



OG/329/2018

29th July 2018

Chief Executive Officer / General Manager

All Banks

All Investment Business Licensees (Cat. 1 & 2)

All Life Insurance Providers

All Trust Service Providers

All Financing Companies

All Bahrain Domiciled CIUs Operators

Manama

Kingdom of Bahrain

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Automatic Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes ("AEOI")
Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") Reporting Deadline**

As a follow up to our previous directives regarding FATCA reporting, the Central Bank of Bahrain ("CBB") is pleased to announce that the FATCA reporting for the year ending 31st December 2017 will commence on **5th August 2018** through the new AEOI portal.

Therefore, the CBB requests all reporting financial institutions to submit their final FATCA report by **20th August 2018**.

Where licensees are unable to meet the aforementioned FATCA reporting deadline, all licensees addressed herein will be subject to date sensitive penalties stipulated in the Enforcement Module ("EN") of the CBB Rulebooks.

Moreover, the final FATCA report must be in line with the requirements stipulated in the Intergovernmental Agreement ("IGA") signed between the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the United States of America and its Annexures; which can be found on the following link below:

(<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/tax-policy/treaties/Documents/FATCA-Agreement-Bahrain-1-18-2017.pdf>).

With regards to FATCA reporting, the following link provides access to the new AEOI portal:

(<https://aeoi.cbb.gov.bh/aeoiportal>).

Furthermore, Bahraini reporting Financial Institutions are responsible to be in compliance with the terms and conditions stipulated in the signed IGA between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United States of America. In addition, financial institutions are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of reportable information. For guidance relating to compliance with FATCA, please refer to the IGA.

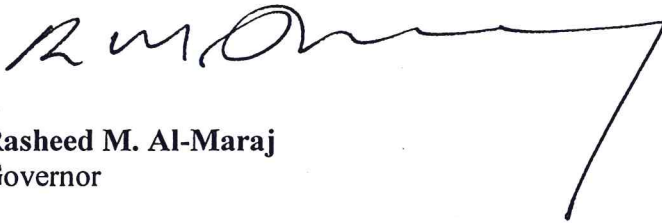
With respect to **Notice 2017-46, 2017-41 I.R.B. 275**, released by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) on 25th September 2017, entitled Revised Guidance Related to Obtaining and Reporting Taxpayer Identification Numbers and Dates of Birth by Financial Institutions. The Notice 2017-46 stipulates the revised guidance related to obtaining and reporting U.S. Taxpayer Identification Numbers (“TIN”) and Dates of Birth for preexisting accounts that are U.S. reportable accounts by Foreign Financial Institutions (“FFI”)s) and any related consequences for non-compliance with such requirements.

More specifically, the US Competent Authority will not determine that there is a significant noncompliance with the obligation under preexisting accounts (U.S. reportable accounts maintained as of 30th June 2014), for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019, under an applicable Model 1 IGA with respect to a reporting Model 1 FFI. Although the US authorities will not determine significant noncompliance under such model due to failure in obtaining and reporting each required U.S. TIN, the reporting model 1 FFI should ensure the following:

- (1) Obtains and reports the date of birth of each account holder and controlling person whose U.S. TIN is not reported;
- (2) Requests annually from each account holder any missing required U.S. TIN; and
- (3) Before reporting information that relates to calendar year 2017 to the Central Bank of Bahrain (“CBB”), searches electronically searchable data maintained by the reporting Model 1 FFI for any missing required U.S. TINs.

Should you have any queries in respect of any matter referred to herein, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Ahmed Bumtaia, Director – Compliance Directorate, on Tel: 17 54 7107 or e-mail: abumtaia@cbb.gov.bh. Additionally, should you have any IT related issues, please do not hesitate to contact the AEOI-IT support team at aeoiitsupport@cbb.gov.bh.

Yours faithfully,



Rasheed M. Al-Maraj
Governor