



CHANGING OF THE GUARD: BVI FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION'S MANAGING DIRECTOR FEATURED IN BVI FINANCE PUBLICATION

Now at the helm as Managing Director/CEO of the BVI Financial Services Commission (the 'Commission'), Mr. Kenneth Baker talks about his succeeding of Dr. Robert A. Mathavious OBE, personal career development, lessons learnt and perspectives on the changing global economic landscape.

Read the article [here](#).



MEET THE REGULATOR FORUM

**SAVE
THE DATE**

TUESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER, 2021

Eileene L. Parsons Auditorium / 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

CELEBRATING THE HOUSE THAT DR. MATHAVIOUS BUILT

Topics include:

- Farewell by Dr. Robert A. Mathavious, OBE
- Industry Response
- Special Presentation to Dr. Robert A. Mathavious, OBE by President of H. Lavity Stoutt Community College

*Registration begins **29 October 2021**.
Attendees must register to attend.*

This event will be live streamed.

Space is limited.



Register now



In this unique Forum dubbed 'Celebrating the House that Dr. Mathavious Built', the Commission will laud the life and legacy of the chief architect behind the BVI's financial services sector-Dr. Robert A. Mathavious, OBE. Industry practitioners and other interested persons are invited to [register](#) as space is limited, alternatively, the Forum will be streamed live.

WHAT IS MONEY LAUNDERING

A Conversation with Kenneth Baker,
Managing Director & CEO of the
BVI Financial Services Commission



**MONDAY
8TH NOVEMBER
6:30P.M.**

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

1.

What is Money
Laundering & Terrorist
Financing?



2.

BVI is preparing for the
CFATF Mutual
Evaluations -
What is that?



3.

Why is it important for
the community to
understand Money
Laundering?



BVI Finance
your international business partner

CLICK HERE TO

REGISTER

events@bvifinance.vg

3rd Floor, Cutlass Tower
Road Town, Tortola

The Commission, in partnership with BVI Finance, will launch its educational and public awareness campaign on Anti-Money Laundering and Customer Due Diligence ('CDD') requirements, and is calling on the members of the community and all business owners to become more knowledgeable on the subject and support efforts of the sector to combat financial crime.

This outreach effort will emphasise the importance of financial entities, businesses, and individuals complying with reporting requirements, including reporting suspicious financial activity. We encourage public and private schools, service and sports organisations, churches, and other community organisations to register and forward any AML related questions and other inquiries to events@bvifinance.vg.



FINDINGS FROM RECENTLY PUBLISHED ML AND TF RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE FINANCING SECTOR

ML and TF Risk Assessment Findings

In a continued effort to improve Financial Services participants' knowledge of identified Money Laundering (ML) and Terrorist Financing (TF) risks and make the public aware of the threats and vulnerabilities facing the Territory, this series of articles continues to examine the findings of the recently published ML and TF Risk Assessment Reports. This month, we focus on the Financing Sector.

ML Risk Findings: Threats, Vulnerabilities, Risk Factors, and Overall Ratings

The ML risk factors identified within the Financing Sector included the potential use of loan facilities to launder proceeds of crime. As a result, the ML risk assessment identified the Finance sector as **Low risk for ML**.

Vulnerabilities identified in the ML risk assessment included:

- Suspicious activity reports (SARs) not being filed,
- Limited services of small and short-term loans to connected persons;
- payment plans for insurance premiums
- The vast majority of business is still being conducted face-to-face and does not involve high-risk jurisdictions.

TF Risk Findings: Threats, Vulnerabilities, Risk Factors, and Overall Ratings

The TF risk factors identified within the Financing Sector included:

- loans being made primarily to connected persons
- limited product offerings
- limited exposure to high-risk jurisdictions, and
- the provision of small, short-term loans.

With these identified risk factors, the finance sector was rated as **Low for TF**.

Within the TF risk assessment, vulnerabilities identified were limited, as business is generally being conducted face-to-face and does not involve high-risk jurisdictions, and the exposure to high-risk customers and PEPs is highly localised.

What should be Done Going Forward?

