

November 6, 2015

To the Managements of all designated non-financial service providers.

CMB/gcr/1.13/INT/4396

Subject: FATF statements dated October 23, 2015 / FATF/2015-3

Dear Management,

With due regard to the requirements set out in the State Ordinance for the Prevention and Combating of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (*Landsverordening voorkoming en bestrijding witwassen en terrorismefinanciering*, AB 2011, no. 28) (AML/CFT State Ordinance) the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) urges the non-regulated financial service providers and the designated non-financial service providers, hereafter together referred to as service providers, to take duly notice of the information contained in this letter and the required follow-up actions that need to be taken.

Pursuant to Article 11 of the AML/CFT State Ordinance, service providers must perform enhanced customer due diligence, if and when a business relationship or a transaction by its nature entails a higher risk of money laundering or terrorist financing. The enhanced customer due diligence shall be carried out both prior to the business relation or the transaction, as during the business relationship in any case with natural persons, legal persons, trusts, and comparable entities that originate from countries or jurisdictions which do not or insufficiently apply the internationally accepted standards for the prevention and combating of money laundering and terrorist financing.

Pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 1, subsection a, of the AML/CFT State Ordinance, service providers must pay special attention to business relationships and transactions with natural persons, legal persons, trusts, and comparable entities originating from countries or jurisdictions that do not or insufficiently comply with the internationally accepted AML/CFT standards.

According to Article 13, paragraph 2, of the AML/CFT State Ordinance if a service provider can reasonably suspect that, amongst others, a transaction with a natural person, legal person, trust or a comparable entity originating from a country or jurisdiction as meant in the first paragraph, does not have an apparent economic or legal purpose, it must investigate the background and the purpose of this transaction and record its findings in writing. These findings must be kept for at least ten years pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 3, of the AML/CFT State Ordinance.

Article 13 of the AML/CFT State Ordinance is related to Recommendation 21 of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) which states:

"Financial institutions should give special attention to business relationships and transactions with persons, including companies and financial institutions, from countries which do not or insufficiently apply the FATF Recommendations. Whenever these transactions have no apparent economic or visible lawful purpose, their background and purpose should, as far as possible, be examined, the findings established in writing, and be available to help competent authorities. Where such a country continues

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On February 16, 2012 the FATF published the revised FATF Recommendations which can be found on the website of FATF: <a href="www.fatf-gafi.org">www.fatf-gafi.org</a>. However, the jurisdictions mentioned in the FATF Public Document and Compliance Document of October 19, 2012 have been reviewed based on the prior FATF Recommendations. Therefore, specific references made to the FATF Recommendations refer to the prior recommendations.

not to apply or insufficiently applies the FATF Recommendations, countries should be able to apply appropriate countermeasures".

Please note that aforementioned FATF Recommendation 21 also applies to designated non-financial service providers (reference is made to FATF Recommendation 16).

By letter of September 15, 2015 (CMB/pjj/1.13/INT/4292) the CBA sent you a similar letter regarding the previous FATF Public Statement and FATF document titled "Improving Global AML/CFT Compliance: On-going Process" (hereafter: FATF Compliance Document), also requiring you to take certain follow-up actions.

The purpose of this letter is to draw your urgent attention to the FATF Public Statement dated October 23, 2015 (enclosure 1) and the FATF Compliance Document of October 23, 2015 (enclosure 2). It is important to take good notice of the category change applicable to some countries when comparing the FATF Public Statement and the FATF Compliance Document of June 26, 2015 with the FATF Public Statement and the FATF Compliance Document of October 23, 2015.

With regard to the FATF Public Statement note that the following country has been removed from the FATF Public Statement:

- Algeria

Pursuant to its substantial progress in addressing its action plan agreed upon with the FATF, Algeria is now identified in the FATF Compliance Document.

Furthermore, with regard to Iran the FATF Public Statement states that if Iran fails to take concrete steps to continue to improve its CFT regime, the FATF will consider calling on its members and urging all jurisdictions to strengthen counter-measures against Iran in February 2016.

