



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

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

Further to our circulars issued on 19 June ^{Note1}, 18 July ^{Note2}, 10 ^{Note3} and 24 August 2018 ^{Note4} regarding the amendment by the United Nations Security Council (“UNSC”) committee which administers the sanctions regime relating to ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida of its sanctions list, updated lists specifying the name of the persons designated by the UNSC as terrorist or terrorist associate were published under section 4 of the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance (“the UNATMO”) (Cap. 575) in the Gazette on 19 June, 18 July, 10 and 24 August 2018 respectively (G.N.(E) 30, 37, 45 and 48 of 2018) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

(2) United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2011

Further to our circular issued on 23 January 2017, an updated list specifying “relevant persons and entities” under section 38 of the United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2011 (Cap. 537AW) was published in the Gazette on 15 June, 14 and 21 September 2018 (G.N. 4162, 6889 and 7033 of 2018).

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2018

Further to the gazettal of the United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2018 (Cap. 537CA) (“the CAR Regulation”) on 8 June 2018, a list specifying “relevant persons and entities” under section 32 of the CAR Regulation was published in the Gazette on 15 June 2018 (G.N. 4161 of 2018).

(4) United Nations Sanctions (ISIL and Al-Qaida) Regulation

The United Nations Sanctions (ISIL and Al-Qaida) Regulation (“the Regulation”), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) (“UNSO”), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 157 of 2018) on 21 September 2018 with immediate effect.

The Regulation implements sanctions against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities imposed by the United Nations Security Council under Resolution 2368.

We would like to draw money service operators’ (“MSOs”) attention to section 5 of the Regulation which provides for prohibition against making available to ISIL and Al-Qaida any funds or other financial assets or economic resources, or dealing with funds or other financial assets or economic resources of ISIL and Al-Qaida, except with a licence.

Note1 *The circular issued on 19 June 2018 can be found on the Customs and Excise Department’s (“C&ED”) website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=160543>)*

Note2 *The circular issued on 18 July 2018 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=163797>)*

Note3 *The circular issued on 10 August 2018 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=166397>)*

Note4 *The circular issued on 24 August 2018 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=168221>)*



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A list specifying “individuals, groups, undertakings and entities” was published under section 25 of the Regulation on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (“CEDB”) on 21 September 2018 ^{Note5}.

The aforesaid lists in items (1) to (3) and regulation in item (4) 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 C&ED 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.

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End

^{Note5} MSOs are advised to make reference to the list of persons and entities subject to targeted financial sanctions under the UNSO available on the CEDB’s website at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/en/Policy_Responsibilities/united_nations_sanctions.html.