

Circular

MSSB/UNSO\_05/2015 26 May 2015

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

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

Further to our circular issued on 30 April 2015, 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 17, 24 April and 8 May 2015 (G.N. 2811, 2937 and 3269 of 2015). Relevant press releases issued by the UNSC, reflecting the updates since the previous lists were published in the Gazette (G.N. 2689, 2811 and 2937 of 2015).

## (2) United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2015

The United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2015 ("the CAR Regulation") (Cap. 537BM), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance ("the UNSO") (Cap. 537), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 82 of 2015) on 30 April 2015 with immediate effect.

The CAR Regulation implements sanctions against the Central African Republic imposed by the UNSC under Resolution 2196.

Further to the gazettal of the CAR Regulation on 30 April 2015, a list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 32 of the CAR Regulation was published in the Gazette on 8 May 2015 (G.N. 3270 of 2015).

We would like to draw Money Service Operators' ("MSOs") attention to section 5 of the CAR 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.

#### (3) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2015

The United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2015 ("the DRC Regulation") (Cap. 537BN), made under the UNSO, was published in the Gazette (L.N. 83 of 2015) on 30 April 2015 with immediate effect.

The DRC Regulation implements sanctions against the Democratic Republic of the Congo imposed by the UNSC under Resolution 2198.

Further to the gazettal of the DRC Regulation on 30 April 2015, a list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 30 of the DRC Regulation was published in the Gazette on 8 May 2015 (G.N. 3271 of 2015).

We would like to draw MSOs' attention to section 5 of the DRC 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.

## (4) United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation 2012

Further to our circular issued on 14 November 2014, an updated list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 29 of the United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation 2012 (Cap. 537AX) was published in the Gazette on 30 April 2015 (G.N. 3089 of 2015).

### (5) United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2011

Further to our circular issued on 14 November 2014, 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 30 April 2015 (G.N. 3090 of 2015).

The aforesaid lists and regulations can be found on the Government's website <a href="http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e">http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e</a>).

#### (6) US President's Executive Order 13224

Further to our circular issued on 30 April 2015, this is to inform you that the US Government has updated the list of designated individuals and entities issued under the US President's Executive Order 13224 ("the Executive Order"). The updated information can be found on the website of the US Treasury (http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/terror.pdf)

As the designated individuals and entities under the Executive Order may be updated by the US Government from time to time, MSOs are reminded to browse the website of the US Treasury regularly for the latest information.

MSOs should check the names in all of the above lists against their records, and report any transactions or relationships they have or have had with the named persons or entities to the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit.

Furthermore, 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, the regulations made under the UNSO and the Executive Order.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this circular, please contact us on 3759 3720.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department

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