

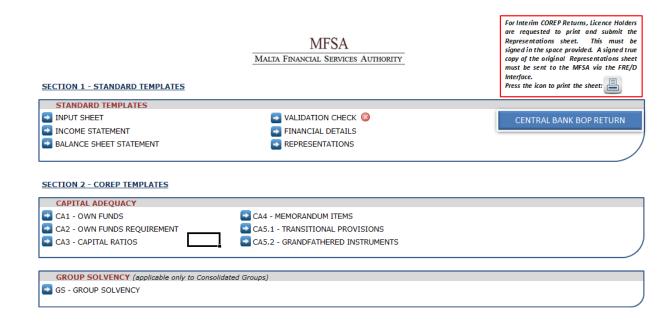
This Circular is being addressed to Category 2 and Category 3 Investment Services Licence Holders subject to fill in the Automated COREP Return.

## 24th March 2014

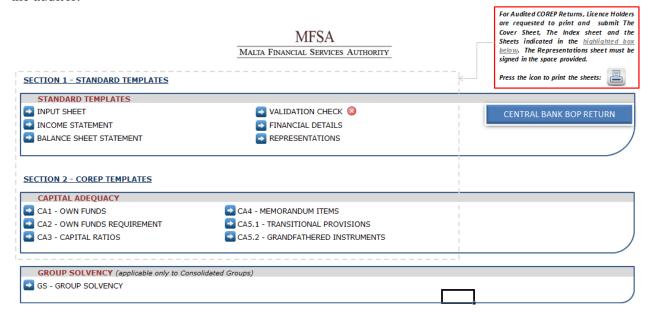
The MFSA has gone through the process of automating the COREP Return to facilitate reporting requirements for its Investment Services Licence Holders. The Automated COREP return's file size has grown considerably when compared to the previous financial return. This is mainly due to the increased automation and number of templates issued by the European Banking Authority (EBA). As a result, the MFSA has decided to make use of a custom built database "Financial Reporting Engine & Database - (FRE/D)" in order to receive the Automated COREP Return electronically. This system will replace the "email by attachment" approach currently being used, between the Licence Holder and the Authority.

COREP Returns should be submitted by their due date in electronic format by use of the FRE/D Interface, accessed through the following link: <a href="http://fredisu.mfsa.com.mt/">http://fredisu.mfsa.com.mt/</a>. Licence Holders have already been provided with a username and password to log into the FRE/D system. The FRE/D Financial Institution Representative Instructions are available on the MFSA website.

In the case of an Interim/Annual COREP Return, a true copy of the signed Representations Sheet shall be submitted to the MFSA via the FRE/D Interface, within forty two days of the date up to which it has been prepared (as seen in the diagram below). It shall be signed by the proprietor where the Licence Holder is a sole trader, or otherwise by at least two directors or partners or any other persons authorised to sign by way of a Board Resolution. In the latter case, the Licence Holder is expected to provide a certified true copy of such Board Resolution to the MFSA.



In the case of an Audited Annual COREP Return, a hard copy of the templates found in Sections 1 and 2 of the Index Sheet shall be submitted to the MFSA without undue delay and by not later than four months of the Accounting Reference Date (as seen in the diagram below). The Representations sheet shall be signed by the proprietor where the Licence Holder is a sole trader, or otherwise by at least two directors or partners or any other persons authorised to sign by way of a Board Resolution. In the latter case, the Licence Holder is expected to provide a certified true copy of such Board Resolution to the MFSA. The Representations sheet shall also be signed by the auditor.



The MFSA invites comments or feedback by Licence Holders and their Auditors on the proposed change mentioned in this circular by not later than 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Any queries in relation to the implementation of COREP to investment firms should be sent directly to Mr Andrew Said, Analyst, Securities and Markets Supervision Unit Tel: 2548 5457 or by email on asaid@mfsa.com.mt.

Communications Unit Malta Financial Services Authority 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014