



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