



MSSB/MIS_02/2017

29 September 2017

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

We would like to draw the attention of Money Service Operators (“MSOs”) to the individuals and entities designated as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (“SDGT”) under the sanctions programs of the US Government. These terrorist-related designations are identified by the program tag “[SDGT]” at the end of their entries in the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (“SDN List”). These SDGT designations include, among others, designations under the Executive Order 13224.

MSOs are advised to refer to the SDN List available on the website of the US Treasury (<https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/sdnlist.pdf>) for the current list of SDGT designations. The SDGT designations, which include terrorist-related designations under the Executive Order 13224 and other US executive orders, laws and regulations, will assist MSOs in identifying transactions with terrorist suspects and designated parties, and fulfilling the obligation to report any transactions known or suspected to be terrorist-related to the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit (“JFIU”) pursuant to the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance (the “UNATMO”) (Cap.575).

MSOs should browse the website of the US Treasury (<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/archive.aspx>) regularly for additional names and other changes made by the US Government from time to time to the list of SDGT designations.

MSOs should check against their records the names in the updated list specifying terrorists and terrorist associates designated by the United Nations Security Council published under the UNATMO and the names of individuals and entities designated as SDGT in the SDN List, and report any transactions or relationships they have or have had with the named persons or entities to the JFIU.

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 conduct checks against the relevant updated lists of terrorist-related designations and to ensure compliance with the UNATMO.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this circular, please contact us on 2707 7819.

Money Service Supervision Bureau

Customs and Excise Department

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