



DPSB/RM/2024/01
13 May 2024

Circular

Obligations of Category A Registrants

This circular is intended to remind Category A registrants to comply with the requirements stipulated under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance (AMLO), Chapter 615, Laws of Hong Kong, as listed below. Any person who fails to comply with any of the requirements commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine and imprisonment. The Commissioner of Customs and Excise (CCE) may, in addition to initiating legal actions, take administrative and/or disciplinary actions against the registrant concerned.

Requirements of the AMLO	Maximum Penalty
(a) A Category A registrant must not carry out any specified cash transaction (i.e. cash transaction(s) with total value at or above HKD120,000);	A fine of \$100,000 and imprisonment for 6 months
(b) Any person must not, in the application made or notification given or document provided to the CCE, make a statement that is false or misleading in a material particular or omit a material particular from a statement with the result that the statement is rendered false or misleading;	A fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for 6 months
(c) A Category A registrant must display - (i) the certificate of registration in a conspicuous place at the principal place of business; (ii) the branch certificate in a conspicuous place at each branch; and (iii) the registrant's name shown on the Register together with the QR code or the registration number at the website/online platform;	A fine of \$50,000
(d) A Category A registrant must notify the CCE on any change of particulars ¹ of registration within one month of beginning on the day on which such change occurs; and	A fine of \$50,000
(e) A Category A registrant must notify the CCE on cessation of business before the intended date of cessation.	A fine of \$50,000

¹ Including change of name of registrant; addition/deletion/relocation of business premises; change in occupants of business premises which are situated in domestic premises; and new conviction record after granting of registration.



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On top of the above, a Category A registrant shall also comply with other requirements stipulated under the AMLO, guides and guidelines issued by the CCE. These requirements include but not limited to securing continuously that the precious metals and stones business is carried on for a lawful purpose; paying an annual fee timely, securing continuously the written consent of the occupants in business premises that are situated in domestic premises for an authorized person to conduct routine inspection, etc. The CCE may take disciplinary actions against the registrant concerned and/or cancel or suspend the registrant's registration on any contravention.

The above circular is intended to provide Category A registrants with information of a general nature and does not cover all the relevant requirements stipulated in the AMLO. Category A registrants shall refer to the AMLO, "Registration Guide", circulars and other references at www.drs.customs.gov.hk for details.

**Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones Supervision Bureau
Customs and Excise Department**