



**HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY**

**FATF Updates,  
Common AML Exam Deficiencies  
&  
AML Supplement Amendments**

**29 September 2010**



## FATF Updates (1)

- **The FATF reviewing the standards for the 4th round of evaluations**
  - **RBA**
  - **R.5, R.9, R.33 & R.34**
  - **tax crime**
  - **international co-operation**
  - **cross border information exchange**
  - **UNCAC**
- **Proposals to Plenary in October 2011**



## FATF Updates (2)

- **Completed reviews**
  - **tax crime as a predicate offence**
    - **existing predicate HK (sec. 82, Cap.122)**
  - **domestic PEPs**
- **Obstacles to cross border information exchange**
  - **will review the sharing of STR information between group entities**
  - **obstacles: banking secrecy, tipping off, data privacy**
  - **existing practice in certain jurisdictions**
    - **Art.28 3MLD, Sec.333 POCA, FINCEN Note (20 Jan 2006)**
  - **enhance group risk management**



## FATF Updates (3)

- **Increased transparency of all wire transfers**
  - triggered by cover payments issue
  - review of SR VII
  - mandatory beneficiary information



## Common AML Exam Deficiencies (1)

- **Sanction screening “blind spots”**
  - **connected parties not screened at account opening**
  - **no ongoing screening of connected parties**
  - **rescreening only upon specific transaction basis**



## Common AML Exam Deficiencies (2)

- **Initial CDD on corporates**
  - **failure to verify still exists/registered (i.e. not wound-up, dissolved, struck-off, suspended, etc.)**
  - **insufficient information regarding ownership & control structure**



## Common AML Exam Deficiencies (3)

- **Ongoing review**
  - **implementation issues - failure to adequately define what constitutes a “trigger event”**
  - **no evidence reviews on “trigger event” undertaken**
  - **no efforts to verify no change in ownership/control of a corporate**
  - **confirm corporate still exists/registered (i.e. not wound-up, dissolved, struck-off, suspended, etc.)**



## Common AML Exam Deficiencies (4)

- **Correspondent banking**
  - **no due diligence on SWIFT / BKE authorisation exchange for payment purposes**
  - **blanket adoption of due diligence performed by head office**
  - **no risk assessment & enhanced monitoring of higher risk relations**
  - **no periodic review of due diligence**





## **AML Supplement Amendments**

- **Amendments published in July 2010**
  - **address the issues raised in the FATF MER**
  - **better reflect international standards**
- **Effective date 1 November 2010**



## Amendments (2)

### Address verification

- record and verify the address of direct customer
- record the address of all connected parties and verify on the basis of risk & materiality

### Directors

- identify all directors
- verify the identity of at least one (previously two)
- verify additional directors on the basis of risk & materiality



## Amendments (3)

### Non account holder transactions

- **CDD on all transactions \$120,000 or more (single/ multiple operations with obvious connection)**
- **identify and verify customer and beneficial owners**
- **wire transfers \$8,000 or more - verify originator's identity**
- **currency exchange \$8,000 or more - verify customer's identity**



## Amendments (4)

### Third party Reliance

- **restricted reliance on domestic intermediaries to**
  - Als, LCs, IAs
  - lawyer, auditor, accountant, trust company and chartered secretary
- **restricted reliance on overseas intermediaries to**
  - FIs, lawyer, auditor, accountant, tax advisor, trust company and chartered secretary,
  - from an equivalent jurisdiction,
  - regulated and supervised for AML compliance



## Amendments (5)

### Politically Exposed Persons

- **appropriate system to determine whether the customer/connected parties are politically exposed at**
  - a/c opening & on periodic basis thereafter
  - e.g. periodic screening against commercial electronic database
- **senior management approval for continuing business relationship with individual subsequently found to be politically exposed**



## Amendments (6)

### Ongoing Review

- **high risk customers on an annual basis**
- **standard risk customers on “trigger event” basis**
- **“trigger event” to be clearly defined**



Thank You