

Ahli Bank (QPSC) - Policy Statement

Policy statement on:

1. **Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing Terrorism and Countering Financing Proliferation of Weapon of Mass Destruction (AML/CFT & CFP).**
2. **Tax Compliance - Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).**
3. **Tax Compliance - Common Reporting Standard (CRS).**

Introduction:

Ahli Bank – Qatari Public Shareholding Company (QPSC) (ABQ or the Bank) was established in the State of Qatar in the year 1983 for conducting banking activities as per its Memorandum & Articles of Association. ABQ is licensed, regulated and supervised by the Qatar Central Bank (QCB). The Bank is a Qatari Shareholding Company, listed in Qatar Exchange (QE), Doha, Qatar, under reference code (ABQK).

ABQ is involved in banking and investment services through a network of branches and a wholly owned brokerage subsidiary named Ahli Brokerage Company (ABC) in Qatar providing a fullest array of products and services within major business segments: Corporate Banking, Treasury and Investments, Retail Banking, International Banking and Private Banking & Wealth Management.

Money Laundering, Financing Terrorism & Financing Proliferation of Weapon of Mass Destruction have become a global menace threatening the stability of various regions by actively supporting and strengthening terrorist networks and criminal organizations. The links between money laundering, organized crime, drug trafficking and terrorism are not new and continue to threaten the stability of financial institutions and, ultimately, the democracy and the rule of law.

The “AML, CFT & CFP Policy and Procedures Manual”:

In order to safeguard the economic sector from the risk arising out of money laundering and to counter financing terrorism, State of Qatar enacted the Law no. (20) of year 2019, on “Combating Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing” which is in accordance with the recommendations issued by Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Based on the above, QCB have issued its regulations on “AML, CFT & CFP” to financial institutions in Qatar.

To facilitate compliance with the Qatari Law, FATF Recommendations and QCB Regulations, ABQ has developed and implemented a written “AML, CFT & CFP Policy and Procedures Manual”. The Manual has been approved by the Board of Directors. The Policy and Procedures Manual is intended to safeguard the Bank from money laundering and financing terrorism crime which potentially devastates the Bank and expose it under financial and reputational risks.

The Manual includes:

- The identification of potential ML, FT & FP risk relevant to the Bank’s activities and to protect ABQ from Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing
- Customer Acceptance Policy
- Customer identification process
- Customer Risk based classification
- Know Your Customer (KYC) Procedures
- The identification and risk assessment of Politically Exposed Persons (PEP)
- Enhanced due diligence of High Risk Customers
- Monitoring Transactions thru Rule Based Exceptions alerts
- Scanning of names against International & Local black list
- Internal procedures for monitoring, and reporting suspicious persons/ transactions to Qatar Financial Information Unit (QFIU)
- AML, CFT & CFP requirements regarding Outsourced Activities
- Programme of updating Customers KYC information and documents

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- Staff Training on awareness of KYC, AML, CFT & CFP and related law, recommendations and regulations
- Record keeping and retention requirements
- Wire transfers and the interface with the AML system

Highlighted Elements in the Manual:

- All correspondent banking relationships are subject to appropriate customer due diligence, monitoring and review.
- The Bank is prohibited from conducting any relationship or establishing, maintaining, administering, or managing an account for, or on behalf of, a shell bank.
- ABQ has a robust AML system in place to monitor customer transactions beyond a threshold limits prescribed by QCB. The transaction alerts are analysed within a reasonable period of time. Any suspicious transactions are reported to the MLRO/DMLRO for further analysis and reporting to the relevant authorities.
- The Customer names are matched daily in the AML system against the local/ international black lists, any names matching alerts are analysed and if found suspicious are reported to the MLRO/DMLRO for further investigation and reporting to the relevant authorities.
- Wire Transfer Channels have been interfaced with AML system, where funds transfer transactions are routed through the AML system for screening the names of the Beneficiary against the local/ International sanction lists, prior to final transmission.

Tax Compliance - Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA):

ABQ, Doha, hereby confirms FATCA - Compliant Financial Institution status (**Reporting-Model 1 FFI**), and the Global Intermediary Identification Number (**GIIN**) is as follows:

ABQ - **9B5U0P.00000.LE.634**

ABC - **9B5U0P.00001.ME.634**

Form W-8BEN-E is available in the website.

Tax Compliance - Common Reporting Standard (CRS):

- ABQ began the CRS Annual Reporting in 2018, where ABQ customers complete specific forms designed to collect information related to their tax residency status, as part of the Due-Diligence for Individuals, Entities, and Controlling Persons according to the CRS standards.
- The General Tax Authority (GTA) / Ministry of Finance (MOF) has issued a Tax Card with a Tax Identification Number (TIN) for ABQ, which is **5000838938**.

For more information on Ahli Bank QPSC and Qatar Central Bank, please visit:

www.ahlibank.com.qa

www.qcb.gov.qa



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