ESWATINI FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIRECTIVE TO ALL DESIGNATED NON-FINANCIAL BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS (DNFBPs)

DIRECTIVE NO. 5/2026

This Directive is issued to all DNFBPs on the mandatory implementation of AML/CFT obligations

Public

Date: 26 MAY 2026

To: ALL DNFBPs (*Legal Practitioners, Real Estate Agents, Accountants, Dealers in Precious Mentals and Stones, Casinos and Gaming Houses***)**

Subject: Mandatory Compliance with AML/CFT Obligations prescribed in Eswatini Financial Intelligence Centre (EFIC) Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Guidelines 2024.

1. **Directive**

   This directive is hereby issued to all DNFBPs within Eswatini in accordance with Section 35 of the Money Laundering and Financial of Terrorism (Prevention) Act 2011 (as amended) which pertains to the powers to enforce compliance.

2. **Purpose**

   This Directive is issued to all DNFBPs to reinforce the mandatory nature of full adherence to the EFIC AML/CFT guidelines 2024 applicable to the sector. DNFBPs are hereby reminded that any deviation, omission, or failure to comply with the prescribed AML/CFT obligations as stipulated in the EFIC AML/CFT guidelines constitutes a regulatory breach subject to enforcement action.

3. **Binding Compliance Requirements**

   All DNFBPs shall implement and maintain robust AML/CFT systems, controls, and risk-mitigation mechanisms, including but not limited to:

   - Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Governance and Oversight
   - Risk Assessment and Risk Based Approach
   - Employee Screening and Training
   - Customer Due Diligence (CDD) and Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD)
   - Record-Keeping
   - Reporting Obligations
   - Internal Controls
   - Targeted Financial Sanctions

3. Legal Consequences of Non-Compliance

3.1 Contravention of Section 10 of the DNFBPs Sector-Specific AML/CFT Guideline 2024.

Failure by DNFBP to comply with the provisions of the sector-specific EFIC AML/CFT guidelines 2024 shall constitute a direct violation of section 10 of the guidelines and will be treated as a material breach of statutory AML/CFT obligations.

3.2 Contravention of Section 35 bis of the Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing (Prevention) Act, 2011 (MLTFP Act)

DNFBPs are hereby advised that non-compliance with the Eswatini Financial Intelligence Centre AML/CFT Guidelines triggers sanctioning action in terms of Section 35 bis of the Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing (Prevention) Act, 2011.

These sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Administrative penalties;
- Corrective directives;
- Restrictions or conditions on operations;
- Suspension of registration or licensing privileges;
- Referral for criminal investigation where warranted.

Compliance with the AML/CFT Guideline does not constitute a defense against prosecution for offences under the MLTFP Act. DNFBPs remain fully liable for any breach of the Act regardless of adherence to the Guideline.

4. Mandatory Action Required:

All DNFBPs are directed immediately:

- Review internal AML/CFT policies and procedures.
- Rectify any identified compliance gaps.
- Ensure all staff and officers understand and execute AML/CFT obligations.
- Maintain demonstrable evidence of compliance for regulatory inspection.

5. Effective Date

This directive is effective **1 July 2026** and remains in force to ensure continued compliance by all DNFBPs.

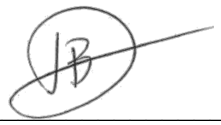
6. Final Warning

Eswatini Financial Intelligence Centre will adopt a zero-tolerance enforcement posture.

DNFBPs are hereby cautioned that any future findings of non-compliance will result in immediate enforcement action without further notice.

7. Listing of the Sectorial AML/CFT Guidelines of 2024

i. EFIC Legal Professionals AML CFT Guideline
ii. EFIC Real Estate Agencies AML CFT Guideline
iii. EFIC Casinos and Gaming House AML CFT Guidelines
iv. EFIC Accountants AML CFT Guideline
v. EFIC Dealers in Precious Metals Stones AML CFT Guidelines



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