With regard to the FATF Compliance Document the following country has been added:

- Algeria

Also note that Ecuador and Sudan have been removed from this document and are no longer subject to FATF's monitoring process under its on-going global AML/CFT compliance process, since these countries have established the legal and regulatory framework to meet the commitments in their action plans regarding the strategic deficiencies that the FATF had identified in the past.

The FATF Public Statement and the FATF Compliance Document of October 23, 2015 relate to FATF Recommendation 21 and articles 11 and 13 of the AML/CFT State Ordinance in that they identify countries that fall into the following three categories:

#### A. FATF Public Statement

#### **Category One**

Into this category fall Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The FATF reaffirms its call on its members and urges all jurisdictions to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relationships and transactions with Iran and DPRK, including Iranian<sup>2</sup> and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please note that with regard to DPRK, the FATF reaffirms its February 25, 2011 call on its members and urges to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relationships and transactions with DPRK, including DPRK companies and financial institutions.

DPRK<sup>3</sup> companies and financial institutions. In addition to enhanced scrutiny, the FATF calls 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 and DPRK. FATF also urges and 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 and DPRK financial institutions to open branches and subsidiaries in their jurisdiction.

Furthermore, regarding Iran, due to the continuing terrorist financing threat emanating from Iran, jurisdictions should consider the steps already taken and possible additional safeguards or strengthening existing ones. Also, the FATF will consider calling on its members and urging all jurisdictions to strengthen counter-measures in February 2016 if Iran fails to take concrete steps to continue to improve its CFT regime.

#### **Category Two**

Into this category falls **Myanmar**. The FATF calls on its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with this jurisdiction, given that it has not made sufficient progress in implementing its action plan to address the deficiencies identified.

#### **B. FATF Compliance Document**

#### **Category Three**

Into this category fall Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Boznia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Guyana, Lao PDR, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Syria, Uganda, and Yemen.

With regard to Lao PDR, if it does not take sufficient action to implement significant components of its action plan by February 2016, then the FATF will identify this jurisdiction as being out of compliance with its agreed action plan and will take the additional step of calling upon its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with this country.

Furthermore, the Compliance Document outlines the specific areas of weaknesses and requests member jurisdictions to consider the information in the document.

#### C. Required action

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that senior management of service providers is informed of these important issues and to request that it emphasizes the importance of this communication to its compliance officer and informs its management team of the risks associated with business involving these jurisdictions.

Furthermore, in the "Guidance Notes for the establishment of a policy document and accompanying CDD procedures to risk rate the existing customer base for the benefit of non-regulated financial service providers and designated non-financial service providers" (the Guidance Notes) issued by the CBA, a list is included containing factors that should be considered when assessing and evaluating the risk profile of a customer. The factors related to country risk mention, amongst others, that in assessing which

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please note that with regard to Iran, the FATF reaffirms its February 25, 2009 call on its members and urges all jurisdictions to apply effective counter-measures to protect their financial sectors from ML/TF risks emanating from Iran.

jurisdictions may present a higher risk, objective data published by the FATF are relevant (section 3.2.3 of the Guidance Notes).

In addition, the CBA requires that service providers take the following specific actions with regard to the three categories of FATF listed countries:

#### Category One Action – the CBA requires service providers to:

- a) Conduct review of their client base on an ongoing basis to identify relationships or transactions with any connection to the Category One countries.
- b) Report such relationships or transactions to the CBA as soon as identified.
- c) Any relationship or transaction found must be rated ultra high risk and may only be continued if the regulated entity is satisfied it can monitor and mitigate the risks associated with such business. If the regulated entity is not satisfied the relationship must be exited.
- d) Document its risk assessment and monitoring/mitigation strategy and have this document available should the CBA wish to evaluate it.
- e) Record the progress of compliance with this action (or otherwise) in the board minutes.

All service providers are required to strictly comply with aforementioned instructions. The CBA will verify during the supervisory examinations whether this is done. Note in this respect that non-compliance will be treated very seriously.

#### Category Two Action – the CBA requires service providers to:

- a) Review their client base to identify relationships or transactions with any connection to the Category Two countries by **November 30, 2015.**
- b) Any relationship or transaction found must be rated at least high risk, taking this new or other information held into account.
- c) Document its risk assessment and monitoring/mitigation strategy and have the document available should the CBA wish to evaluate it.
- d) Record the progress of compliance with this action (or otherwise) in the board minutes.

