



MSSB/UNSO_01/2018
22 March 2018

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

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

Further to our circular issued on 4 December 2017, 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 1 December 2017 and 12 January 2018 (G.N. 8956 of 2017 and G.N. 165 of 2018).

Further to our circulars issued on 21 February 2018 ^{Note 1} and 9 March 2018 ^{Note 2} regarding the amendment by the UNSC committee which administers the sanctions regime relating to ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida of its sanctions list, an updated list specifying terrorists and terrorist associates designated by the UNSC was published under section 4 of the UNATMO (Cap. 575) in the Gazette on 2 and 16 March 2018 respectively (G.N. 1401 and 1793 of 2018) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

(2) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Regulation

Further to our circular issued on 4 December 2017 and 21 February 2018 ^{Note 1}, regarding the amendment by the UNSC committee which administers the sanctions regime relating to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its sanctions list, an updated list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 31 of the United Nations Sanctions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Regulation (Cap. 537AE) was published in the Gazette on 29 December 2017 and 23 February 2018 (G.N. 9942 of 2017 and G.N. 1233 of 2018) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Mali) Regulation

The United Nations Sanctions (Mali) Regulation ("the Mali Regulation"), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO"), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 12 of 2018) on 26 January 2018 with immediate effect.

The Mali Regulation implements sanctions against Mali imposed by the UNSC under Resolution 2374.

We would like to draw Money Service Operators' ("MSOs") attention to section 2 of the Mali 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.

Note 1 The circular issued on 21 February 2018 re: early alert on United Nations Sanctions can be found on the C&ED's website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=148841>)

Note 2 The circular issued on 9 March 2018 re: early alert on United Nations Sanctions can be found on the C&ED's website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=150397>)



(4) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2017

Further to our circular issued on 4 December 2017, an updated list specifying “relevant persons and entities” under section 30 of the United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2017 (Cap. 537BX) was published in the Gazette on 9 February 2018 (G.N. 702 of 2018).

(5) United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation

Further to our circular issued on 16 March 2015, an updated list specifying “relevant persons and entities” under section 30 of the United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation (Cap. 537AN) was published in the Gazette on 16 March 2018 (G.N. 1794 of 2018).

The aforesaid lists in items (1), (2), (4) and (5) and regulation in item (3) can be found on the Government’s website (<http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e>).

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.

The Customs and Excise Department expects all new designations to be screened by MSOs against their client lists as soon as practicable whenever there are updates. MSOs are also reminded to report any transactions or relationships they have or have had with any designated person or entity to the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit.

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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