

MSSB/UNSO_10/2015 29 December 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 25 November 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 20 November, 4 December and 11 December 2015 (G.N. 8915, 9389 and 9509 of 2015).

(2) United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation 2012

Further to our circular issued on 26 May 2015, 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 20 November 2015 (G.N. 8916 of 2015).

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015

Further to our circular issued on 21 August 2015, an updated list specifying "relevant persons" under section 30 of the United Nations Sanctions (Yemen) Regulation 2015 (Cap 537BP) ("the Yemen Regulation") was published in the Gazette on 20 November 2015 (G.N. 8917 of 2015). Separately, a list specifying "designated persons" for the purpose of arms embargo measures under section 31 of the Yemen Regulation was published in the Gazette on 20 November 2015 (G.N. 8918 of 2015). This list is identical to the list of "relevant persons" designated for the purpose of financial sanctions under section 30 of the Yemen Regulation (G.N. 8917 of 2015).

(4) United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2015

Further to our circular issued on 26 May 2015, an updated list specifying "relevant persons and entities" under section 32 of the United Nations Sanctions (Central African Republic) Regulation 2015 (Cap. 537BM) was published in the Gazette on 20 November 2015 (G.N. 8919 of 2015).

(5) United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2015 (Repeal) Regulation and United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) (No. 2) Regulation 2015

The United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2015 (Repeal) Regulation made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO") was published in the Gazette (L.N. 240 of 2015) on 11 December 2015 with immediate effect.

Additionally, please be informed that the United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) (No. 2) Regulation 2015 ("the Liberia No. 2 Regulation") made under the UNSO was also published in the Gazette (L.N. 239 of 2015) on 11 December 2015 with immediate effect. The sanctions under the Liberia No. 2 Regulation include prohibition against the supply, sale, transfer or carriage of arms or related materiel to a person operating in the territory of Liberia; and prohibition against the provision of assistance, advice or training related to military activities to a person operating in the territory of Liberia.

The aforesaid lists in items (1) to (4) and regulations in item (5) can be found on the Government's website (http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e).

(6) US President's Executive Order 13224

Further to our circular issued on 25 November 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, money service operators (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 lists in items (1) to (4) and (6) above 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 3735.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department

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