

Policy for acceptance of clients (As per provision 18 of Master Circular as per SEBI Circular SEBI/HO/MIRSD/MIRSDSECFATF/P/CIR/2024/78 dated June 06, 2024):

We have developed client acceptance policies and procedures that aim to identify the types of clients that are likely to pose a higher than average risk of ML (Money Laundering) or TF (Terrorist Financing):

- a. We have not allowed the opening of or keep any anonymous account or account in fictitious names or account on behalf of other persons whose identity has not been disclosed or cannot be verified;
- b. Factors of risk perception (in terms of monitoring suspicious transactions) of the client are clearly defined having regard to clients' location (registered office address, correspondence addresses and other addresses if applicable), nature of business activity, trading turnover etc. and manner of making payment for transactions undertaken. The parameters shall enable classification of clients into low, medium and high risk. Clients of special category (as given below) may, if necessary, be classified even higher; Such clients require higher degree of due diligence and regular update of Know Your Client (KYC) profile;
- c. We shall undertake enhanced due diligence measures as applicable for Clients of Special Category (CSC). CSC shall include the following:
 - a) Non - resident clients;
 - b) High net-worth clients;
 - c) Trust, Charities, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and organizations receiving donations;
 - d) Companies having close family shareholdings or beneficial ownership;
 - e) Politically Exposed Persons" (PEPs). PEP shall have the same meaning as given in clause (db) of sub-rule (1) of rule 2 of the PML Rules. The additional norms applicable to PEP as contained in the subsequent paragraph 20 of the master circular shall also be applied to the accounts of the family members or close relatives / associates of PEPs;
 - f) Clients in high risk countries. While dealing with clients from or situated in high risk countries or geographic areas or when providing delivery of services to clients through high risk countries or geographic areas i.e. places where existence or effectiveness of action against money laundering or terror financing is suspected, registered intermediaries apart from being guided by the FATF statements that inter alia identify such countries or geographic areas that do not or insufficiently apply the FATF Recommendations, published by the FATF on its website (www.fatf-gafi.org) from time to time, shall also independently access and consider other publicly available information along with any other information which they may have access to. However, this shall not preclude registered intermediaries from entering into legitimate transactions with clients from or situated in such high risk countries and

geographic areas or delivery of services through such high risk countries or geographic areas. The intermediary shall specifically apply EDD measures, proportionate to the risks, to business relationships and transactions with natural and legal persons (including financial institutions) from countries for which this is called for by the FATF;

g) Non face to face clients - Non face to face clients means clients who open accounts without visiting the branches/offices of the registered intermediaries or meeting the officials of the registered intermediaries. Video based customer identification process is treated as face-to-face onboarding of clients;

h) Clients with dubious reputation as per public information available etc.

The above mentioned list is only illustrative and the intermediary shall exercise independent judgment to ascertain whether any other set of clients shall be classified as CSC or not.

- d. Documentation requirements and other information to be collected in respect of different classes of clients depending on the perceived risk and having regard to the requirements of Rule 9 of the PML Rules, Directives and Circulars issued by SEBI from time to time.
- e. Ensure that an account is not opened where the we unable to apply appropriate CDD measures. This shall apply in cases where it is not possible to ascertain the identity of the client, or the information provided to the intermediary is suspected to be non - genuine, or there is perceived non - co-operation of the client in providing full and complete information. The registered intermediary shall not continue to do business with such a person and file a suspicious activity report. It shall also evaluate whether there is suspicious trading in determining whether to freeze or close the account. The registered intermediary shall be cautious to ensure that it does not return securities or money that may be from suspicious trades. However, the registered intermediary shall consult the relevant authorities in determining what action it shall take when it suspects suspicious trading.
- f. The circumstances under which the client is permitted to act on behalf of another person / entity shall be clearly laid down. It shall be specified in what manner the account shall be operated, transaction limits for the operation, additional authority required for transactions exceeding a specified quantity/value and other appropriate details. Further the rights and responsibilities of both the persons i.e. the agent-client registered with the intermediary, as well as the person on whose behalf the agent is acting shall be clearly laid down. Adequate verification of a person's authority to act on behalf of the client shall also be carried out.
- g. Necessary checks and balance to be put into place before opening an account so as to ensure that the identity of the client does not match with any person having known criminal background or is not banned in any other manner, whether in terms of criminal or civil proceedings by any enforcement agency worldwide.
- h. The CDD process shall necessarily be revisited when there are suspicions of ML/TF.