Guidance – Notaries REQ

In terms of the Regulation 19 of the PMLFTR, the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit ("FIAU") can require subject persons to submit periodical reports on the AML/CFT measures, policies, procedures and controls they are implementing. This is being done through the annual Risk Evaluation Questionnaire ("REQ"). Unless otherwise stated, all subject persons, including those that were licensed in 2019 and are still licensed as of 28 February 2020, are bound to complete and submit the REQ through the CASPAR system by the deadline communicated to subject persons by the FIAU against payment of the applicable administrative fee. Failure to do so may result in the imposition of administrative sanctions by the FIAU.

This document clarifies the interpretation of specific questions and provides more information on the data being requested in particular sections within the REQ. Please go through this document prior to the completion and submission of the REQ. Subject Persons are invited to call the FIAU at any time during office hours on 21231333 or send an e-mail to: caspar@fiumalta.org

This REQ covers the period 01 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. Reference to prior calendar year throughouth the REQ should be taken to refer to 01 January 2019 to 31 December 2019.

Subject persons are required to complete the questionnaire in respect of the activity that falls within the definition of "relevant activity" and "relevant financial business" in accordance with Regulation 2 (1) of the PMLFTR.

Various questions in this REQ have also been applied across other different sectors. As a result, generic terminology such as "you / your entity" and "entity" has been applied and should therefore be taken to refer to the subject person completing this REQ.

Unless otherwise stated, reference to monitoring system throughout the REQ should be interpreted to refer to both manual and automated systems.

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Abbreviations

AML/CFT	Anti Money Laundering / Combatting the Funding of Terrorism	
во	Beneficial owner	
BRA	Business Risk Assessment	
CASPAR	Compliance and Supervision Platform for Assessing Risk	
CDD	Customer Due Diligence	
CRA	Customer Risk Assessment	
ECB	European Central Bank	
EDD	Enhanced Due Diligence	
EEA	European Economic Area	
EU	European Union	
FATF	Financial Action Task Force	
FIAU	Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit	
FTE	Full-time equivalent	
ID.	The Implementing Procedures issued in terms of Regulation 17 of the Prevention of	
IPs	Money Laundering and Funding of Terrorism Regulations (PMLFTR)	
MFSA	Malta Financial Services Authority	
ML/FT	Money Laundering / Funding of Terrorism	
MLRO	Money Laundering Reporting Officer	
NRA	National Risk Assessment	
PEP	Political Exposed Person	
PMLFTR	Subsidiary Legislation 373.01 Prevention of Money Laundering and Funding of Terrorism	
CD D	Regulations	
SDD	Simplified due diligence	
SNRA	Supranational Risk Assessment	
SP	Subject person	
STR	Suspicious transactions report	
UBO	Ultimate beneficial owner	

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FAQs

If a subject person was previously registered in CASPAR, should the subject person register again or can the previous credentials be used? I am a sole practitioner / MLRO of an entity which carries out relevant activity and commenced its operations in 2020. How shall we proceed with registration and completion of REQ?	Subject persons do not need to register again and can use the same credentials The Sole Practitioner / MLRO should register on CASPAR and create a Subject Person. Guidance on the registration process is available on the FIAU website. The first REQ in this case will be due in 2021 and will cover the period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020.
If there was a change in MLRO in 2020, is it correct to assume that the current MLRO has to submit the REQ for 2019?	Yes, the current MLRO has to submit the REQ.
If the MLRO resigned some time ago and an interim MLRO has been appointed quite recently, can the designated employee submit REQ instead?	The REQ can only be submitted by the MLRO.
Does a REQ need to be completed even if operations have just started?	The 2020 REQ covers the operating period January – December 2019, therefore subject persons who obtained their license in or prior to 2019 have to complete the 2020 REQ. Subject persons who do not require to be licensed have to complete the REQ depending on the day when they commenced operations. Registration on CASPAR is compulsory.
The activity that I / my entity undertakes cuts across various REQs (e.g. an advocate also undertaking activities relating to a CSP and tax advisor). Which REQ should I complete?	The CASPAR System will amalgamate questions covering all the licences / services offered by the subject person into one REQ. Questions that apply equally will need to be answered once while questions that are product and customer based will be asked per type of license / service offered.
Is a separate REQ required to be completed for different entities?	Yes, each subject person has to complete a separate REQ and provide information that is specific to that subject person. Even if entities form part of the same group and controls may be the same, a separate REQ has to be completed and the inherent risk questions have to be completed to cover for the specific risk exposures of that subject person.
How should subject persons answer questions that require a monetary value?	All questions requiring the subject person to give monetary values require an answer in Euro. The rate of conversion that has to be utilised depends on the type of question that is being answered. If the value requested is the value at year end, then the subject person should use the last official exchange rate available for the year under review. On the other hand, where the value represents the sum total of a number of transactions which took place during the year, the subject person may either utilise the official daily exchange rate or in the absence thereof the official monthly / annual average exchange rates.

