

13 May 2020

Notice to Financial Services Licence Holders - International Sanctions

The MFSA brings to the attention of all Financial Services License Holders the coming into effect of restrictive measures by virtue of Regulations which have been issued during the period of 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020, by the European Union ("EU") and the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC" or "the Security Council"), in respect of various regimes as shown hereunder.

Regulations issued by the EU and UNSC have direct applicability under the Maltese Law and require no implementation measures. The full texts can be viewed at the Official Journal of the EU, the UNSC or the MFSA's websites through the following links, respectively; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/>, <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/>, <https://www.mfsa.com.mt/>.

1. BELARUS

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/214 of 17 February 2020 amending Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus](#)

This Council Decision amends Decision 2012/642/CFSP by extending the restrictive measures against the Country until 28 February 2021. This Decision shall be kept under constant review and shall be renewed or amended, as appropriate, if the Council deems that its objectives have not been met

2. BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/435 of 23 March 2020 amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

This Council Decision extends the date restrictive measures against the Country imposed by Decision 2011/173/CFSP until 21 March 2021, on the basis of a review.

3. CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

EU Regulation

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/408 of 17 March 2020 amending Decision 2013/798/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Central African Republic.](#)

This Council Decision amends Decision 2013/798/CFSP by extending the exemptions to the arms embargo.

UNSC Resolution

S/RES/2507(2020) – [Resolution 2507 \(2020\) Adopted by the Security Council at its 8712th meeting, on 31 January 2020](#) (Dated 31 January 2020)

On 31 January 2020, the UNSC adopted Resolution 2507 (2020), extending the arms embargo, travel ban and asset freeze until 31 July 2020 and the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 31 August 2020. In addition to the existing exemptions, it was decided that the arms embargo shall no longer apply to suppliers of unarmed ground military vehicles mounted with weapons. It also requests the Central African Republic authorities to report to the Committee on the progress achieved by 20 June 2020.

4. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/415 of 19 March 2020 implementing Article 9 of Regulation \(EC\) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

This Council Regulation updates the information relating to one person subject to restrictive measures in Annex I to Regulation (EC) 1183/2005.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/189 of 12 February 2020 implementing Article 9 of Regulation \(EC\) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex I to Regulation (EC) 1183/2005 by adding one person to the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures.

5. NORTH KOREA (DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA)*UNSC Resolution*

S/RES/2515 (2020) – [Resolution 2515 \(2020\) Adopted by the Security Council on 30 March 2020](#) (Dated 30 March 2020)

On the 30 March 2020, the UNSC adopted Resolution 2515 (2020) whereby it extends the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 30 April 2021.

6. EGYPT

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/416 of 19 March 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 270/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Egypt](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex I Part A and B to Regulation 270/2011 by amending the listing of two persons and the information regarding the rights of defence and the right to an effective judicial protection.

7. IRAQ

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/37 of 16 January 2020 amending Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1210/2003 concerning certain specific restrictions on economic and financial relations with Iraq](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 1210/2003 by removing 15 entries from the list of persons or entities to whom the freezing of funds and economic resources apply.

8. ISIL AND AL-QAIDA

Various Regulations amending Council Regulation (EC) No 881/2002 of 27 May 2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities associated with the **ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida** organisations have been issued pertaining to the list of individuals and entities subject to the freezing of assets.

Regulations amending Council Regulation (EC) No 881/2002

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/390 of 10 March 2020 amending for the 312th time Council Regulation \(EC\) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities associated with the ISIL \(Da'esh\) and Al-Qaida organisations](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/288 of 28 February 2020 amending for the 311th time Council Regulation \(EC\) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities associated with the ISIL \(Da'esh\) and Al-Qaida organisations](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/259 of 25 February 2020 amending for the 310th time Council Regulation \(EC\) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures against certain persons and entities associated with the ISIL \(Da'esh\) and Al-Qaida organisations](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/218 of 17 February 2020 amending for the 309th time Council Regulation \(EC\) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures against certain persons and entities associated with the ISIL \(Da'esh\) and Al Qaida organisations](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/184 of 11 February 2020 amending for the 308th time Council Regulation \(EC\) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities associated with the ISIL \(Da'esh\) and Al-Qaida organisations](#)

9. LIBYA

EU Regulation

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/458 of 27 March 2020 amending Decision \(CFSP\) 2015/1333 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya](#)

This Council Decision amends Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 by extending the restrictive measures concerning three persons for further six months, in view of the continuing instability and gravity of the situation in Libya.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/371 of 5 March 2020 implementing Article 21\(5\) of Regulation \(EU\) 2016/44 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya.](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2016/44 by updating information related to five persons subject to restrictive measures.

