



## **AMENDMENTS No. 1**

# **Practical Guidance to AIFC Anti-Money Laundering and Counter – Terrorist Financing Framework**

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Commencement date: 1 January 2025

Astana, Kazakhstan



Within the amendments to the AIFC  
AML/CFT framework

In this Practical Guidance, the underlining indicates a new text and the strikethrough indicates a removed text

(...)

### Revision history

Version	Date	Change description	Section changed
AMLPG 001	15/04/2022	n/a	n/a
AMLPG 002		Amendments on AML audit.	Annex 7
<u>AMLPG 003</u>	<u>_____</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Amendments consequential to amendments to the AML Rules</u>	<u>Part 3</u> <u>Part 4</u> <u>Part 5</u> <u>Part 6</u> <u>Part 8</u> <u>Part 9</u> <u>Annex 1</u> <u>Annex 2</u> <u>Annex 7</u>

(...)

Version	Date	Part 3
AMLPG 003 <del>4</del>	15 <del> </del> / <del> </del> 04/2022 <del>4</del>	<b>Risk-Based Approach</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Business risk assessment</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Considering relevant risk factors</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Keeping risk assessment up-to-date</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Documenting risk assessment</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Obtaining senior management approval</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Group-wide ML/TF risk assessment</i></li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Customer risk assessment</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Conducting customer risk assessment</i></li> </ul>

(...)

Subject	3	<b><u>RISK-BASED APPROACH</u></b>
(...)		
	3.3	<p>Relevant Persons should also assess the ML/TF risks associated with a customer (hereafter referred to as “customer risk assessment”) to determine the degree, frequency and nature of ongoing monitoring conducted, which should vary in accordance with the assessed risk of the customer or business relationship.</p> <p><u>The general idea is that, for instance, if the scale is from 1 to 10, then 10 will correspond to the lowest (the same logic should be if the scale will be from 1 to 100). Individual categories are 1–3 low risk, 4–7 medium risk, and 8–10 as high risk. These risk categories are then combined. If the result exceeds the highest grade, it should be considered as prohibited, extremely high risk. The model can simply add up the category totals, resulting in a score ranging from 1 to 10. The model can also weight each of the factors and subfactors differently, for example by focusing more on the risk of the country. The model can be made even more complex, for example by creating a weighted average of the overall rating. The degree of complexity varies by organisation; the more complex the model, the more it reflects the real client’s overall risk.</u></p>
AML Rule 4.2		<b>Business risk assessment (<u>BURA</u>)</b>
(...)		
AML Rule 4.2.1		<b>Considering relevant risk factors</b>
	3.8	<p>A Relevant Person should holistically take into account relevant risk factors such as product/service/transaction risk, delivery/distribution channel risk and, where applicable, the risk a Relevant Person is exposed to, depending on its specific circumstances.</p> <p>While there is no complete set of risk indicators, the list of risk indicators outlined below represents a lower level of risk associated with the risk factors stated above that may be present in the Relevant Person or its customer base and should be taken into account holistically in the BURA assessment.</p> <p><u>BURA should also consider:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Complexity of business model</u></li> <li><u>Industries and target markets</u></li> <li><u>Geographic areas of main activity including transactions and customers residence</u></li> <li><u>Types of customers</u></li> <li><u>Characteristic of products and services in terms of exposure to financial crimes</u></li> </ul>