**DEADLINE:** Please conclude the review of your client base by **November 30, 2015**. It is **not** necessary to send the results of your findings to the CBA. However, supervisory examinations by the CBA are likely to check that the work has been carried out within the stipulated time-frame. Non-compliance will be treated seriously.

#### Category Three Action – the CBA requires service providers to:

- a) Review their client base to identify relationships or transactions with any connection to the Category Three countries by **December 15, 2015**.
- b) (Re-)Evaluate its risk assessment of the relationship taking this new and any other information held into account.
- c) Document its risk assessment and monitoring/mitigation strategy and have the document available should the CBA wish to evaluate it.
- d) Record the progress of compliance with this action (or otherwise) in the board minutes.

**DEADLINE:** Please conclude the review of your client base by **December 15, 2015**. It is **not** necessary to send the results of your findings to the CBA. However, supervisory examinations by the CBA are likely to check that the work has been carried out within the stipulated time-frame. Non-compliance will be treated seriously.

Service providers will obviously need to conduct enhanced due diligence where customers are rated ultra or high risk. Entities should also bear in mind that several of the listed jurisdictions are subject to sanctions measures, such as EU and UN Sanctions. Furthermore, entities should consider their obligations to report unusual transactions to the MOT.

Finally, as also mentioned in the previous letters of the CBA, please note that these letters relating to money laundering and terrorist financing matters, are numbered sequentially and also placed in a newly designated area titled "FATF" under the link "Supervision" on the CBA's website www.cbaruba.org.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Mrs. L. Buckley of the Integrity Supervision Department at telephone number (297) 5252-219 or by e-mail l.buckley@cbaruba.org.

Sincerely yours,

Centrale Bank van Aruba

Enclosures: 2

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# FATF Public Statement - 23 October 2015

Send (mailto:?body=http://www.fatf-gafi.org//publications/high-riskandnon-cooperativejurisdictions/documents/public-statement-october-2015.html&subject=FATF

Public Statement - 23 October 2015 )

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Paris, 23 October 2015 - 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 money laundering and financing of terrorism (ML/FT) risks and to encourage greater compliance with the AML/CFT standards, the FATF identified jurisdictions that have strategic deficiencies and works with them to address those deficiencies that pose a risk to the international financial system.

Jurisdictions subject to a FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply countermeasures to protect the international financial system from the on-going and substantial money Jaundering and terrorist financing (ML/FT) risks emanating from the jurisdictions.

Iran

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

Jurisdictions with strategic AML/CFT deficiencies that have not made sufficient progress in addressing the deficiencies or have not committed to an action plan developed with the FATF to address the deficiencies. The FATF calls on its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with each jurisdiction, as described below.

Myanmar			

# Iran

The FATF remains particularly and exceptionally 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 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 countermeasures to protect their financial sectors from money laundering and financing of terrorism (ML/FT) risks emanating from Iran. The 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. Due to the continuing terrorist financing threat emanating from Iran, jurisdictions should consider the steps already taken and possible additional safeguards or strengthen existing ones.

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 requirements. If Iran fails to take concrete steps to continue to improve its CFT regime, the FATF will consider calling on its members and urging all jurisdictions to strengthen countermeasures in February 2016.

# Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

The FATF remains concerned by the DPRK's failure to address the significant deficiencies in its antimoney laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regime and the serious threat this poses to the integrity of the international financial system. The FATF urges the DPRK to immediately and meaningfully address its AML/CFT deficiencies.

The FATF reaffirms its 25 February 2011 call on its members and urges all jurisdictions to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relationships and transactions with the DPRK, including DPRK companies and financial institutions. In addition to enhanced scrutiny, the FATF further calls on its members and urges all jurisdictions to apply effective countermeasures to protect their financial sectors from money laundering and financing of terrorism

(ML/FT) risks emanating from the DPRK. Jurisdictions should also protect against correspondent relationships being used to bypass or evade counter-measures and risk mitigation practices, and take into account ML/FT risks when considering requests by DPRK financial institutions to open branches and subsidiaries in their jurisdiction.

