



MSSB/UNSO_01/2016

24 March 2016

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

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

Further to our circular issued on 29 December 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 18 December 2015, 29 January, 26 February, 4 March and 11 March 2016 (G.N. 9732 of 2015, G.N. 480, 1004, 1187 and 1341 of 2016).

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

Further to our circular issued on 29 December 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 31 December 2015 (G.N. 10026 of 2015).

(3) United Nations Sanctions (Iran) (Amendment) Regulation 2016

United Nations Sanctions (Iran) (Amendment) Regulation 2016 (“Amendment Regulation”) made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap.537) (“UNSO”) was published in the Gazette (L.N. 8 of 2016) on 15 January 2016 with immediate effect.

The Amendment Regulation amends the United Nations Sanctions (Iran) Regulation (Cap.537AF) to incorporate decisions of the UNSC under paragraphs 21 to 23 of Resolution 2231. It mainly implements new exemptions to the sanctions measures in respect of Iran. Please see our circular issued on 21 August 2015 for the list specifying “relevant persons and entities”, which was published in the Gazette on the same date, under section 31 of the United Nations Sanctions (Iran) Regulation.

Furthermore, Money Service Operators (“MSOs”) are reminded to refer to Chapter 6 of the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (“AML Guideline”) which contains guidance on the appropriate measures that MSOs should take to ensure compliance with the regulations made under the UNSO.



(4) United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) (Amendment) Regulation 2016

The United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) (Amendment) Regulation 2016 ("Amendment Regulation") made under the UNSO (Cap.537) was published in the Gazette (L.N. 24 of 2016) on 29 January 2016 with immediate effect.

The Amendment Regulation amends the United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation (Cap.537AN) to incorporate provisions implementing decisions of the UNSC under Resolution 2244. It mainly implements the exceptions to the arms embargo measures, the prohibition against the provision of advice, assistance and training, as well as financial sanctions in respect of Somalia. Please see our circular issued on 16 March 2015 for the list specifying "relevant persons and entities", which was published in the Gazette on the same date, under section 30 of the United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation.

The aforesaid lists in items (1) to (2) and regulations in item (3) to (4) can be found on the Government's website (<http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e>).

(5) US President's Executive Order 13224

Further to our circular issued on 29 December 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 lists in items (1), (2) and (5) 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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