(...)		
AML Rule 5.1		<b>Customer risk assessment</b>
	3.16	<p>A Relevant Person should assess the ML/TF risks associated with a customer or create a customer risk profile. The information obtained in the initial stages of the Relevant Person to conduct a customer risk assessment, which would determine the level of measures must, however, comply with the legal requirements of the AML Rules.</p> <p>The general principle is that the amount and type of information obtained, and verified, should be increased where the risk associated with the business relationship is higher and decreased where the associated risk is lower.</p> <p><u>Customer risk profile should include documentation of customers intended activities. The goal is to establish what is normal and expected activity, which forms baseline activity.</u></p> <p><u>Customer risk profile should be created based on the triad – customer's inherent risk (age, occupation, average income and source of funds/source of wealth), geographical location and the products and services they are seeking.</u></p> <p><u>An ongoing monitoring should be based on the customer risk profile.</u></p> <p><u>Update of the customer risk profile should be performed according to the risk level.</u></p>
(...)		
	3.20.	<p>Similar to other parts of the AML/CFT Systems, a Relevant Person should ensure the implementation of its customer risk assessment framework, and the framework should be based on the results of the business risk assessment of the Relevant Person and complexity of its customer base.</p> <p>The customer risk assessment should holistically take into account a customer's country risk, customer risk, product/service/transaction risk, and delivery/distribution behavior. <u>Unusual behaviour of the customer is a behaviour that contradicts with the customer's behaviour on available data. (For example, it may include inconsistency with the amount of transactions with the provided source of funds and source of wealth, or inconsistency of transactions with the data provided at the onboarding stage, etc.).</u></p>

(...)

Version	Date	Part 4
AMLPG 0043	15__/04__/20242	<b>AML/CFT Systems</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Internal control programmes for AML/CFT purposes</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Compliance management arrangements</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Senior management oversight</i></li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Compliance officer and money laundering reporting officer</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Independent audit function</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Employee screening</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Group-wide AML/CFT Systems</i></li> </ul>

Subject	4	AML/CFT SYSTEMS
(...)		
AML Rule 4.3.1	4.5	<p>Having regard to the nature, size and complexity of its businesses and the ML/TI Relevant Person should implement adequate and appropriate policies, procedures minimum, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <u>appropriate representation of AML compliance function in the managing AML matters;</u></li> <li>(b) <u>risk management programme (BURA, CRA);</u></li> <li>(c) <u>customer identification programme (KYC/CDD);</u></li> <li>(d) <u>transaction monitoring and reviewing;</u></li> <li>(e) <u>employees training and awareness programme;</u></li> <li>(f) <u>adequate employee screening procedures (Know Your Employees);</u></li> <li>(g) <u>independent audit to test the system.</u></li> </ul> <p><del>(a) risk management;</del></p> <p><del>(b) customer identification;</del></p> <p><del>(c) transaction monitoring and reviewing;</del></p> <p><del>(d) compliance management arrangements;</del></p> <p><del>(e) independent audit function;</del></p> <p><del>(f) employee screening procedures; and</del></p> <p><del>(g) an ongoing employee training programme.</del></p> <p><u>A Relevant Person may rely on a third party consultant to develop policies, procedures for the purposes of AML Rule 4.3.1. Such third party consultant must perform its work and possess the following characteristics:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <u>relevant knowledge and expertise, confirmed by the certificate from professional organisations (such as ACAMS, ICA, ACFCS or analogy);</u></li> <li>2) <u>robust knowledge of the AIFC Acting Law and National AML regulation;</u></li> <li>3) <u>industry specific expertise confirmed by previous consulting experience</u></li> </ul>



