## Country Head & CEO's Message

Dated: 10.03.2021

The Chief Manager/Branch Managers/Departmental Heads/all officials National Bank of Pakistan, Bangladesh Operations

Subject: Country Head & CEO's message regarding prevention of Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing in the Bank

## Dear All,

All grace to the Almighty Allah for keeping all of us ( NBP BD Operations staff) in safe and sound health in this pandemic situation since March 2020. Diverse risk has been emerged globally due to this pandemic and also regulatory policy change in our country to address the economic and business activities. We would like to remind you all on our promises and commitments for making our NBP BD Operations a compliant one in all respects and particularly on AML/CFT.

The Year 2021 will be the year of challenges and I expect all members of NBP, Bangladesh Operations to be very vigilant as ever and ensure strict compliance and adhere to relevant laws and regulations including group one . Our relentless fight against Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing will remain unabated in the year 2021 too. Considering the economy during pandemic, banking industry has been entrusted with stimulus packages for implementing for bringing back business to track. Therefore, the Banking industry this year need to build a relatively robust AML infrastructure in terms of technology and human resources and put in place for effective governance structure in the Bank.

As you know, ML and TF are detrimental not only for the institution itself but for the entire society, country and the world. Therefore, we need to put our best effort to combat the ill effort of the launderers and financier of terrorist activities.

In 2020, BFIU issued the following 2(two) major/master circular, guidelines regarding AML & CFT which we have to implement by the year 2021:

- 1. Instructions to be followed by the schedule banks for prevention of money laundering terrorist financing and proliferation financing vide BFIU circular # 26 dated 16-06-2020
- 2. Guidelines on Electronic Know Your Customer(e-KYC) vide BFIU circular no 25 dated 08-01-2020



As per BFIU instructions this year, we have to implement another guideline named Guidelines for Prevention of Trade Based Money Laundering under the spirit of BFIU circular no. 24 dated 10-12-2019.

As a Bank, we are committed to the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing. Therefore, we will focus on the following issues with a serious note:

- 1. Implementation of new account opening form in line with Bangladesh bank instruction and guidelines.
- 2. Implementation of new e-KYC and customer risk rating
- 3. Sanction screening of our existing customer and potential customer (before on boarding) through ACCUITY
- 4. NID verification through National Election Commission Server
- 5. CTR, STR & SAR reporting & monitoring
- 6. Strengthening transaction monitoring process, keep updated of Transaction profiles.
- 7. CDD & EDD on going basis.
- 8. AML/CFT meeting with action plan.
- 9. Making staff training more effective
- 10. Complying with self assessment and independent testing procedure
- 11. Responding to queries and reporting on time.
- 12. Maintaining of records
- 13. Ensuring confidentiality in all respect.
- 14. Ensure KYC of beneficial owner, occasional/walk in or one off customers' transaction.

We must be careful to obtain the authentic/genuine identity of every single customer. To be successful in the area, the following issues need to be addressed:

- 1. We never verify any document without seeing the original.
- 2. We submit SAR/STR in case of finding any valid ground for such submission.
- 3. We never execute any transaction being requested by clients over the phone.

This is to remind you that Money Launderers and terrorists are always devising new methods and techniques to launder ill gotten money. They try to take advantage of variety of transactions, Products, Geographical locations, Electronic Banking channels and emerging technologies.

It is therefore, utmost important that all our Branches put in place appropriate customer identification and due diligence procedure to promote sound business, governance and risk management. You must also abide by Money Laundering Prevention Act, Anti Terrorism Act, related circulars of Bangladesh bank, our Bank's AML Manual and guidance notes.



All employees of NBP, Bangladesh Operations are hereby advised to keep themselves aware and updated about AML/CFT rules, regulations & laws, relevant BFIU circulars, letters as well as our AML/TF policy/guidelines etc while entertaining with opening and maintaining customer's account.

We hope that our combined efforts and strict adherence to AML rules and regulations will protect our Bank from any potential loss/damage/ reputation and also uphold our image as a compliant Bank.

Please note, ignorance of the rules and regulations is no excuse for non compliance and every individual will be held liable for carrying out his/her compliance responsibilities and necessary disciplinary actions, if required may be taken against the responsible person(s).

We encourage comfortable and friendly, congenial environment for our customer, so trained yourself, your officials to make questions or queries to the client in a very positive manner & delicate way to get the required genuine information. No customer should feel harassed or embarrassed. Prioritize Customer's satisfaction with compliance manner ensuring Customer Due Diligence (CDD) segment following Customer Acceptance policy, AML issues are not hampered.

For further information/ clarification i.e. if you have any questions or require any further, please contact with the CAMLCO/Deputy CAMLCO, National Bank of Pakistan, Bangladesh Operations.

Best Regards,

Md. Quantruzzaman Country Head & CHO