# Myanmar

Myanmar has taken important steps towards improving its AML/CFT regime, including by issuing AML and CFT Rules and strengthening customer due diligence requirements for the financial sector. However, despite Myanmar's high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and APG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Myanmar has not made sufficient progress in implementing its action plan, and certain strategic deficiencies remain. Myanmar should continue to implement its action plan to address these deficiencies, including by: (1) adequately criminalising terrorist financing; (2) implementing the procedures to identify and freeze terrorist assets; and (3) ensuring an operationally independent and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit. The FATF encourages Myanmar to address the remaining deficiencies and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

#### More on:

 Other monitored jurisdictions (/publications/high-riskandnoncooperativejurisdictions/documents/fatf-compliance-october-2015.html)

High-risk and non-cooperative jurisdictions

# Reports

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# Frequently asked questions

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Paris, 23 October 2015- As part of its on-going review of compliance with the AML/CFT standards, the FATF has to date identified the following jurisdictions which have strategic AML/CFT deficiencies for which they have developed an action plan with the FATF. While the situations differ among each jurisdiction, each jurisdiction has provided a written high-level political commitment to address the identified deficiencies. The FATF welcomes these commitments.

A large number of jurisdictions have not yet been reviewed by the FATF. The FATF continues to identify additional jurisdictions, on an on-going basis, that pose a risk to the international financial system.

The FATF and the FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) will continue to work with the jurisdictions noted below and to report on the progress made in addressing the identified deficiencies. The FATF calls on these jurisdictions to complete the implementation of action plans expeditiously and within the proposed timeframes. The FATF will closely monitor the implementation of these action plans and encourages its members to consider the information presented below.

Afghanistan

Panama

Syria

Algeria

Papua New Guinea

Uganda

Angola

Yemen

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Iraq

Guyana

Jurisdiction not making sufficient progress

Lao PDR

Jurisdictions no longer Subject to the FATF's On-Going AML/CFT Compliance Process

Ecuador

Sudan

# Afghanistan

In June 2012, Afghanistan made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and APG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. Since June 2015, Afghanistan has taken steps towards improving its AML/CFT regime, including by issuing a fit and proper regulation for the financial sector, and cross-border declaration regulations for the physical transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments. However, the FATF has determined that certain strategic deficiencies remain. Afghanistan should continue to implement its action plan, including by: (1) further implementing its legal framework for identifying, tracing and freezing terrorist assets; (2) implementing an adequate AML/CFT supervisory and oversight programme for all financial sectors; and (3) further establishing and implementing effective controls for cross-border cash transactions. The FATF encourages Afghanistan to address its remaining deficiencies and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

# Algeria

Since October 2011, when Algeria made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and MENAFATF to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Algeria has made significant progress to improve its AML/CFT regime. Algeria has substantially addressed its action plan at a technical level, including by: (1) adequately criminalising terrorist financing; (2) establishing an adequate legal framework and procedures for identifying, tracing, and freezing terrorist assets; (3) improving and broadening customer due diligence (CDD) measures and ensuring that they apply to all financial institutions; (4) establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; and (5) enacting an appropriate provision for mutual legal assistance. The FATF will conduct an on-site visit to confirm that the process of implementing the required reforms and actions is underway to address deficiencies previously identified by the FATF.

# Angola

Since June 2010 and February 2013, when Angola made high-level political commitments to work with the FATF and ESAAMLG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Angola has made significant progress to improve its AML/CFT regime. Angola has substantially addressed its action plan at a technical level, including by: (1) adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing an adequate legal framework and procedures for the seizure and confiscation of funds related to money laundering and the identification and freezing of terrorist assets; (3) establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; (4) improving CDD measures; (5) ensuring that an appropriate legal basis exists to provide AML/CFT-related mutual legal assistance; and (6) ratifying the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime. The FATF will conduct an on-site visit to confirm that the process of implementing the required reforms and actions is underway to address deficiencies previously identified by the FATF.

