



MSSB/UNSO_14/2019
28 June 2019

Circular

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

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

Further to the circulars issued by the Customs and Excise Department (“C&ED”) on 16 ^{Note1}, 18 ^{Note2} and 23 April ^{Note3}, 2 ^{Note4}, 15 ^{Note5} and 22 May ^{Note6} 2019 regarding the amendments to the sanctions list by the United Nations Security Council (“UNSC”) committee which administers the sanctions regime relating to ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida and UNSC Resolution 1988 (2011), updated lists specifying the persons and property designated by the UNSC as terrorist or terrorist associate were published under section 4 of the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance (Cap. 575) (“UNATMO”) in the Gazette on 16, 18 and 23 April, 2, 15 and 22 May 2019 respectively (G.N.(E) 21, 22, 23, 26, 28 and 31 of 2019) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

(2) United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2018

Further to our circular issued on 11 January 2019, an updated list specifying “individuals and entities” under section 32 of the United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2018 (Cap. 537CC) was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (“CEDB”) on 26 June 2019 at (https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_south_sudan_en.pdf).

A relevant press release issued by the UNSC, reflecting the update since the previous list was published on the website of the CEDB is at (<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13859.doc.htm>).

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2019

The United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2019 (“the CAR Regulation”), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap.537) (“UNSO”), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 81 of 2019) on 31 May 2019 with immediate effect. The CAR Regulation implements sanctions against the Central African Republic as renewed by the UNSC under Resolution 2454.

We would like to draw Money Service Operators’ (“MSOs”) attention to section 5 of the CAR Regulation which provides for prohibition against making available economic assets to relevant persons or entities, or dealing with economic assets of relevant persons or entities, except with a licence.

Note1 *The circular issued on 16 April 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=192937>)*

Note2 *The circular issued on 18 April 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=193337>)*

Note3 *The circular issued on 23 April 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=193501>)*

Note4 *The circular issued on 2 May 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=195015>)*

Note5 *The circular issued on 15 May 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=196445>)*

Note6 *The circular issued on 22 May 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=197433>)*



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A list specifying “individuals and entities” was published under section 32 of the CAR Regulation on the website of the CEDB on 31 May 2019 at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/CAR_List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_en.pdf).

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

MSOs are also reminded to refer to Chapter 6 of the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism (For Money Service Operators) 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.

Money Service Supervision Bureau
Customs and Excise Department

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