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FIA/ED/234/07/23

13th July, 2023

**CIRCULAR TO ALL SUPERVISORY BODIES ON ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION
WITH THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY.**

LEGAL BASIS

Section 21(pb) of the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2013 (as amended) provides for the registration of all Accountable Persons as one of the general powers of the FIA. As such, Regulation 4 of the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations, 2015 requires every accountable person to register with the Authority, within one year from the commencement of the Regulations, or such other period as the Authority may specify. In addition to this, Regulation 3(2) of the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations, 2015 provides that the register shall be kept in an electronic form.

MANUAL REGISTRATION

Since 2015, the Authority has been manually registering all accountable persons following the process prescribed in Regulation 4(2) that requires the accountable persons to manually fill in Form 1 in the Schedule to the AML Act, 2013 and as such, the accountable person is entered in the register of accountable persons that is maintained in either electronic or manual form.

This move resulted into the FIA being the only entity that could attest to who had been registered. The Accountable persons and the Supervisory bodies did not have proof of registration of the entities. The FIA as a result, cured this gap by issuing hard copy Certificates of Registration to each entity upon registration as proof of registration.

It should be noted however that a deadline was set within which to issue the hardcopy Certificates of Registration pending the roll-out of the goAML system. This deadline was **30th June, 2023**.

ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION

Over time, the need to adopt an electronic mode of doing business became eminent and as such the Authority procured a goAML electronic system from the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC). This system has assisted the Authority in the migration of all its manual operations and processes to electronic operations and processes. This included migration from the manual process of registration to the electronic Registration that results in issuance of Electronic Certificates of Registration.

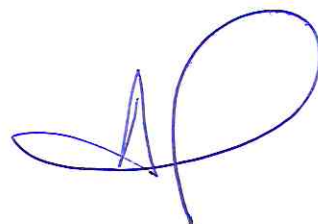
IMPLICATION OF E-REGISTRATION

The Authority Hereby notifies all Supervisory bodies of the following developments regarding E- Registration.

1. That the deadline for issuing hard copy certificates of registration was set at 30th June, 2023 and as such the FIA will no longer issue any hardcopy Certificates of Registration effective 1st July, 2023 to any accountable person.
2. That all accountable persons who have manually registered with the FIA hence issued with physical/hard copy certificates of registration shall be electronically registered on to the goAML System and issued with electronic certificates of Registration with an E-Registration number.
3. That E-Registration certificates issued take precedent over the previously issued physical copy.
4. That only E-Registration certificates shall be issued to all accountable persons who register with FIA henceforth.
5. Therefore, all accountable persons who have not registered with FIA should electronically register with the FIA on the goAML System hence forth.
6. The certificate comes with enhanced security features consisting of a QR code that can be used to certify the registration status of the entity.
7. The process of electronically registering with the FIA is stipulated in the Guideline on Registration found on our website - www.fia.go.ug

Please Take Note that failure to register with the Authority is an offence under Section 133 of the Anti-Money laundering Act, 2013 (as amended) and attracts penalties stipulated in Section 136(2) of the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2013 (as amended)

Contact person



For any further information, kindly send an email to the following addresses for assistance.

compliance@fia.go.ug

fia@fia.go.ug



Sydney Asubo

Executive Director

Copy: Permanent Secretary/Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

