



DPSB/RM/2025/01
24 March 2025

Circular

Obligations of Paying Annual Fee on time by Category A Registrants

This circular is intended to remind Category A registrants (“CARs”) the obligations of paying annual fee on time. According to section 53ZUH and 53ZUL(2)(d) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance (“AMLO”), Chapter 615, Laws of Hong Kong, a CAR must pay an annual fee specified in Schedule 3K of the AMLO on or before each anniversary of the date on which the CAR’s registration takes effect (“anniversary date”), and the effective date of registration has been explicitly stated on the certificate of registration issued to the CAR by the Department. If a CAR fails to pay the annual fee when it is due, the CAR’s registration may be suspended or cancelled.

The Department will send payment notifications by email to CARs before anniversary date. CARs shall stay alert of all information, including payment notifications, sent by the Department and pay the annual fee on or before the anniversary date. According to the “Registration Guide”, if there are any changes of contact means of a CAR, including email and contact number, the CAR is responsible to update the Department by email to dpms_enquiry@customs.gov.hk as soon as practicable, so as to ascertain the notifications can be well received.

If a CAR has not yet paid the annual fee after the anniversary date, the Department will send an overdue payment reminder to the CAR. The CAR is required to pay the annual fee **immediately**, and then contact the Department to provide related **payment proof and reasons for late payment**.

If the Department does not receive the payment of the annual fee and reply from the CAR after the issuance of the overdue payment reminder, pursuant to section 53ZUL of the AMLO, the Department will **arrange to suspend the registration of the CAR**. When the suspension takes effect, the dealer must immediately stop carrying out any transaction(s) (whether making or receiving a payment) with total value at or above HK\$120,000 (includes an equivalent amount in another currency) in Hong Kong when carrying on precious metals and stones business.

Please note that if a CAR does not pay the annual fee on time, depending on the circumstances, the Department may consider **imposing registration condition(s)** ^{Note¹} on the CAR in accordance with section 53ZUI of the AMLO, and arrange to **cancel** the registration of the CAR if the CAR fails to pay annual fee on or before the anniversary date again. Once the registration is cancelled, the dealer has to re-apply for granting of registration if the dealer wishes to be registered again.

Should you have any queries regarding the payment of annual fees, please contact us by phone at 3580 1484 or email to dpms_enquiry@customs.gov.hk.

The above circular is intended to provide CARs with information of a general nature and does not cover all the relevant requirements stipulated in the AMLO. CARs shall refer to the AMLO, “Registration Guide”, circulars and other references at www.drs.customs.gov.hk for details.

**Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones Supervision Bureau
Customs and Excise Department**

Note 1 In accordance with sections 53ZVE and 53ZUL of the AMLO, a CAR who contravenes any registration condition imposed is liable to disciplinary action and/or suspension or cancellation of registration.