

MSSB/UNSO_8/2021
28 October 2021

Circular

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

(1) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2021

The United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2019 (Amendment) Regulation 2021 ("the DRC Amendment Regulation"), made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO"), was published in the Gazette (L.N. 229 of 2021) on 24 September 2021 with immediate effect.

The DRC Amendment Regulation implements sanctions against the Democratic Republic of the Congo as renewed by the United Nations Security Council under Resolution 2582, which include, inter alia, prohibition against making available to certain persons or entities any economic assets, or dealing with economic assets of such persons or entities, except with a licence.

(2) United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2019

Further to our circular issued on 10 September 2021, an updated list specifying "individuals and entities" under section 43 of the United Nations Sanctions (Libya) Regulation 2019 (Cap. 537CF) was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau on 26 October 2021.

A relevant press release issued by the UNSC, reflecting the update since the previous list was published on the website of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, is available at https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sc14674.doc.htm.

The aforesaid list can be found on the website of the CEDB at https://www.cedb.gov.hk/citb/en/Policy Responsibilities/united nations sanctions.html.

The regulation in item (1) and aforesaid lists in item (2) can be found on the Government's website at (http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e).

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 2707 7800.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department End