



**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 14 ^{Note 1}, 15 ^{Note 2} and 21 August ^{Note 3}, 14 October ^{Note 4} and 6 November ^{Note 5} 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, 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 14, 15 and 22 August, 14 October and 6 November 2019 respectively (G.N.(E) 39, 40, 41, 51 & 507 of 2019) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

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

Further to our circular issued on 28 June 2019, an updated list specifying “individuals and entities” under section 32 of the United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CH) was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (“CEDB”) on 10 September 2019 at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/CAR_List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_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/sc13942.doc.htm>.

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2019

The United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2019 (“the DRC Regulation 2019”) made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) (“UNSO”), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 157 of 2019) on 25 October 2019 with immediate effect. The DRC Regulation 2019 implements sanctions against the Democratic Republic of the Congo as renewed by the United Nations Security Council under Resolution 2478.

We would like to draw Money Service Operators’ (“MSOs”) attention to section 6 of the DRC Regulation 2019 which provides for prohibition against making available economic assets to individuals and entities named in the list published under section 29(1) of the DRC Regulation 2019; or dealing with economic assets of such persons or entities, except with a licence.

A list of “individuals and entities” was published under section 29(1) of the DRC Regulation 2019 on the website of the CEDB on 25 October 2019 at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/DR_Congo_Eng.pdf.

(4) United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2019

The United Nations Sanctions (South Sudan) Regulation 2019 (“the South Sudan Regulation

Note¹ The circular issued on 14 August 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website <https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=207546>

Note² The circular issued on 15 August 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website <https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=207722>

Note³ The circular issued on 21 August 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website <https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=208657>

Note⁴ The circular issued on 14 October 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website <https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=214947>

Note⁵ The circular issued on 6 November 2019 can be found on the C&ED’s website <https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=218681>



2019”) made under the UNSO, was published in the Gazette (L.N. 158 of 2019) on 25 October 2019 with immediate effect. The South Sudan Regulation 2019 implements sanctions against South Sudan as renewed by the United Nations Security Council under Resolution 2471.

We would like to draw MSOs’ attention to section 6 of the South Sudan Regulation 2019 which provides for prohibition against making available economic assets to individuals and entities named in the list published under section 33(1) of the South Sudan Regulation 2019, or any individuals or entities acting on their behalf or at their direction, or entities owned or controlled by them; or dealing with economic assets of such persons or entities, except with a licence.

A list of “individuals and entities” was published under section 33(1) of the South Sudan Regulation 2019 on the website of the CEDB on 25 October 2019 at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_south_sudan_en.pdf.

(5) United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2019 and United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015 (Repeal) Regulation

The United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2019 (“the Yemen Regulation 2019”) and the United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015 (Repeal) Regulation (“the Yemen Repeal Regulation”), made under the UNSO, were published in the Gazette (L.N. 94 & 95 of 2019) on 12 July 2019 with immediate effect.

The Yemen Regulation 2019 implements all sanctions and exemptions imposed by the UNSC on Yemen, including those extended by UNSC Resolution 2456, using modernised drafting styles to improve tidiness and readability of the legislation. Consequential to the making of the Yemen Regulation 2019, the Yemen Repeal Regulation repeals the United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015.

We would like to draw MSOs’ attention to section 5 of the Yemen Regulation 2019 which provides for prohibition against making available economic assets to a relevant person or a relevant entity, or dealing with economic assets of such person or entity, except with a licence.

A list specifying “relevant persons and entities” was published under section 31 of the Yemen Regulation 2019 on the website of the CEDB on 12 July 2019 at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_yemen_en.pdf.

The aforesaid lists in item (1) and regulations in items (3) to (5) 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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