

Outcome of the FATF Plenary and Working Group Meetings in February and March 2022

Subsequent to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary and Working Group meetings held virtually in February and March 2022, 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 -

(A) FATF Statement on High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action

A [*FATF Statement on High Risk Jurisdictions Subject to a Call for Action*](#) was published on 4 March 2022 (i). Since February 2020, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the FATF has paused the review process for countries in the list of high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action, given that they are already subject to the FATF's call for countermeasures. Therefore, members are advised to refer to the [statement](#) on these jurisdictions adopted in February 2020. While the statement may not necessarily reflect the most recent status of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's anti-money laundering (AML)/combating the financing of terrorism (CFT) regimes, the FATF's call for action on these 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 money laundering and terrorist financing risks emanating from the jurisdiction.

4. 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)

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- (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.

(B) Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring

FATF issued another document titled [*Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring*](#). Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the FATF has provided some flexibility to jurisdictions not facing immediate deadlines to report progress on a voluntary basis. The following countries had their progress reviewed by the FATF since October 2021: Albania, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Malta, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Senegal, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. For these countries, updated statements are provided. Jordan, Mali, Haiti, and Turkey were given the opportunity and chose to defer reporting; thus, the statements issued in June and October 2021 for these jurisdictions are included, but they may not necessarily reflect the most recent status of the jurisdiction's AML/CFT regime. Following review, the FATF now also identifies the United Arab Emirates.

(10 March 2022)