		<p><u>field;</u></p> <p>4) <u>absence of negative feedback from the AFSA with regard to the work of s</u> <u>other companies.</u></p> <p><u>The Relevant Person relying on such a third party shall bear ultimate responsibility</u> <u>and controls adopted by the Relevant Person.</u></p>
(...)		
		<b>Compliance officer (CO) and Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO)</b>
(...)		
Annex 5 – Principal functions expected from a MLRO	4.10	<p>A Relevant Person should appoint an MLRO as a central reference point for reporting and the main point of contact with the FIU and law enforcement agencies. <u>The appropriate</u> <u>relevant decision-making body (or sole decision maker) pursuant to internal controls</u> <u>Person.</u> The MLRO should play an active role in identifying and reporting suspicious expected from the MLRO are outlined in Annex 5 and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) implementation of the AML/CFT – related internal controls;</li> <li>(b) carry out analysis of the Relevant Person's operations for AML/CFT purposes;</li> <li>(c) cooperation with competent authorities.</li> </ul> <p><u>The individual appointed as MLRO needs to avoid conflicts of interest, whether or not</u> <u>not combine the role of the business owner, shareholder or CEO/executive management</u> <u>second line of defence.</u></p> <p>A MLRO's necessary skills and knowledge are outlined in Annex 5.</p>
(...)		
		<b>Employee screening</b>
	4.13	Relevant Persons should have adequate and appropriate screening procedures for hiring employees ( <u>Know Your Employee</u> ).
	4.13- 1	<u>The relevant due diligence procedures should be applied to employees in respect of</u> <u>screening, verifying identity, checking criminal records, and references. An employee</u> <u>same lists and sources the company uses for prospective customers (sanctions, PEP</u> <u>After on-boarding the new employee should be brought to the compliance culture</u> <u>principles and values from the very beginning. They need to know and agree to a</u> <u>compliance policy.</u>
(...)		

Version	Date	Part 5
AMLPG 0043	15__/04__/2024 <del>2</del>	<b>Customer Due Diligence</b>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>What CDD measures are and when they must be carried out</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>What CDD measures are</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>When CDD measures must be carried out</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Identification and verification of the customer's identity</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Customer that is a natural person</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Customer that is a legal person</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Customer that is a trust or other similar legal arrangement</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Identification and verification of a beneficial owner (BO)</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Beneficial owner in relation to a natural person</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Beneficial owner in relation to a legal person</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Beneficial owner in relation to a Trust</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Ownership and control structure</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Threshold and indirect ownership</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Identification and verification of a person named to act on behalf of the customer</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Reliability of documents, data or information</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Purpose and intended nature of business relationship</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Delayed identity verification during the establishment of a business relationship</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Simplified customer due diligence (SDD)</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Listed company</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Government and public body</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Customer not physically present for identification purposes</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Special requirements</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Nominee shareholders</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Jurisdictions posing a higher risk</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Jurisdictions subject to a call by the FATF</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Reliance on CDD performed by third parties</i></li> </ul>



		▪ <i>Third parties</i>
		▪ <i>Failure to satisfactorily complete CDD measures</i>
		▪ <i>Prohibition on anonymous accounts</i>

Subject	5	CUSTOMER DUE DILIGENCE
(...)		
		What CDD measures are
	5.4	<p>The following are CDD measures applicable to a Relevant Person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) identify the customer and verify the customer's identity using documents from a reliable and independent source (see section 5.11);</li> <li>(b) where there is a beneficial owner in relation to the customer, identify and verify the beneficial owner's identity so that the Relevant Person is satisfied that the Relevant Person understands the ownership and control structure of the legal person or trust (see sections 5.39 – 5.41);</li> <li>(c) obtain information on the purpose and intended nature of the business relationship with the Relevant Person unless the purpose and intended nature are obvious (see section 5.42);</li> <li>(d) <u>understand the customer's sources of funds and sources of wealth; and</u></li> <li>(e) <del>(d)</del> if a person purports to act on behalf of the customer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) identify the person and take reasonable measures to verify the person's identity using documents from a reliable and independent source; and</li> <li>(ii) verify the person's authority to act on behalf of the customer (see sections 5.39 – 5.41);</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
(...)		
		<b>When CDD measures must be carried out</b>
AML Rule 6.1.1 AML Rule 6.2.1	5.8	<p>A Relevant Person must carry out CDD measures in relation to a customer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) at the outset of a business relationship;</li> <li>(b) before performing any occasional transaction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <u>with Digital Assets the value of which singularly or in several linked operations is equal or exceeds USD 1,000;</u></li> <li>(ii) equal to or exceeding an aggregate value of USD 15,000, whether carried out in several operations that appear to the Relevant Person to be linked; or</li> <li>(iii) a wire transfer equal to or exceeding an aggregate value of USD 15,000 in a single operation or several operations that appear to the Relevant Person to be linked;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



