Our reference

21st August 2017



## Republic of Vanuatu State Law Office

## Financial Intelligence Unit

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Guidance Note No. 2 of 2017

To AML&CTF Compliance Officer

## AML&CTF COMPLIANCE SUPERVISION- UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL SANCTIONS

This Guidance Note is issued to assist and inform reporting entities of the new United Nations Financial Sanctions Act No. 6 of 2017 ("UNFS Act") that was brought into effect and force on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

This UNFS Act enhances Vanuatu's legal framework in preventing terrorism, designating and imposing prohibitions arising from United Nations Security Council Resolutions and the National Security Advisory Committee.

Under the UNFS Act, most of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Terrorism and Terrorist Financing have immediate applications in Vanuatu and are only revoked by the United Nations Security Council. On the other hand, the Prime Minister, on the advice of the National Security Advisory Committee, can designate persons or entities.

Reporting entities are required by the new UNFS Act to regularly review and monitor their customers against the UNSC Sanctions Listing (link provided via FIU website <a href="https://www.fiu.gov.vu">www.fiu.gov.vu</a>) and strictly adhere to directions issued by the Sanctions Secretariat.

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Reporting entities are prohibited to offer its services, open an account or establish a business relationship with a designated person or entity; or hold, possess or control properties of a designated person or entity.

In the event, that a reporting entity becomes aware of such a designated person or entity or his/her/its property, it is obliged to report the matter to the Sanctions Secretariat.

This office has been appointed as the Sanctions secretariat by the UNFS Act and provides support to the National Security Advisory Committee.

In addition, the Sanctions Secretariat is empowered by the UNFS Act to supervise and enforce persons and entities for compliance with the said Act. These include power to request information and documents; conduct onsite inspections necessary for the purpose of the said Act, and issue enforcement measures on failing entities.

These measures are necessary to ensure that reporting entities are complying with the obligations set out in the said Act.

Yours falthfully,

Floyd Ray Mera

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