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

In June 2015, Bosnia and Herzegovina made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and MONEYVAL to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. However, the FATF has determined that certain strategic deficiencies remain. Bosnia and Herzegovina should continue to implement its action plan to address these deficiencies, including by: (1) completing the criminalisation of terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework for freezing terrorist assets under UNSCR 1373; (3) implementing an adequate supervisory framework; (4) implementing adequate AML/CFT measures for the non-profit sector; (5) establishing and implementing adequate cross-border currency controls; (6) harmonising criminalisation of money laundering in all criminal codes; and (7) ensuring adequate procedures for the confiscation of assets. The FATF encourages Bosnia and Herzegovina to address its AML/CFT deficiencies by implementing its action plan.

# Iraq

In October 2013, Iraq made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and MENAFATF to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. Since June 2015, Iraq has taken steps towards improving its AML/CFT regime, including by obtaining Parliamentary approval of a new AML/CFT law. Due to the very recent nature of the law, the FATF has not yet assessed the law in order to determine the extent to which the new law addresses any of the following issues: (1) adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework and procedures for identifying and freezing terrorist assets; (3) ensuring that all financial institutions are subject to adequate customer due diligence requirements; (4) ensuring a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence

unit; (5) ensuring that all financial institutions are subject to adequate suspicious transaction reporting requirements; and (6) establishing and implementing an adequate AML/CFT supervisory and oversight programme for all financial sectors. The FATF encourages Iraq to address its remaining AML/CFT deficiencies and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

#### Guyana

In October 2014, Guyana made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and CFATF to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. Since June 2015, Guyana has taken steps toward improving its AML/CFT regime, including by enacting the AML/CFT Amendment Act 2015. However, the FATF has determined that certain strategic deficiencies remain. Guyana should continue to implement its action plan, including by: (1) ensuring and implementing an adequate legal framework for identifying, tracing and freezing terrorist assets; (2) ensuring a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; (3) establishing effective measures for customer due diligence and enhancing financial transparency; and (4) implementing an adequate supervisory framework. The FATF encourages Guyana to address its remaining deficiencies and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

#### Panama

Since June 2014, when Panama made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and GAFILAT to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Panama has made significant progress to improve its AML/CFT regime. Panama has substantially addressed its action plan at a technical level, including by: (1) adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework for freezing terrorist assets; (3) establishing effective measures for customer due diligence in order to enhance transparency; (4) establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; (5) establishing suspicious transaction reporting requirements for all financial institutions and DNFBPs; and (6) ensuring effective mechanisms for international co-operation. The FATF will conduct an on-site visit to confirm that the process of implementing the required reforms and actions is underway to address deficiencies previously identified by the FATF.

# Papua New Guinea

In February 2014, Papua New Guinea made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and APG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. Since June 2015, Papua New Guinea has taken steps towards improving its AML/CFT regime, including by obtaining Parliamentary approval of a Criminal Code Amendment, an AML/CFT law, establishing a legal framework to require the freezing of terrorist assets and a cross-border declaration system. PNG will need to bring these laws into force and the final text should be reviewed by the FATF. Therefore, the FATF has not yet determined the extent to which they address any of the following issues: (1)

adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing adequate procedures for the confiscation of assets related to money laundering; (3) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework for identifying, tracing and freezing terrorist assets; (4) establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; (5) establishing suspicious transaction reporting requirements; (6) implementing an adequate AML/CFT supervisory and oversight programme for all financial sectors; and (7) establishing and implementing effective controls for cross-border currency transactions. The FATF encourages Papua New Guinea to bring the law into force and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

## Syria

Since February 2010, when Syria made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and MENAFATF to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Syria has made progress to improve its AML/CFT regime. In June 2014, the FATF determined that Syria had substantially addressed its action plan at a technical level, including by criminalising terrorist financing and establishing procedures for freezing terrorist assets. While the FATF determined that Syria has completed its action plan agreed upon with the FATF, due to the security situation, the FATF has been unable to conduct an on-site visit to assess whether the process of implementing the required reforms and actions is underway. The FATF will continue to monitor the situation, and will conduct an on-site visit at the earliest possible date.