		(c) when the Relevant Person suspects that the customer or the customer's a (d) when the Relevant Person doubts the veracity or adequacy of any i purpose of identifying the customer or for the purpose of verifying the cus
	5.9	Relevant Persons should be vigilant to the possibility that a series of linked exceed the CDD thresholds of USD 1,000 for wire transfers <u>or transactions with</u> types of transactions. Where Relevant Persons become aware that these t measures must be carried out.
(...)		
<u>Guidance on customer due diligence</u>	<u>5.38- 1</u>	<u>In order to correctly understand the sources of funds and wealth, the Relevant</u> <u>the clients themselves, for instance, in the form of a special paper or digital fo</u> <u>indicate among others their demographic data, occupation, sources of origin a</u> <u>income. It is important to inform the client about the need to indicate the actual</u> <u>desired one. Depending on the information collected while establishing risk profi</u> <u>be able to establish an understanding of what is usual for the client with this parti</u> <u>go beyond the usual behavior/activity. Thus, characteristics that go beyond the u</u> <u>increases the risks of Customer at the CDD stage. In case of increased risks, th</u> <u>verify the sources of funds and wealth.</u>  <u>The absence of requirement to request additional documented confirmation of th</u> <u>of standard CDD should not mislead the Relevant Person into considering th</u> <u>verification measures and limit the use of the EDD. The risk-based verification s</u> <u>risk assessment system should stipulate that the Relevant Person, adapting it to</u> <u>of the business, determines what is usual (understandable and explainable)</u> <u>Factors that raise doubts or concerns should increase the level of risk and provid</u>
(...)		
		<b>Reliance on CDD performed by third parties</b>
(...)		
	<u>5.80- 1</u>	<u>A Relevant Person must not rely on third parties to provide ongoing monitor</u> <u>responsibility of the Relevant Person to conduct ongoing due diligence th</u> <u>relationship to ensure consistency of the transactions with the Relevant Pers</u> <u>business and risk profile, including, the source of funds.</u>
(...)		

Version	Date	Part 6
AMLPG 001	15/04/2022	<b>Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs)</b>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>General</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Special requirements and additional measures for PEPs</i></li> </ul>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>POLITICALLY EXPOSED PERSONS (PEPs)</b>
(...)		
	6.15	<p><u>According to FATF Recommendation 12 the handling of a person who is no longer in a function should be based on an assessment of risk and not on prescribed time limits. That financial institutions and DNFBPs assess the ML/TF risk of a PEP who is no longer in a function, and take effective action to mitigate this risk. Possible risk factors are: (1) the individual could still exercise; the seniority of the position that the individual held at a previous and current function are linked in any way (e.g., formally by appointment or the fact that the PEP continues to deal with the same substantive matters).</u></p>

(...)

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Part 8</b>
AMLPG 0043	15 __/ __04/20224	<b>Terrorist Financing, Financial Sanctions and Proliferation Financing</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Terrorist financing (TF)</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Financial sanctions &amp; proliferation financing</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Sanctions imposed by other jurisdictions</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Database maintenance, screening and enhanced checking</i></li> </ul>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>TERRORIST FINANCING, FINANCIAL SANCTIONS AND PROLIFERATION FINANCING</b>
(...)		
		<b>Sanctions imposed by other jurisdictions</b>
	8.4	<p>A Relevant Person operating internationally will need to be aware of the scope and implications of those jurisdictions. Where these sanctions regimes may affect their operations, they should assess the implications exist and take appropriate measures, such as including relevant information for screening purpose, where applicable. <u>Such regimes include unilateral sanctions imposed by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), the European Union (EU), and United Kingdom Treasury Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation (HMT UK OFSI).</u></p>



