
TO : Cyprus Investment Firms
FROM : Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission
DATE : 5 August 2010
CIRCULAR No. : CI144-2010-04
FILE No. : E.K. 6.1.14
SUBJECT : Public Statement of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
on countries and jurisdictions which present strategic anti-
money laundering and combating financing of terrorism
(AML/CFT) deficiencies

Further to the Circular CI144-2010-02 of the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission, dated 12 April 2010, in relation to the abovementioned subject, we are attaching a new public statement of the FATF, issued on 25 June 2010, which repeats the concerns expressed about the continuing deficiencies in the anti money laundering and terrorist financing systems of Iran, Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Sao Tome and Principe.

In this regard, the FATF calls upon the international financial community to keep exercising extreme vigilance for transactions and business relationships related to persons from the said countries. It is noted that Angola, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Pakistan and Turkmenistan, which were listed in the previous public statement of the FATF, dated 18 February 2010, have been removed from the new statement.

In view of the above, the CIF's are required to continue applying the enhanced due diligence measures prescribed in paragraph 7, of the Fourth Appendix of the Directive DI144-2007-08 of the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission for the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, with regard to transactions and business relationships with persons from the countries referred to the public statement of the FATF, issued on 25 June 2010.

Sincerely

Georgios Charalambous
Chairman, Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission



FATF PUBLIC STATEMENT

25 June 2010

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global standard setting body for anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). In order to protect the international financial system from ML/FT risks and to encourage greater compliance with the AML/CFT standards, the FATF identified jurisdictions that have strategic deficiencies and, along with the FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs), works with them to address those deficiencies that pose a risk to the international financial system. The FATF and the relevant FSRBs will continue to work with the jurisdictions below and report on their progress in addressing the identified deficiencies.

- 1. Jurisdictions subject to a FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply counter-measures to protect the international financial system from the ongoing and substantial money laundering and terrorist financing (ML/TF) risks emanating from the jurisdiction¹:**

Iran

- 2. Jurisdictions with strategic AML/CFT deficiencies that have not committed to an action plan developed with the FATF to address key deficiencies as of June 2010. The FATF calls on its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with each jurisdiction, as described below.**

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)*

São Tomé and Príncipe

* Despite the FATF's efforts, this jurisdiction has not constructively engaged with the FATF or an FSRB as of June 2010 and has not committed to the international AML/CFT standards.

¹ The FATF has previously issued public statements calling for counter-measures on Iran. Those statements are updated below.

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1. Jurisdictions subject to a FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply counter-measures to protect the international financial system from the ongoing and substantial money laundering and terrorist financing (ML/TF) risks emanating from the jurisdiction:

Iran

The FATF welcomes the recent steps that Iran has taken to engage with the FATF, but remains concerned by Iran's failure to meaningfully address the ongoing and substantial deficiencies in its anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regime. The FATF remains particularly concerned about Iran's failure to address the risk of terrorist financing and the serious threat this poses to the integrity of the international financial system. The FATF urges Iran to immediately and meaningfully address its AML/CFT deficiencies, in particular by criminalising terrorist financing and effectively implementing suspicious transaction reporting (STR) requirements.

The FATF reaffirms its call on members and urges all jurisdictions to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relationships and transactions with Iran, including Iranian companies and financial institutions. In addition to enhanced scrutiny, the FATF reaffirms its 25 February 2009 call on its members and urges all jurisdictions to apply effective counter-measures to protect their financial sectors from money laundering and financing of terrorism (ML/FT) risks emanating from Iran. FATF continues to urge jurisdictions to protect against correspondent relationships being used to bypass or evade counter-measures and risk mitigation practices, and to take into account ML/FT risks when considering requests by Iranian financial institutions to open branches and subsidiaries in their jurisdiction. If Iran fails to take concrete steps to improve its AML/CFT regime, the FATF will consider calling on its members and urging all jurisdictions to strengthen counter-measures in October 2010.

2. Jurisdictions with strategic AML/CFT deficiencies that have not committed to an action plan developed with the FATF to address key deficiencies as of June 2010. The FATF calls on its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with each jurisdiction, as described below.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)*

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) has not committed to the AML/CFT international standards, nor has it responded to the FATF's numerous requests for engagement on these issues. DPRK's lack of a comprehensive AML/CFT regime poses a risk to the international financial system. DPRK should work with the FATF to develop a viable AML/CFT regime in line with international standards.

São Tomé and Príncipe

The FATF remains concerned by São Tomé and Príncipe's failure to meaningfully address the deficiencies in its AML/CFT regime, particularly relating to terrorist financing. São Tomé and Príncipe's lack of a comprehensive AML/CFT regime poses a risk to the international financial system. São Tomé and Príncipe should work with the FATF and GIABA to address the remaining AML/CFT deficiencies.