UNSC Resolution

S/RES/2509 (2020) – [Resolution 2509 \(2020\) Adopted by the Security Council at its 8719th meeting, on 11 February 2020](#) (Dated 11 February 2020)

On 11 February 2020, the UNSC approved Resolution 2509 (2020) which further extends the authorisations provided and measures imposed by Resolution 2146 (2014) until 30 April 2021. It also extends the mandate of the Panel of Experts by 15 May 2021 and requests the Panel to report any information relating to the illicit export from or illicit import to Libya of petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products

10. MALI

[Corrigendum to Council Implementing Decision \(CFSP\) 2020/118 of 27 January 2020 implementing Decision \(CFSP\) 2017/1775 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Mali](#)

[Corrigendum to Council Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/116 of 27 January 2020 implementing Article 12\(1\) of Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1770 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Mali](#)

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/118 of 27 January 2020 implementing Decision \(CFSP\) 2017/1775 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Mali](#)

This Council Decision amends Decision 2017/1755 CFSP by revising the listings of seven persons subject to restrictive measures.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/116 of 27 January 2020 implementing Article 12\(1\) of Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1770 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Mali](#)

This Council Regulation amends Regulation (EU) 2017/1770 by amending the listings of five persons from the list of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies set out in Annex I.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/8 of 7 January 2020 implementing Article 12\(1\) of Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1770 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Mali](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2017/1770 by adding five persons to the list of persons and entities subject to asset freezing.

11. SOMALIA

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/170 of 6 February 2020 amending Decision 2010/231/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Somalia](#)

This Council Decision amends Decision 2010/231/CFSP and reaffirms the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution (UNSCR) 2498 (2019) general and complete arms embargo. It also amends the exemptions, advance approvals and notifications concerning the delivery of arms and related materials to Somalia. The Resolution also reaffirms the prohibition on the import of charcoal from Somalia and introduces restrictions on the sale, supply and transfer of improvised explosive device components on Somalia.

[COUNCIL REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/169 of 6 February 2020 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 147/2003 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Somalia](#)

This Council Regulation amends Regulation (EC) 147/2003 by reaffirming a general and complete arms embargo on Somalia and amends the exemptions, advance approvals and notifications concerning the delivery of arms and related materials to Somalia. The Resolution reaffirms the prohibition on the import of charcoal from Somalia and introduces restrictions on improvised explosive device components.

12. SUDAN

UNSC Resolution

S/RES/2508 (2020) – [Resolution 2508 \(2020\) Adopted by the Security Council at its 8718th meeting, on 11 February 2020](#) - (Dated 11 February 2020)

On 11 February 2020, the Security Council approved Resolution 2508 (2020) which extends the mandate of the Panel of Experts appointed pursuant to Resolution 1591 (2005) until 12 March 2021.

13. SYRIA

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/211 of 17 February 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria](#)

This Council Regulation updates Regulation (EU) 36/2012 by adding eight natural persons and two entities to the list of natural and legal persons, entities or bodies subject to restrictive measures in Annex II.

14. TUNISIA

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/115 of 27 January 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 101/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Tunisia](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex I to Regulation (EU) 101/2011 by supplementing the information regarding the rights of defence and the right to effective judicial protection.