(...)		
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Version	Date	Part 9
AMLPG 0043	15 / 04/2024	<b>Suspicious Transaction Reports, <u>Threshold Transaction Report</u> Enforcement Requests</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>General issues</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Knowledge vs. suspicion</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Tipping-off</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>AML/CFT Systems in relation to suspicious transaction reporting</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Money laundering reporting officer</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Identifying suspicious transactions</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Internal reporting</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Reporting to the FIU</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Post reporting matters</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Record-keeping</i></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Requests from law enforcement agencies</i></li> </ul>

Subject	9	<b>SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTS, <u>THRESHOLD TRANSACTION REPORTS</u> REQUESTS</b>
(...)		
		<b>Knowledge vs. suspicion</b>
(...)		
	9.3	<p>Suspicion is more subjective. Suspicion is personal and falls short of proof based on a Person's knowledge of the customer, or is unusual (e.g. in a pattern that has no a <u>by unnecessary routing of funds through third party accounts</u>), the Relevant Person further examine the transactions and identify if there is any suspicion (see sections <u>Unnecessary routing of funds through third party accounts means routing without o</u></p>



(...)		
		<b>AML/CFT Systems in relation to suspicious transaction reporting</b>
	9.7	A Relevant Person should implement appropriate AML/CFT Systems in order to fully properly manage and mitigate the risks associated with any customer or transaction. <u>Transactions report (“TTR”).</u> The AML/CFT Systems should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) appointment of an MLRO (see Part 4);</li> <li>(b) implementing clear policies and procedures over internal reporting, reporting, mitigation and prevention of tipping-off; and</li> <li>(c) keeping proper records of internal reports and STRs.</li> </ul>
	9.8	The Relevant Person should have measures in place to check, on an ongoing basis, that suspicious transaction reporting comply with relevant legal and regulatory requirements. The type and extent of the measures to be taken should be appropriate having regard to the nature and size of the business. <u>The policies, procedures, systems and controls to be implemented, defined thresholds, and submission of TTRs to the FIU should be performed in accordance with the relevant legal and regulatory requirements.</u>
(...)		
		<b>Record-keeping</b>
(...)		
	9.30	A Relevant Person must establish and maintain a record of all STRs made to the FIU. The record should include the date of the STR, the person who made the STR, and information to allow the person to identify the customer. This register may be combined with the register of internal reports, if considered appropriate. <u>A Relevant Person must establish and maintain a record of all TTRs made to the FIU.</u>

(...)

**ANNEX 1****RISK INDICATORS FOR ASSESSING ML/TF RISKS**

*The following is a list of non-exhaustive illustrative risk indicators for business risk assessment and customer risk assessment. These examples of indicators associated with each risk factor mentioned in sections 3.8 and 3.20 may indicate higher or lower ML/TF risks as the case may be.*

(...)		
<b>Customer risk</b>	2	Examples of customers that may present higher ML/TF risk include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the business relationships established in unusual circumstances (e.g. a customer to set up a discretionary management agreement for an investment)</li> </ul>



		<p>requests the Relevant Person to buy and sell particular securities for the customer's instructions);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) non-resident customers who have no discernible reasons for opening an account in the Republic of Kazakhstan (AIFC);</li> <li>(c) the use of legal persons or arrangements as personal asset-holding vehicles without valid reasons;</li> <li>(d) companies that have nominee shareholders or shares in bearer form;</li> <li>(e) customers that engage in, or derive wealth or revenues from, cash-intensive transactions;</li> <li>(f) the ownership structure of a company appears unusual or excessively complex relative to the company's business;</li> <li>(g) the customer or the family member or close associate of a customer or the beneficial owner of a customer is a PEP);</li> <li>(h) customers that have been mentioned in negative news reports from credible sources as predicate offences for ML/TF or financial crimes;</li> <li>(i) nature, scope and location of business activities generating the funds are in jurisdictions posing a higher risk;</li> <li>(j) customers that have sanction exposure;</li> <li>(k) where the origin of wealth (for high risk customers and PEPs) or ownership is in jurisdictions posing a higher risk;</li> <li>(l) a customer introduced by an overseas financial institution, affiliate or other entity in jurisdictions posing a higher risk;</li> <li>(m) <u>the activity or transactions of the customer does not correspond the customer's business</u></li> </ul> <p>Examples of customers that may be considered to carry lower ML/TF risk include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) specific types of customers that may be eligible for SDD as specified in the regulation;</li> <li>(b) customers who are employment-based or with a regular source of income in their home country which supports the activity being undertaken; and</li> <li>(c) the reputation of the customer, e.g. a well-known, reputable private company whose activities are documented by independent sources, including information regarding its financial statements.</li> </ul>
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**ANNEX 2**

