

BURGAN BANK: Combating Financial Crimes Statement



Burgan Bank (“the Bank”) is a Kuwaiti financial institution that is publicly traded and registered as a shareholding company in the State of Kuwait. The Bank is regulated and supervised by the Central Bank of Kuwait (“CBK”). Burgan Bank has majority owned subsidiaries in the MENAT region, which include Gulf Bank Algeria - AGB (Algeria), Tunis International Bank – TIB (Tunisia), and fully owned Burgan Bank – Turkey, (collectively known as the “Burgan Bank Group”). Burgan Bank Group is entirely committed to combat all financial crimes activities including but not limited: money laundering, economic sanctions’ breaches, and financing of terrorism.

The State of Kuwait is a member of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) that is a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and also a member of the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) FATF. Member countries agree on working together to achieve the following:

- To adopt and implement the 40 FATF general recommendations against ML/TF;
- To implement relevant United Nations (UN) treaties, agreements, and Security Council Resolutions;
- To co-operate to increase compliance with regional and international standards.

The Bank has implemented a Risk-Based Anti-Financial Crimes (“AFC”) Program designed to comply with the State of Kuwait Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing laws and regulations, international laws and guidelines, and the international best practices in relation to combating financial crimes.

Burgan Bank AFC Program Key Elements:

- Developed and implemented internal Anti-Financial Crimes Policies & Procedures which are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and complies with the State of Kuwait Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing laws and regulations, international laws and guidelines, and the international best practices in relation to combating financial crimes;
- Established an independent Anti-Financial Crimes Department (“AFC Department”), with a designated Group Head of Anti-Financial Crimes, who reports to the Chairman;
- Established an ongoing AFC employee training program;
- AFC Department is audited on an annual basis by internal and independent auditors;
- Utilizes systems that monitors customers’ transactions to detect any suspicious activities and follow processes to report such activities to the relevant regulatory bodies.

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Anti-Financial Crimes Policies & Procedures Overview

Burgan Bank Group policies covers all the regulatory and international practices related to combating financial crimes and outlines the general framework and processes of the Anti-Financial Crimes Department from identifying/verifying customers, Due Diligence measures, and KYC Standards. Moreover, the policies cover the framework of the Sanctions Monitoring and defines the applicable Sanctions programs to the Bank. In addition, it outlines the practice to identify countries/jurisdictions risk exposures.

In addition to the above mentioned, Burgan Bank Anti-Financial Crimes Department has the following procedures that covers:

- Monitoring and Assurance Testing
- Record Retention
- Trade Finance
- Customer Due Diligence and Know Your Customer
- Financial Crime Screening
- Suspicious Transactions Investigation and Reporting

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