What is the process to reinstate a commercial registration?

A commercial registration can be reinstated within two weeks from the date of cancellation by submitting an electronic complaint via Sijilat.

What is a commercial agency?

A commercial agency is the representation of foreign or local companies or factories, through the distribution and promotion of their product/services and brand name in exchange for commission or profit.

What are the requirements to register an agency?

- Agency registration is open only to Bahraini nationality or a 100% Bahrainiowned company
- The applicant must have an active commercial registration
- The commercial registration activity matches the products to be provided by the agency

How do I submit an application for a commercial agency?

Applications for registration, renewal or cancellation can be done electronically through <u>www.sijilat.bh</u>. <u>Click here</u> for the detailed person.

What are the documents required to register an agency?

1) A written agreement between the agent and the principal which contains the following information:

- Names and nationalities of the agent and the principal
- Properties, goods and services included in the agency, as well as the rights and obligations of both the agent and the principal, and the amount of profit or commission the agent is entitled to
- The agent's physical area of operation
- The term of the agency, if it is for a definite period
- The nature of business of both the agent and the principal
- The brand name or trade marks of the goods
- The agent's obligation to provide adequate spare parts and necessary maintenance to repair vehicles, machinery, engines, equipment or electrical or

electronic appliances covered by the commercial agency

- Arbitration clause included in the agreement
- Any other terms and conditions agreed upon between the agent and the principal provided that they do not conflict with the provisions of the law
- 2) A copy of chamber of commerce membership card registered to the agent name.
- 3) The trademark will be checked by Registration Directorate (Agency section) once the application is submitted.

Who are the eligible individuals to apply through Sijilat?

Applications for registration, renewal and registration shall be submitted by the owner or his representative (An authorization letter must be provided in case the application will be submitted by a representative).

How is the Agency certificate issued and what does it include?

Agency certificates are issued electronically through Sijilat.bh and include:

- Agency Number
- Agency type
- Date of registration
- CR number
- Branch number
- Duration of the agreement The duration of the renewal and the

period of its commencement and termination

- The name, address and nationality of the agent
- Name and address of the client
- Products / Services
- Trademark information

How long is the agency registration valid for?

The agency registration is valid for year and must be renewed annually.

Can I perform any transaction on my commercial registration in Sijilat if there is a violation on my commercial registration?

The Registration Directorate shall not accept renewing and canceling the CR or allowing any change, if the owner of the registration has unresolved violations or amounts due to the Ministry related to the CR requesting renewal, cancellation or change. What is the deference between a commercial agency & trademark?

A trademark is an intellectual property of a distinctive design whether it is a form, word or color used to distinguish a particular product or service to protect it from commercial fraud. However, a commercial agency is representation of foreign or local companies or factories through distribution and promotion their product/services brand name for commission or profit.

Can companies be hosted at the professional body's address and for how long?

In the absence of an existing commercial address, the company can use the address of the professional body as a temporary address for a maximum period of 6 months, after which the company must change it's commercial address.