## NATIONAL TREASURY

NO. 964 09 OCTOBER 2015

## PUBLICATION OF EXPLANATORY SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE AMENDMENT BILL, 2015

The Minister of Finance intends introducing the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment Bill, 2015 ("the Bill") in the National Assembly shortly. The explanatory summary of the Bill is hereby published in accordance with rule 241(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The Bill seeks to enhance South Africa's ability to combat financial crimes by proposing measures to address threats to the stability of South Africa's financial system posed by money laundering and terrorism financing. The Bill also addresses regulatory gaps identified from the 2009 Financial Action Task Force Mutual Evaluation on South Africa and the 2014 IMF South Africa Financial Sector Assessment Programme Technical Note on Anti-Money Laundering ("AML") and Combating the Financing of Terrorism ("CFT").

The Bill enhances South Africa's AML and CFT regulatory regime by specifically:

- Providing for the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions relating to the freezing of assets;
- Enhancing the supervisory powers of the Financial Intelligence Centre and extending its functions in relation to suspicious transactions;
- Providing for the adoption of a risk-based approach to customer due diligence measures;
- Introducing the concepts of beneficial ownership, on-going due diligence, and foreign and domestic prominent influential persons;
- Enhancing the customer due diligence requirements;
- Dissolving the Counter-Money Laundering Advisory Council; and
- Enhancing information sharing as well as enforcements and administrative mechanisms.

After its introduction in the National Assembly, a copy of the Bill will be obtainable from the National Treasury's website at <a href="http://www.treasury.gov.za">http://www.treasury.gov.za</a>, and also from the Government Printers, Cape Town (phone nr 021 465 7531), and:

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