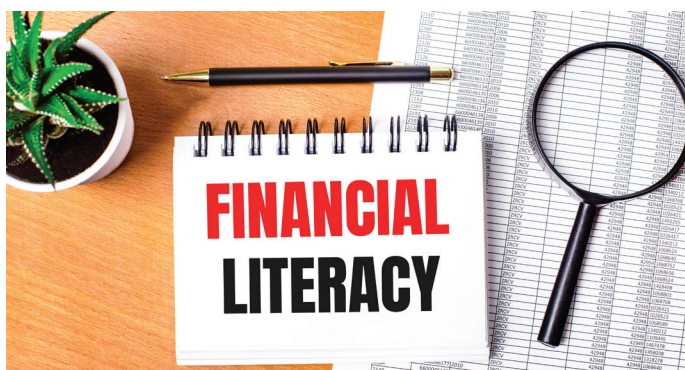
To mitigate risks, Financing Sector participants should:

- Take into account all identified national threats and vulnerabilities;
- Ensure recommendations made in both reports are fully implemented into their assessments;
- Financial institutions and DNFBPs that have participants in the Financing Sector as clients should pay particular attention to these findings.

The Commission will undertake regular evaluations of such implementation through its onsite and desk-based supervisory models.

All recommendations can be found in the Virgin Islands Financial Services Sector [Money Laundering Risk Assessment Report](#) and [Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Report](#).

For questions or queries on AML/ CFT matters, please email aml@bvifsc.vg.



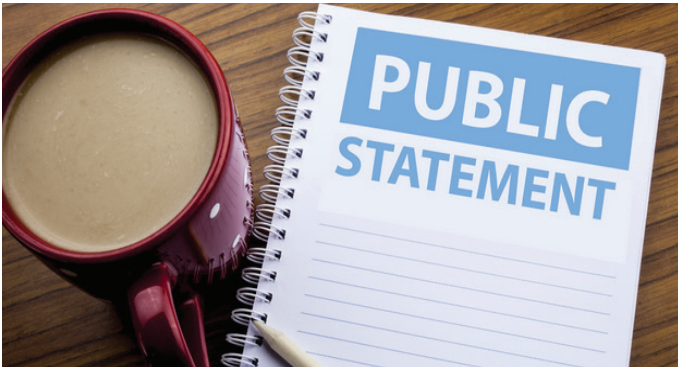
REGIONAL REGULATORY PARTNERS RAISED AWARENESS OF FINANCIAL FRAUD IN LIGHT OF PANDEMIC - WORLD INVESTOR WEEK 2021

The Commission's financial literacy and financial education unit – MONEY MATTERS BVI (MMBVI) recently contributed to the Investor Forum for Investor Education Americas Caribbean Working Group (CWG) themed ***'Strengthening Our Toolkit to Fight Impacts of Financial Fraud During the Covid-19 Pandemic'***

The virtual webinar held on 28 October 2021, was the CWG's third regional collaborative project to support the Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) World Investor Week, which raised awareness on investing and promoting investors' protection.

MMBVI and other provincial CWG member regulators highlighted their country experiences with financial fraud during the COVID-19 pandemic and initiatives implemented by securities regulators to improve economic resilience and build capacity.

Head of the MMBVI unit Rhonda Hodge-Smith noted, "the information-sharing initiative aligned with the Commission's mandate to adopt measures to appropriately inform the general public on its functions and matters relating to or affecting any financial services business."

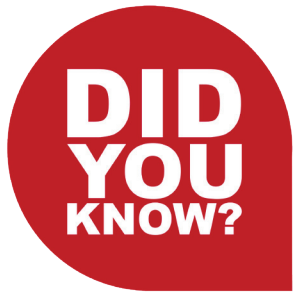


PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Under Section 37(a) of the Financial Services Commission Act, 2001, The British Virgin Islands Financial Services Commission (the "Commission") considers it necessary to issue Public Statements to protect the customers, creditors, or persons who may have been solicited to conduct business with purported financial services entities.

The public is advised to exercise caution when conducting business with the following persons:

DESCRIPTION	DATE
EFRA EUROPEAN FINANCIAL REGULATOR (FINANCIAL REGULATOR of the BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS)	01 October 2021
AUNIA TRADE AND INVEST. LIMITED	11 October 2021
RICHFIELD CAPITAL LIMITED	15 October 2021
CENTRAL FOREX LIMITED	27 October 2021



All licensees, industry practitioners and the public at large should make an effort to understand their AML/CFT obligations. The Commission continually makes an effort to inform licensees about relevant AML/CFT matters to ensure the highest level of compliance. Relevant guidance, videos and presentations are available on the Commission's dedicated [AML/CFT space](#).

On 29 October 2021, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) celebrates Anti-Money Laundering Day.

In support, the Commission wishes to reiterate its commitment to ensuring compliance with all international standards to combat money laundering (ML), terrorist financing (TF), proliferation financing (PF) and to inform everyone about the importance of the fight against these and other financial crimes. Understanding money laundering and applying appropriate anti-money laundering measures is essential. Taking action helps to safeguard our national economy and financial system.

All public statements can be found [here](#) on our website.