

MSSB/UNSO\_14/2024

Circular

14 June 2024

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

## United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2024

The United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2024 ("the Somalia Amendment Regulation"), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO"), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 97 of 2024) on 14 June 2024 with immediate effect.

The Somalia Amendment Regulation amends the United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation 2019 to give effect to certain decisions on sanctions in the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2713 and 2714 in respect of Somalia. The amendments mainly relate to prohibition against the supply, sale, transfer or carriage of weapons, ammunition or military equipment to Somalia or to certain persons; prohibition against the provision of technical assistance or training or financial or other assistance to certain persons; and certain exemption arrangements in respect of arms embargo, improvised explosive devices (IED) components ban and provision of IED technology.

The aforesaid regulation can be found on the Government's website at (<a href="https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/english/gazette/file.php?year=2024&vol=28&no=24&extra=0&type=2&number=97">https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/english/gazette/file.php?year=2024&vol=28&no=24&extra=0&type=2&number=97</a>).

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 UNSO.

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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