

INSURANCE COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS



NOTICE

To: All Registered Long-term and General Insurers

Date: March 30, 2022

Re: Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Public Statement on the Situation in Ukraine Pursuant to the Proceeds of Crime Act, 2018

Pursuant to section 6(3)(b) and 6(3)(d) of the Proceeds of Crime Act, 2018, the National Identified Risk Framework Coordinator has requested that the Insurance Commission of The Bahamas (“the Commission”) circulate the following Notice regarding the Public Statement issued by the Financial Action Task Force on March 2022, in relation to the tragic developments in Ukraine.

Considering the Russian Federation’s military invasion of Ukraine, the FATF, as the global standard setting body for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing, has expressed its grave concern about the invasion’s impact on the money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing risk environment as well as the integrity of the financial system, the broader economy and safety and security. In this regard, The FATF calls on all jurisdictions’ competent authorities to assess and mitigate any emerging ML/TF/PF risks identified, including in relation to virtual assets, as well as other threats to international safety and security from the region.

Licensees are asked to apply enhanced due diligence and apply counter measures to protect its financial system from the ongoing money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing (ML/TF/PF) emanating from activities by the Russian Federation. The FATF calls on all jurisdictions’ competent authorities to provide advice and facilitate information sharing with their private sectors on assessing and mitigating any emerging ML/TF/PF risks identified, including in relation to virtual assets, as well as other threats to international safety and security from the region.

In so doing, Licensees should be vigilant to the possibility of emerging risks from circumvention of measures taken to protect the international financial system from the ML/TF/PF risks resulting from Russia’s aggression against Ukraine. In that regard, Licensees should refer to the Public Statement on the situation in Ukraine, which can be found at the link below:

<https://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/fatfgeneral/documents/ukraine-2022.html>

Companies must report to the Commission, in writing, that in performance of their risk analysis, they have taken into consideration all ML/TF/PF risks associated with the activities by the Russian Federation as noted in the above Public Statement.

A copy of the Notice regarding the Call For Action on High Risk Jurisdictions, can also be found on the Commission’s website under Announcements and Notices (Alerts).

Michele C. E. Fields
Superintendent of Insurance