## INSURANCE COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS



To: All Registered Long-term and General Insurers

Date: March 30, 2022

Re: Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Call for Action on High-Risk Jurisdictions – Iran and the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Iran and DPRK) Pursuant to the Proceeds of Crime

Act, 2018

Pursuant to section 6(3)(b) and 6(3)(d) of the Proceeds of Crime Act, 2018, the National Identified Risk Framework Coordinator has requested that the Insurance Commission of The Bahamas ("the Commission") circulate the following Notice regarding the Call For Action in March 2022, issued by the Financial Action Task Force in relation to High-Risk Jurisdictions with strategic deficiencies.

High-Risk Jurisdictions have significant strategic deficiencies in their regimes to counter money laundering, terrorist financing, and financing of proliferation. In this regard, Licensees are asked to apply enhanced due diligence, and, in the most serious cases, apply counter measures to protect its financial system from the ongoing money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing (ML/TF/PF) risks emanating from the country. This list is often externally referred to as the "blacklist".

Since February 2020, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the FATF paused the review process for countries on 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, please 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 AML/CFT regimes, the FATF's call for action on these high-risk jurisdictions remains in effect.

In so doing, Licensees should consider the ML/TF/PF risk associated with these jurisdictions when maintaining business relationships and conducting transactions with the listed jurisdictions including individuals, companies, financial institutions, and those acting on their behalf. In that regard, when conducting their risk analysis, Licensees should refer to the information on these jurisdictions which can be found at any of the following links listed below:

Documents - Financial Action Task Force (FATF) (fatf-gafi.org)

 $\underline{\text{http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/high-risk-and-other-monitored-jurisdictions/documents/call-for-action-march-2022.html}$ 

https://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/high-risk-and-other-monitored-jurisdictions/documents/call-for-action-february-2020.html

Companies must report to the Commission, in writing, that in performance of their risk analysis, they have taken into consideration all ML/TF/PF risk associated with the jurisdictions listed in the above Public Statements.

A copy of the Notice regarding the Call For Action on High-Risk Jurisdictions, can also be found on the Commission's website under Announcements and Notices (Alerts).

Michele C. E. Fields
Superintendent of Insurance