**INDICATORS OF SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

*The following is a list of non-exhaustive indicators of suspicious transactions and activities that, along with the FIU's list set out in its regulation, may help assess whether or not transactions and activities might give rise to grounds of ML/TF suspicion.*

(...)		
<b>Unusual activity for virtual currency</b>	9	<p><b>Indicators linked to operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Structuring transactions with <u>DVA</u> (transactions of exchange or tra</li> </ul>



<p><b>(VC), virtual assets (VA), virtual asset service providers (VASPs)</b></p>		<p>structuring transactions with cash, by breaking into small amounts or thresholds established for mandatory registration of transactions or for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) Making multiple high-value transactions or in short succession, such as staggered and regular pattern, with no further transactions recorded during the period (particularly common in ransomware-related cases) or to a newly created account;</li> <li>(c) Transferring <u>DVAs</u> immediately to multiple <u>DVASPs</u>, especially to <u>DVASPs</u> in a jurisdiction where there is no relation to where the customer lives or where the customer is based or existent or weak AML/CFT regulation;</li> <li>(d) Depositing <u>DVAs</u> at an exchange and then often immediately – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) withdrawing the <u>DVAs</u> without additional exchange activity to other exchanges and incurs transaction fees);</li> <li>(i) converting the <u>DVAs</u> to multiple types of <u>DVAs</u>, again incurring transaction fees and without a logical business explanation (e.g. portfolio diversification); or</li> <li>(ii) withdrawing the <u>DVAs</u> from a <u>DVASP</u> immediately to a private exchange/<u>DVASP</u> into an ML mixer);</li> </ul> </li> <li>(e) Accepting funds suspected as stolen or fraudulent – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) depositing funds from <u>DVA</u> addresses that have been identified as stolen and linked to the holders of stolen funds.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>9.1</p>	<p><b>Indicators related to Transaction Patterns</b></p> <p><i>New user transactions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Conducting a large initial deposit to open a new relationship with a user profile inconsistent with the customer profile;</li> <li>(b) Conducting a large initial deposit to open a new relationship with a <u>DVA</u> account on the first day it is opened, and that the customer starts to trade the total amount of the deposit that same day or the day after, or if the customer withdraws the whole amount (where they have a transactional limit for deposits, laundering in large amounts or counter-trading);</li> <li>(c) A new user attempts to trade the entire balance of VAs, or withdraws the entire balance off the platform;</li> </ul> <p><i>Transactions relative to all users</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(d) Transactions involving the use of multiple <u>DVAs</u>, or multiple accounts, or multiple wallets;</li> <li>(e) Frequent transfers in a certain period of time (e.g. a day, a week, a month) by more than one person; or from the same IP address by one or more persons;</li> <li>(f) Incoming transactions from many unrelated wallets in relatively small amounts, followed by a subsequent transfer to another wallet or full exchange for fiat currency. In such related accumulating accounts may initially use <u>DVAs</u> instead of fiat currency;</li> <li>(g) Conducting <u>DVA</u>-fiat currency exchange at a potential loss (e.g. where the customer pays a high commission fee regardless of abnormally high commission fees as compared to industry practice and where the transactions have no logical business explanation);</li> <li>(h) Converting a large amount of fiat currency into <u>DVAs</u>, or a large amount of <u>DVAs</u> into fiat currency, with no logical business explanation.</li> </ul>



