

MEDIA RELEASE

9/5/1/3

FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE WELCOMES CABINET APPROVAL FOR GENERAL LAWS (ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COMBATING TERRORISM FINANCING) AMENDMENT BILL, 2022

29 August 2022: The Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) welcomes Cabinet's approval of the submission of the General Laws (Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Terrorism Financing) Amendment Bill, 2022 ([the Amendment Bill](#)) to Parliament for further processing. The Amendment Bill is aimed at progressing South Africa's fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

The Amendment Bill, which was put before Cabinet last week for consideration, proposes amendments to the following laws:

- Trust Property Control Act, 1988 (Act 57 of 1988): Minister of Justice and Correctional Services
- Nonprofit Organisations Act, 1997 (Act 71 of 1997): Minister of Social Development
- Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act 38 of 2001): Minister of Finance
- Companies Act, 2008 (Act 71 of 2008): Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition
- Financial Sector Regulation Act, 2017 (Act 9 of 2017): Minister of Finance.

South Africa's regime for combating money laundering, financing of terrorism and proliferation financing (AML, CFT and PF) – including its laws and regulations, supervisory and regulatory systems – was reviewed in 2019 by a joint assessment team of the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group, the International Monetary Fund and Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

South Africa is a member of FATF, the inter-governmental body for setting standards relating to AML, CFT and PF. These standards are the basis upon which peer reviews and assessments are made to evaluate member countries' measures and capability for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing. The results of South Africa's assessment are contained in a [mutual evaluation report](#), released in October 2021. The

assessment team identified weaknesses in the South Africa's regulatory framework and implementation measures for combating money laundering, terrorism financing and proliferation financing.

The proposed amendments to the Financial Intelligence Centre Act included in the Amendment Bill are, for the most part, technical in nature and do not substantially change the principles on which the customer due diligence provisions are based. The proposed amendments however do result in the establishment of a stronger AML/CFT/PF regulatory framework. The Amendment Bill was tabled in Parliament by the Minister of Finance (today) Monday, 29 August 2022. National Treasury has issued a statement in this regard, which is available on www.treasury.gov.za.

--- ends ---

Issued by:

The Financial Intelligence Centre

For more information, please contact communications@fic.gov.za or visit www.fic.gov.za.

Note to editors:

Note to editors: As South Africa's national centre for the gathering and analysis of financial data, the Financial Intelligence Centre's (FIC's) role is to safeguard the integrity of the country's financial system and its institutions. In pursuit of this, the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act 38 of 2001), mandates the FIC to identify the proceeds of crime, and assist in combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing, and to facilitate the effective supervision and enforcement of the FIC Act.

Under this legislation, the FIC makes information available to a wide range of law enforcement agencies and other government institutions to facilitate the administration and enforcement of the laws of the Republic. The FIC also provides information and guidance to financial and non-financial institutions on their compliance obligations. It also outlines the enforcement and penalty regime for those who do not comply.

The FIC ensures South Africa's legislation and standards for combating money laundering and terrorist financing are met and up to date across government and the private sector.

Item	2020/21
Institutions registered with FIC as at 31 March 2021	44 499
Regulatory reports received	5.2 million
Cash threshold reports received	4.8 million
Suspicious and unusual transaction reports received	394 709
Inspection reports issued by FIC and supervisory bodies	749
Total number financial intelligence reports disseminated	3 206
Responses to requests for financial intelligence	2 080
Financial intelligence reports referred	1 126
Value of suspected criminal proceeds frozen	R613.2 million
Value of criminal proceeds recovered where FIC financial intelligence was used	R3 398.71 million

For more about the FIC visit www.fic.gov.za