15. UKRAINE

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/398 of 13 March 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annex I to Regulation (EU) 269/2014 by amending the information on 161 persons and 11 entities while deleting the information for two deceased persons, on the basis of a review.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/370 of 5 March 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 208/2014 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Ukraine](#)

This Council Regulation removes two persons from Annex I of Regulation (EU) 208/2014 and updates information regarding the rights of defence and the right to effective judicial protection.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/119 of 28 January 2020 implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine](#)

This Council Regulation updates Regulation (EU) 269/2014 by adding seven persons to the list of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies subject to restrictive measures as set out in Annex 1 of the Regulation.

16. YEMEN

UNSC Resolution

S/RES/2511 (2020) – [Resolution 2511 \(2020\) Adopted by the Security Council at its 8732nd meeting, on 25 February 2020](#) - (Dated 25 February 2020)

On 25 February 2020, the UNSC approved Resolution 2511 (2020), which extends the time-limited assets freeze and travel ban against individuals or entities designated by the Committee until 26 February 2021. It also extends the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 28 March 2021 while introducing an exemption to the targeted arms embargo and additional exemptions to the travel ban and assets freeze.

17. ZIMBABWE

[Corrigendum to Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2020/215 of 17 February 2020 amending Decision 2011/101/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Zimbabwe](#)

[Corrigendum to Council Regulation \(EU\) 2020/213 of 17 February 2020 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 314/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/219 of 17 February 2020 amending Council Regulation \(EC\) No 314/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe](#)

This Council Regulation amends Annexes III of Regulation (EC) 314/2004 by removing the entry of one deceased person covered by the freezing of funds and economic resources.

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/215 of 17 February 2020 amending Decision 2011/101/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Zimbabwe](#)

This Council Decision extends the restrictive measures until 20 February 2021 and should keep these restrictive measures under constant review in the light of political and security developments in Zimbabwe. One entry for a deceased person should be deleted from the list of designated persons and entities and four others should be renewed in Annex I to Decision 2011/101/CFSP. The restrictive measures should be suspended for one person and should be renewed for three persons in Annex II to Decision 2011/101/CFSP.

[COUNCIL REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/213 of 17 February 2020 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 314/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe](#)

This Council Regulation changes the name of Regulation 314/2004 and replaces Annex IV to the same Regulation with a new version.

18. GENERAL

[COUNCIL DECISION \(CFSP\) 2020/20 of 13 January 2020 updating the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism, and repealing Decision \(CFSP\) 2019/1341](#)

This Council Decision updates the list of persons, groups and entities that are subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2019/1341.

[COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2020/19 of 13 January 2020 implementing Article 2\(3\) of Regulation \(EC\) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism, and repealing Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1337](#)

This Council Regulation amends Regulation (EU) 2019/1337 following decisions of the Council to establish an updated list of persons, groups and entities with statements of reason explaining the rationale of being listed into the list.

LICENSE HOLDERS OBLIGATIONS

The MFSA requires its license holders to take note of all international sanctions as issued from time to time (including new designations of individuals and entities) and to exercise caution and vigilance in order to ensure that they do not in any way support activities, individuals or entities which are subject to sanctions or other restrictive measures. License holders have a legal obligation to comply with international sanctions and to take all the steps as may be required for their immediate implementation. They are therefore required to monitor their business relationships and to verify their records on an on-going basis for any information or transactions known or suspected to be connected or related in any manner whatsoever with designated individuals and entities and to identify and freeze any funds, financial assets and economic resources in accordance with the requirements of the sanctions.

REPORTING

License holders are also required to report the findings of their verifications to the MFSA and to inform the MFSA of any action taken. In particular, license holders are to report and give all relevant details to the MFSA about any funds, financial assets and economic resources which have been identified to be owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the designated individuals and entities and which they have frozen in terms of sanctions.

Information may be sent either by mail to the Head – Financial Crime Compliance, or via e-mail on FCC@mfsa.mt.

It is also required that any person who identifies, holds and freezes any such funds, financial assets or economic resources notifies in writing without delay the Sanctions Monitoring Board at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Finally, the MFSA would like to stress that the purpose of this notice is to provide an overview to License Holders of the restrictive measures that have been issued recently by the EU and the UNSC. License Holders should refer to the Official Journal of the European Union and the website of the UNSC for the complete list and any other related information concerning the restrictive measures that have been issued recently by the EU and the UNSC.