	9.2	<p><b>Indicators related to anonymity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Transactions by a customer involving more than one type of <u>DVA</u>, especially those VAs that provide higher anonymity, such as anonymous privacy coins;</li> <li>(b) Moving a <u>DVA</u> that operates on a public, transparent blockchain, such as Bitcoin, and then immediately trading it for an AEC or privacy coin;</li> <li>(c) Customers that operate as an unregistered/unlicensed <u>DVASP</u> on P2P, particularly when there are concerns that the customers handle transactions on customer's behalf, and charge higher fees to its customer than the exchanges. Use of bank accounts to facilitate these P2P transactions;</li> <li>(d) Abnormal transactional activity (level and volume) of <u>DVAs</u> cashed out from associated wallets with no logical business explanation;</li> <li>(e) VAs transferred to or from wallets that show previous patterns of activity that operate mixing or tumbling services or P2P platforms;</li> <li>(f) Transactions making use of mixing and tumbling services, suggesting movement of funds between known wallet addresses and darknet marketplaces;</li> <li>(g) Funds deposited or withdrawn from a <u>DVA</u> address or wallet with direct links to suspicious sources, including darknet marketplaces, mixing/tumbling services, illegal activities (e.g. ransomware) and/or theft reports;</li> <li>(h) The use of decentralised/unhosted, hardware or paper wallets to transact;</li> <li>(i) Users entering the <u>DVASP</u> platform having registered their Internet connected domain name registrars (DNS) that suppress or redact the owners of the domain;</li> <li>(j) Users entering the <u>DVASP</u> platform using an IP address associated with a proxy server that allows anonymous communication, including encrypted emails and using various anonymous encrypted communication means (e.g. for social media, games, etc.) instead of a <u>DVASP</u>;</li> <li>(k) A large number of seemingly unrelated <u>DVA</u> wallets controlled from the same user which may involve the use of shell wallets registered to different users;</li> <li>(l) Use of <u>DVAs</u> whose design is not adequately documented, or that are specifically aimed at implementing fraudulent schemes, such as Ponzi schemes;</li> <li>(m) Receiving funds from or sending funds to <u>DVASPs</u> whose CDD or KYC are demonstrably weak or non-existent;</li> <li>(n) Using <u>DVA</u> ATMs/kiosks – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) despite the higher transaction fees and including those commonly used;</li> <li>(ii) in high-risk locations where increased criminal activities occur.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	9.3	<p><b>Indicators related to senders or recipients</b></p> <p><i>Irregularities observed during account creation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Creating separate accounts under different names to circumvent restrictions imposed by <u>DVASPs</u>;</li> </ul>



