



Industry Circular No. 4 of 2018

Virgin Islands National Risk Assessment Report

Tortola, British Virgin Islands – 14 September, 2018 - The Virgin Islands (VI), in its continued efforts to prevent the facilitation of money laundering (ML), terrorist financing (TF) and proliferation financing (PF) through its financial system, undertook a National Risk Assessment (NRA) in March 2014. The aim of the NRA was to identify, assess and understand the ML/TF/PF risks posed to the jurisdiction and determine the effectiveness of its measures and systems for anti-money laundering (AML) and combatting the financing of terrorism (CFT).

The assessment considered relevant agencies such as the Commission, the Financial Investigation Agency, the International Tax Authority, the Attorney General's Chambers and the Governor's Office and sectors including the financial services industry sectors, Designated Non-financial Businesses and Professions, Non-Profit Organisations, over a period of 2011 to 2014. The NRA was concluded in 2016, and a report of the findings, which identified ML/TF threats and vulnerabilities and made recommendations for improvement of the VI's AML/CFT landscape, was developed.

It is imperative that relevant entities and persons operating within the VI's financial services sector are aware of and understand the ML/TF risks posed to the jurisdiction. These factors should be considered in conducting an entity's own ML/TF risk assessment and designing and implementing appropriate risk mitigation measures. All licensees are therefore urged to review the NRA Report titled – *British Virgin Islands: National Risk Assessment of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing*.

A copy of the NRA Report, can be found in the Publications Library on the Commission's website, accessible at: <http://www.bvifsc.vg/library/publications>.

The Commission's Publications Library also includes a copy of the *Progress Report in the Implementation of the Recommendations from the National Risk Assessment*, which highlights actions that have been taken to date, to address shortcomings identified in the NRA.