



# The Compliance Commission of The Bahamas

## NOTICE

**Re: FATF PLENARY OUTCOMES, JURISDICTIONS UNDER INCREASED MONITORING, JURISDICTIONS SUBJECT TO A CALL OF ACTION, KEY DEVELOPMENTS, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND CONTINUATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S SUSPENSION- JULY 2025**

Dear Registrant,

The Compliance Commission wishes to inform registrants of the outcomes from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary meeting held from the 12-13<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The FATF concluded its Plenary in Strasbourg, addressing its ongoing mandate of establishing and updating international standards for combating money laundering (ML), terrorist financing (TF), and proliferation financing (PF).

### **Strategic Initiatives**

#### *Strengthening payment transparency – Recommendation 16 of the FATF Standards*

Following extensive consultation with banks and other financial institutions, payment service providers, international and specialized bodies, civil society, academia and others, the Plenary approved changes to Recommendation 16 of the FATF Standards, that will improve detection of crimes and implementation of sanctions by increasing clarity on who is sending and receiving money in cross-border payments over 1000 USD/EUR.

By streamlining the requirements for information that must be collected in payment messages, the changes will improve efficiency of cross-border payments. New requirements around the use of technology to prevent fraud and error will also better protect customers.

The revised Standards will be formally published on 18 June 2025, and financial institutions will need to comply with the changes from 2030. The FATF is working closely with civil society and industry bodies to ensure that the changes promote financial inclusion and align with data protection and privacy requirements.

#### *Financial Inclusion and the Risk-based Approach*

After strengthening Recommendation 1 of the FATF Standards on a risk-based approach earlier this year, the FATF endorsed updated guidance that will empower financial institutions and other providers to boost financial inclusion.

The new guidance, to be published later this month, will equip practitioners and policy-makers with practical examples of how they can apply simplified measures where risks are assessed to be lower. This includes approaches to address de-risking, which occurs when financial institutions deny financial services to customers, rather than assessing and managing risks in line with the risk-based approach.

This will be complemented by a new national risk assessment toolkit, also approved this week, which will help guide countries in implementing the risk-based approach.

The FATF has also agreed on revisions to its assessment methodology to bring it in line with the changes to Recommendation 1. These revisions reflect a stronger focus on the application of the risk-based approach and will guide assessors in future assessments.

All of this will bring financial activity into authorities' line of sight, while also supporting growth and development. By facilitating more people's access to financial services, countries can support the estimated 1.4 billion people around the world who are currently unbanked.

For additional FATF Strategic Initiatives read more via: <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/publications/Fatfgeneral/outcomes-FATF-MONEYVAL-plenary-june-2025.html>

### **Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring (“Grey List”)**

**Updated List of Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring (Grey List)-** The FATF added Bolivia and the Virgin Islands (UK) to the list of jurisdictions subject to increased monitoring.

**The FATF removed:** Croatia, Mali and the United Republic of Tanzania

**These jurisdictions remain under increased monitoring-** Algeria, Angola, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Kenya, Lebanon, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Vietnam, Virgin Islands (UK), Yemen.

Please see link to Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring FATF Press Release: <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/fatf-gafi/en/publications/High-risk-and-other-monitored-jurisdictions/increased-monitoring-june-2025.html>

### **Jurisdictions Subject to a Call for Action (“Black List”) –**

The FATF Identified High Risk Jurisdictions subject to a call for action. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Iran remain on the list of jurisdictions subject to a call for action to apply countermeasures. The FATF reiterated its concerns over the DPRK continued failure to address the significant deficiencies in its AML/CFT regime and the serious threats posed by the DPRK's illicit activities related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and its financing.

In particular, the FATF notes that the DPRK has increased connectivity with the international financial system, which raises proliferation financing risks. All countries identified as high risk by the FATF are subject to enhanced due diligence, and in the most serious cases, countries are called upon to apply countermeasures to protect the international financial system from ML/TF/PF risks emanating from the country. This list is often externally referred to as the “blacklist”

Myanmar is still subject to the application of enhanced due diligence but not countermeasures.

**Please see link to Jurisdictions subject to a call of action FATF Press Release:**

<https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/fatf-gafi/en/publications/High-risk-and-other-monitored-jurisdictions/Call-for-action-june-2025.html>

FATF Recommendation 19 specifies examples of the countermeasures that could be undertaken by countries. See link to the Interpretive Note to Recommendation 19 (Higher risk countries) <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/recommendations/FATF%20Recommendations%202012.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf>

The suspension of the Russian Federation's FATF membership remains in effect. Following the statements issued since March 2022, the FATF reiterates that all jurisdictions should be vigilant to current and emerging risks from the circumvention of measures taken against the Russian Federation in order to protect the international financial system.

For more detailed information, registrants are encouraged to consult the official FATF website for publications and updates.

Please see link to FATF Plenary Outcomes via: <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/publications/Fatfgeneral/outcomes-FATF-MONEYVAL-plenary-june-2025.html>

Thank you for your attention to these important developments.

Yours Truly,



Andrew Strachan  
Inspector