# Uganda

In February 2014, Uganda made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and ESAAMLG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies. However, the FATF has determined that strategic deficiencies remain. Uganda should therefore continue to work on addressing the following deficiencies: (1) adequately criminalising terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework and set of procedures for identifying and freezing terrorist assets; (3) ensuring that all financial institutions are subject to adequate record-keeping requirements; (4) establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning financial intelligence unit; (5) ensuring adequate suspicious transaction reporting requirements; (6) ensuring an adequate and effective AML/CFT supervisory and oversight programme for all financial sectors; and (7) ensuring that appropriate laws and procedures are in place with regard to international cooperation for the financial intelligence unit and supervisory authorities. The FATF encourages Uganda to address its remaining AML/CFT deficiencies, including adequately criminalising terrorist financing, and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

### Yemen

Since February 2010, when Yemen made a high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and MENAFATF to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, Yemen has made progress to improve its AML/CFT regime. In June 2014, the FATF determined that Yemen had substantially addressed its action plan at a technical level, including by adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; establishing procedures to identify and freeze terrorist assets; improving its customer due diligence and suspicious transaction reporting requirements; issuing guidance; developing the monitoring and supervisory capacity of the financial sector supervisory authorities and the financial intelligence unit; and establishing a fully operational and effectively functioning FIU. While the FATF determined that Yemen has completed its action plan agreed upon with the FATF, due to the security situation, the FATF has been unable to conduct an on-site visit to assess whether the process of implementing the required reforms and actions is underway. The FATF will continue to monitor the situation, and conduct an on on-site visit at the earliest possible date.

# Jurisdiction not making sufficient progress

The FATF is not yet satisfied that the following jurisdiction has made sufficient progress on its action plan agreed upon with the FATF. The most significant action plan items and/or the majority of the action plan items have not been addressed. If this jurisdiction does not take sufficient action to implement significant components of its action plan by February 2016, then the FATF will identify this jurisdiction as being out of compliance with its agreed action plan and will take the additional step of calling upon its members to consider the risks arising from the deficiencies associated with the jurisdiction.

#### Lao PDR

Despite the Lao PDR's high-level political commitment to work with the FATF and APG to address its strategic AML/CFT deficiencies, the FATF is not yet satisfied that the Lao PDR has made sufficient progress in improving its AML/CFT regime, and certain strategic AML/CFT deficiencies remain. The Lao PDR should continue to work on implementing its action plan to address these deficiencies, including by: (1) adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing and implementing adequate procedures for the confiscation of assets related to money laundering; (3) establishing and implementing an adequate legal framework for identifying, tracing and freezing terrorist assets; (4) establishing suspicious transaction reporting requirements; (5) implementing an adequate AML/CFT supervisory and oversight programme for all financial sectors; and (6) implementing effective controls for cross-border currency transactions. The FATF encourages the Lao PDR to address its AML/CFT deficiencies and continue the process of implementing its action plan.

# Jurisdictions no Longer Subject to the FATF's On-Going Global AML/CFT **Compliance Process**

#### **Ecuador**

The FATF welcomes Ecuador's significant progress in improving its AML/CFT regime and notes that Ecuador has established the legal and regulatory framework to meet its commitments in its action plan regarding the strategic deficiencies that the FATF had identified in June 2010. Ecuador is

therefore no longer subject to the FATF's monitoring process under its on-going global AML/CFT compliance process. Ecuador will work with GAFILAT as it continues to address the full range of AML/CFT issues identified in its mutual evaluation report.

#### Sudan

The FATF welcomes Sudan's significant progress in improving its AML/CFT regime and notes that Sudan has established the legal and regulatory framework to meet its commitments in its action plan regarding the strategic deficiencies that the FATF had identified in February 2010. Sudan is therefore no longer subject to the FATF's monitoring process under its on-going global AML/CFT compliance process. Sudan will work with MENAFATF as it continues to address the full range of AML/CFT issues identified in its mutual evaluation report.

#### More on:

 Public Statement (/publications/high-riskandnoncooperativejurisdictions/documents/public-statement-october-2015.html), 23 October 2015.

High-risk and non-cooperative jurisdictions							
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History of the FATF (/about/historyofthefatf/#d.en.3157)
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# Frequently asked questions

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Member Countries and Observers
(/faq/membercountriesandobservers/#d.en.11224)
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#### More

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