	<p>(b) Transactions initiated from non-trusted IP addresses, IP addresses previously flagged as suspicious;</p> <p>(c) Trying to open an account frequently within the same <u>DVASP</u> from the</p> <p>(d) Regarding merchants/corporate users, their Internet domain registration in their jurisdiction of establishment or in a jurisdiction with a weak process;</p> <p><i>Irregularities observed during CDD process</i></p> <p>(e) Incomplete or insufficient KYC information, or a customer declines to provide information regarding source of funds;</p> <p>(f) Sender / recipient lacking knowledge or providing inaccurate information regarding funds, or the relationship with the counterparty;</p> <p>(g) Customer has provided forged documents or has edited photographs used during the on-boarding process;</p> <p><i>Customer Profile</i></p> <p>(h) A customer provides identification or account credentials (e.g. a non-unique email address) shared by another account;</p> <p>(i) Discrepancies arise between IP addresses associated with the customer's transactions and those from which transactions are being initiated;</p> <p>(j) A customer's <u>DVA</u> address appears on public forums associated with illicit activity;</p> <p>(k) A customer is known via publicly available information to law enforcement or a law enforcement association;</p> <p><i>Profile of potential money mule or scam victims</i></p> <p>(l) Sender does not appear to be familiar with DA technology or online communication methods and could be money mules recruited by professional money launderers, or individuals who are deceived into transferring illicit proceeds without knowledge of their origin;</p> <p>(m) A customer significantly older than the average age of platform users, with a high number of transactions, suggesting their potential role as a <u>DVA</u> money mule or exploitation;</p> <p>(n) A customer being a financially vulnerable person, who is often used in a human trafficking business;</p> <p>(o) Customer purchases large amounts of <u>DVA</u> not substantiated by available information on their historical financial profile, which may indicate money laundering, a money mule, or a scam victim;</p> <p><i>Other unusual behaviour</i></p> <p>(p) A customer frequently changes his or her identification information, including email address or financial information, which may also indicate account takeover against the customer;</p> <p>(q) A customer tries to enter into one or more <u>DVASPs</u> from different IP addresses within a short period of time (e.g. day);</p> <p>(r) Use of language in <u>DVA</u> message fields indicative of the transaction being for illicit activity or in the purchase of illicit goods, such as drugs or stolen credit cards;</p> <p>(s) A customer repeatedly conducts transactions with a subset of individuals, which could indicate potential account takeover and attempted extraction of value;</p>
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		to obfuscate funds flow with a <u>DVASP</u> infrastructure).
	9.4	<p><b>Indicators related to the source of wealth or funds</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Transacting with <u>DVA</u> addresses or bank cards that are connected to schemes, sanctioned addresses, darknet marketplaces, or other illicit v</li> <li>(b) VA transactions originating from or destined to online gambling service</li> <li>(c) The use of one or multiple credit and/or debit cards that are linked to a of fiat currency (crypto-to-plastic), or funds for purchasing <u>DVAs</u> are cards;</li> <li>(d) Deposits into an account or a <u>DVA</u> address are significantly higher th funds, followed by conversion to fiat currency, which may indicate theft</li> <li>(e) Lack of transparency or insufficient information on the origin and owner the use of shell companies or those funds placed in an Initial Coin investors may not be available or incoming transactions from online p cards followed by instant withdrawal;</li> <li>(f) A customer's funds which are sourced directly from third-party mixing s</li> <li>(g) Bulk of a customer's source of wealth is derived from investments in <u>D</u></li> <li>(h) A customer's source of wealth is disproportionately drawn from <u>DVAs</u> AML/CFT controls.</li> </ul>
	9.5	<p><b>Indicators related to geographical risks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Customer's funds originate from, or are sent to, an exchange that is either the customer or exchange is located;</li> <li>(b) Customer utilises a <u>DVA</u> exchange or foreign-located MVTS in a hig have inadequate, AML/CFT regulations for VA entities, including inade</li> <li>(c) Customer sends funds to <u>DVASPs</u> operating in jurisdictions that implemented AML/CFT controls;</li> <li>(d) Customer sets up offices in or moves offices to jurisdictions that have regulations governing <u>DVAs</u>, or sets up new offices in jurisdictions wh to do so.</li> </ul>

(...)

## Annex 7

## INDEPENDENT AML AUDIT

(...)		
	2.	<b>Preparation for the AML audit</b>
	2.1	Like any other process, the audit should begin with proper preparation. To should evaluate its own AML/CTF programs over time, as this will be



		<p>assesses.</p> <p>Here are some questions to help focus on the relevant areas for preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are the Business Risk Assessment and AML Policies and Internal C</li> <li>▪ How the real procedures and controls are correlated with the Programmes?</li> <li>▪ When the last AML/CTF training took place and are the employees date with their AML/CTF training?</li> <li>▪ Has the relevant function been doing Customer Due Diligence and E</li> <li>▪ Have the Customer's dossiers and Customer's AML/CTF profiles be</li> <li>▪ Has the relevant function undertaken transaction monitoring?</li> <li>▪ Has the relevant function fulfilled the reporting requirements?</li> <li>▪ Has the record-keeping been properly organised?</li> <li>▪ <u>Has the senior management and the MLRO been keeping frequent</u></li> </ul>
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(...)