MSSB/UNSO\_03/2016 28 November 2016 Circular

# Circular to Money Service Operators Anti-Money Laundering/Counter-Terrorist Financing

## (1) United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance

Further to our circular issued on 28 September 2016, an updated list specifying terrorists and terrorist associates designated by the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC") was published under section 4 of the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance ("the UNATMO") (Cap.575) in the Gazette on 15 September, 30 September, 7 October, 28 October and 4 November 2016 (G.N. 5197, 5462, 5651, 6031 and 6223 of 2016).

## (2) United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2016

Further to our circular issued on 28 September 2016, an updated list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 32 of the United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2016 (Cap.537BS) was published in the Gazette on 9 September 2016 (G.N. 5059 of 2016).

## (3) United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015

Further to our circular issued on 29 December 2015, an updated list specifying "relevant persons" under section 30A of the United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015 (Cap. 537BP) ("the Yemen Regulation") was published in the Gazette on 30 September 2016 (G.N. 5463 of 2016).

## (4) United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation 2012

Further to our circular issued on 28 September 2016, an updated list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 29 of the United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation 2012 (Cap. 537AX) was published in the Gazette on 30 September 2016 (G.N. 5465 of 2016).

## (5) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2016

The United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2016 ("the DRC Regulation"), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO"), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 157 of 2016) on 14 October 2016 with immediate effect.

The DRC Regulation implements sanctions against the Democratic Republic of the Congo imposed by the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC") under Resolution 2293.

We would like to draw Money Service Operators' ("MSOs") attention to section 5 of the DRC Regulation which provides for the prohibition against making available funds



or other financial assets or economic resources to relevant persons or entities, or dealing with funds or other financial assets or economic resources of relevant persons or entities, except with a licence.

Further to the gazettal of the United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2016 (Cap. 537BT) ("the DRC Regulation") on 14 October 2016, a list specifying "relevant persons" under section 30 of the DRC Regulation was published in the Gazette on 21 October 2016 (G.N. 5905 of 2016).

## (6) United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2016

The United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2016 ("the South Sudan Regulation"), made under the UNSO, was published in the Gazette (L.N. 158 of 2016) on 14 October 2016 with immediate effect.

The South Sudan Regulation implements sanctions against South Sudan imposed by the UNSC under Resolution 2290.

We would like to draw MSOs' attention to section 2 of the South Sudan Regulation which provides for the prohibition against making available funds or other financial assets or economic resources to relevant persons or entities, or dealing with funds or other financial assets or economic resources of relevant persons or entities, except with a licence.

Further to the gazettal of the United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2016 (Cap. 537BU) ("the South Sudan Regulation") on 14 October 2016, a list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 15 of the South Sudan Regulation was published in the Gazette on 21 October 2016 (G.N. 5904 of 2016).

The aforesaid lists in items (1) to (4), (6), (8) and regulations in item (5) and (7) can be found on the Government's website (http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e).

MSOs should check the names in all of the lists in items (1) to (4), (6) and (8) above against their records, and report any transactions or relationships they have or have had with the named persons or entities to the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit.

Furthermore, MSOs are reminded to refer to Chapter 6 of the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing which contains guidance on the appropriate measures that MSOs should take to ensure compliance with the UNATMO and the regulations made under the UNSO.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this circular, please contact us on 3759 3735.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department

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