

MSSB/UNSO\_16/2023

16 November 2023

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

## United Nations Sanctions (ISIL and Al-Qaida) Regulation

Further to our circular issued on 24 July 2023, an updated list specifying "individuals and entities" under section 25 of the United Nations Sanctions (ISIL and Al-Qaida) Regulation (Cap. 537CB) was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau ("CEDB") on 16 November 2023. A relevant press release issued by the United Nations Security Council, reflecting the updates since the previous list was published on the website of the CEDB, is available at

https://press.un.org/en/2023/sg15492.doc.htm.

The aforesaid list can be found on the website of the CEDB at <u>https://www.cedb.gov.hk/assets/document/cedb/policies/sanctions/20231115-%20ISIL%20&</u> <u>%20AI-Qaida%20List%20(Eng).pdf</u>.

Money Service Operators ("MSOs") are reminded to refer to Chapter 6 of the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism (For MSOs) which contains guidance on the appropriate measures that MSOs should take to ensure compliance with the regulations made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap.537).

The Customs and Excise Department 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 at 3742 7742.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department

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