



**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 January ^{Note1}, 5 ^{Note2}, 19 ^{Note3}, 25 ^{Note4} February, 5 ^{Note5} and 25 ^{Note6} March 2020 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 16 January, 5, 19, 25 February, 5 and 25 March 2020 respectively (G.N. (E.) 2, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 14 of 2020) to reflect the amended sanctions list mentioned above.

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

The United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2019 (“Amendment Regulation”), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) (“UNSO”), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 175 of 2019) on 29 November 2019 with immediate effect.

The Amendment Regulation amends the United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CH) to reflect the updated exemption criteria for arms embargo measures imposed on the Central African Republic, as set out in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2488.

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Mali) Regulation 2019

The United Nations Sanctions (Mali) Regulation 2019 (“the Mali Regulation”), made under the UNSO, was published in the Gazette (L.N. 176 of 2019) on 29 November 2019 with immediate effect. The Mali Regulation implements sanctions against Mali as renewed by the United Nations Security Council under Resolution 2484.

We would like to draw Money Service Operators’ (“MSOs”) attention to section 3 of the Mali Regulation which provides for prohibition against making available to certain persons or entities any economic assets, or dealing with economic assets of such persons or entities, except with a licence.

An updated list specifying “individuals and entities” under section 15 of the Mali Regulation (Cap. 537CL) was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (“CEDB”) on 16 January 2020 at

Note¹ The circular issued on 16 January 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=230397>)

Note² The circular issued on 5 February 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=232066>)

Note³ The circular issued on 19 February 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=232655>)

Note⁴ The circular issued on 25 February 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=232874>)

Note⁵ The circular issued on 5 March 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=233418>)

Note⁶ The circular issued on 25 March 2020 can be found on the C&ED’s website (<https://eservices.customs.gov.hk/MSOS/downloadFile?id=235771>)



https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/mali_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/2020/sc14079.doc.htm>).

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

Further to our circular issued on 7 November 2019, an updated list specifying “individuals and entities” under section 29 of the United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CJ) was published on the website of the CEDB on 26 February 2020 at

https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/DR_Congo_Eng.pdf).

A relevant press release issued by the UNSC, reflecting the update since the previous list was published on the website at <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14123.doc.htm>).

(5) United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2019

Further to our circular issued on 08 April 2019, an updated list specifying “individuals and entities” under section 43 of the United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CF) was published on the website of the CEDB on 26 February 2020 at

https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/doc/en/Policy_Responsibilities/libya_List_of_TargetedFinancialSanctions_en.pdf).

A relevant press release issued by the UNSC, reflecting the update since the previous list was published at <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14124.doc.htm>).

(6) United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2020

The United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (“Somalia Regulation”), made under the UNSO, was published in the Gazette (L.N. 27 of 2020) on 20 March 2020 with immediate effect.

The Somalia Regulation amends the United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CG) to implement the decisions on exemptions for arms embargo and financial sanctions, as well as the sanctions measures on improvised explosive device components, as set out in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2498.

The aforesaid lists in items (1), regulations in items (2), (3) and (6) 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 7848.

Money Service Supervision Bureau
Customs and Excise Department

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