Outcomes of the FATF Plenary and Working Group Meetings in June 2020

Subsequent to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary and Working Group meetings held virtually in June 2020, FATF issued (a) a public statement on high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action; and (b) a document titled "Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring". Details are as follows -

(i) FATF Statement on High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for <u>Action</u>

- A <u>FATF Statement on High Risk Jurisdictions Subject to a Call for</u> <u>Action</u> was published on 30 June 2020, which is related to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Iran. On 28 April 2020, the FATF decided on a general pause in the review process for the list of high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action. Therefore, members are advised to refer to the list of <u>High-Risk Jurisdictions</u> <u>subject to a Call for Action adopted in February 2020</u>. While the statement may not necessarily reflect the most recent status in Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's AML/CFT regime, the FATF's call for action on these two high-risk jurisdictions remains in effect.
- To recap, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is subject to a FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply counter-measures to protect the international financial system from the on-going and substantial money laundering and terrorist financing risks emanating from the jurisdiction.
- Meanwhile, Iran is subject to a FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply, in line with Recommendation 19^{Note} (i.e. Higher Risk Countries) –

(a) increased supervisory examination for branches and subsidiaries of financial institutions based in Iran;

(b) enhanced relevant reporting mechanisms or systematic reporting

of financial transactions; and

(c) increased external audit requirements for financial groups with respect to any of their branches and subsidiaries located in Iran.

Note According to Recommendation 23, DNFBPs should be required to comply with the higher-risk countries requirements set out in Recommendation 19.

(ii) Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring

Another document titled *Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring*. On 28 April 2020, the FATF decided on a general pause in the review process for the list of jurisdictions under increased monitoring (total of 18). The FATF granted these jurisdictions an additional four months for deadlines, with the exception of Mongolia and Iceland who requested to continue on their original schedule. The statement on Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring, adopted in February 2020 remains in effect for the remaining 16 jurisdictions identified at that time, namely, Albania, The Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Cambodia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Syria, Uganda, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

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