

UAE and the Global Financial System: Safeguarding Integrity



As a responsible member of the global community, **the United Arab Emirates steadfastly combats illegal financial activities, such as money laundering, and actively works to eliminate terrorist financing networks.**

The UAE's policies and strategies detect and deter financial crimes on its soil and prevent the use of its lands for any criminal activity. The UAE also supports global efforts to counter money laundering (CTF) and combat the financing of terrorism (AML), seeking to fully implement the standards of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Safeguarding the integrity of the global financial system is in line with the UAE's commitment to enhance its competitiveness and become a global financial center and preferred destination for business, investment, and economic partnerships with countries worldwide.

Strengthening the UAE's National Framework

A Financial Integrity Model Guided by 6 Core Objectives

1. Establishing a robust and interconnected national system
2. Effectively managing risks and national policies
3. Strengthening strategic partnerships, including regional and international cooperation
4. Achieving a high level of best practice technical compliance
5. Attracting and empowering the best human talent and digital infrastructure
6. Enhancing innovation practices based on flexibility, proactivity, and readiness

In 2021, the UAE established an Executive Office of Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing to lead the implementation of the **UAE's whole-of-government AML/CFT strategy**, in close coordination with the FATF and other regional and global entities, including the US Government.

Steps taken by the UAE include increasing investigations and prosecutions around illicit financial transactions, boosting international cooperation, and better aligning virtual asset regulation with international standards.

In February 2024, the UAE successfully completed the action plan agreed with FATF, which is a testimony to the country's progress with AML/CFT reforms. **As a consequence, the UAE was removed from FATF's enhanced monitoring process**, reflecting the country's close cooperation with international partners and global institutions to safeguard the integrity of the financial system at home and globally.

"The removal sends a clear signal that the UAE is committed to tackling money laundering and terrorist financing," said Mohamed Daoud, Industry Practice Lead, Moody's Analytics.



Spotlight on UAE-US Collaboration



- The UAE Government is engaging directly with the United States to jointly counter money laundering, terrorist financing, funding for weapons of mass destruction, and other illicit activities.
- Through close bilateral cooperation, the UAE has expanded its engagement with FATF and enacted substantive and sustainable national reforms. This is a matter of national security, with the UAE actively working to enhance its AML/CFT framework to ensure compliance with international regulatory standards.



“By continuing with our disciplined approach, we are making a genuine difference in our ability to prevent illicit financial flows and achieve our goal of making the UAE one of the strongest and most respected economies in the modern world.”

HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Higher Committee Overseeing the National Strategy on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism

The UAE will launch its next National Strategy on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism, covering the period 2024-2027, in the coming months.



For more information about the UAE and Safeguarding the Integrity of the Global Financial System visit <https://www.uae-embassy.org/>