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What is the difference between the "Not Available" and the "Not Applicable" answer options provided?	The "Not Applicable" option should only be selected in those instances where the question does not apply to the subject person answering the REQ, such as where the subject person does not offer a specific product / service or where the subject person may have only recently commenced operations. If however a Subject Person does provide the service / product but registered no activity in the prior calendar year, then the respondent should input a '0' value. The "Not Applicable" option may also be availed of where the main question upon which all subsequent questions depend was answered in the negative. The "Not Available" option should only be selected in those instances where the subject
	person cannot reply to the question as it does not have the required or sufficient information at its disposal.
When the question requires an answer in numbers, currency or percentages,	Inputting "0" means that the question applies to the subject person, however the subject person had nothing to report.
what is the difference between inputting "0", and selecting the 'not applicable' or 'not available 'option?	The 'Not Applicable' option should only be selected in instances where the question does not apply to the subject person answering the REQ such as where a product is not offered or the subject person has only recently commenced operations. The 'Not Applicable' option can also be availed of where the main question upon which all subsequent questions depend was answered in the negative.
	The 'Not Available' option should be selected in those instances where the question applies to the subject person, however the entity does not have sufficient information at its disposal to answer the said question.
	When a number/percentage is required to be input and the 'Not Applicable' option is not available, a '0' value should be input.
	Example: "What percentage of total customers are resident or otherwise incorporated or their principal place of business is in a non-EU / EEA jurisdiction?"
	- Subject persons who do not accept customers from non-EU / EEA jurisdiction, should select "Not Applicable";
	- Subject persons who accept customers from non-EU / EEA jurisdictions, however did not have any customers from such jurisdiction as at the end of the prior calendar year, should input "0";
	- Subject persons who have customers from the mentioned jurisdictions, but the requested information may not be extracted, should choose the "Not Available".
Why is there a reference to the Basel Index in the REQs?	The 2019 REQ required subject persons to make their own determination to identify high risk jurisdictions when answering related questions. This introduced an element of subjectivity that undermined the ability of the FIAU to compare data. The FIAU included the reference to the Basel Index, together with other lists, to reduce this element of subjectivity.
	Subject persons should however note that reference to the Basel Index is only being made for the purposes of this exercise and should not to be considered to have any form of official endorsement by the FIAU. Subject persons are still required to make their own informed and autonomous decision as which jurisdictions represent a given level of risk. While they can make use of the Basel Index to inform their judgement, they are not to automatically rely thereon.
In light of Dravit have should	Subject persons are expected to make use of the public version of the Basel Index.
In light of Brexit how should the UK be treated?	During the year under review (2019), the United Kingdom was still considered to be a member state of the European Union and therefore should be treated as such when completing the REQ.
What constitutes relevant activity for notaries?	Notaries are advised to refer to Interpretative Notes issued in order to determine what constitutes a relevant activity.

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The REQ makes reference to	Reference to the term "your entity" should for the purpose of this REQ be construed to	
"your entity". In the context	make reference to Notary.	
of the Notaries REQ, how		
should this be interpreted?		
Should all questions involving		
customers be taken to also	customers should only be taken to refer to the person or entity (excluding the BOs of the	
include beneficial owners?	legal person) to whom the subject person provides the service.	
Where a customer has both a	Should the service be offered to both the holding and the trading company, these should	
holding and trading company	be regarded as two separate legal entities for which you are providing the service;	
should these be treated as	therefore the total number of customers is two. If they form part of the same group but	
one customer?	the Subject Person is offering the service to only one of the two, the customer in this	
one customer.	case is one.	
Where a question refers /	The definition of subsidiary shall be construed to have the same meaning as referred to	
relates to subsidiaries,	in the entities Act. Only entities that have the same ownership and share a common	
should we include all entities	parent should be included. Simply having common ownership does not make a company	
with common ownership?	a subsidiary, a common parent company is required.	
With common ownership.	a substantity, a common parent company is required.	
	Where the REQ makes reference to a subsidiary of the subject person, only those	
	subsidiaries that undertake a relevant activity / relevant financial business, should be	
	taken into consideration in the subject person's response to the question.	
I am a sole practitioner /	The term 'employees' should not only refer to individuals who have a contract of	
MLRO of a legal entity with	employment with the subject person but should be interpreted to also include	
no registered employees.	individuals who are engaged by the subject person to carry out aspects of its business	
How should I answer all	involving relevant activity or relevant financial business.	
employee-related questions	involving relevant delivity of relevant infancial business.	
in the REQ?	Subject to the above, all questions related to employees should be marked as 'Not	
	Applicable'.	
What are the risks	Designated non-financial businesses and professions are considered to have the ability to	
encountered by designated	either block or facilitate the entry of illegitimate money into the financial system. As per	
non-financial businesses (in	the FATF's 2013 typology report, the following functions provided by lawyers, notaries,	
terms of money laundering	accountants and other gatekeepers are the most useful to a potential money launderer:	
and funding terrorism) and	accountants and other gatekeepers are the most aseral to a potential money launaerer.	
how can such risks	(1) Creating and managing corporate vehicles or other complex legal arrangements, such	
materialise?	as trusts: These arrangements may serve to obscure the links between the proceeds of a	
materialise:	crime and the perpetrator.	
	crime and the perpetrator.	
	(2) Buying or selling property: Property transfers serve as either the cover for transfers of	
	illegal funds (layering stage) or the final investment of proceeds after they pass through	
	the initial laundering process (integration stage).	
	the initial roundering process (integration stage).	
	(3) Performing financial transactions: Sometimes these professionals may carry out	
	various financial operations on behalf of the client (for example, issuing and cashing	
	checks, making deposits, withdrawing funds from accounts, engaging in retail foreign	
	exchange operations, buying and selling stock and sending and receiving international	
	funds transfers).	
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	(4) Providing financial and tax advice: Criminals with large amounts of money to invest may pose as individuals hoping to minimize tax liabilities or seeking to place assets out of reach in order to avoid future liabilities.(5) Providing introductions to financial institutions.(6) Providing assistance in relation to certain litigation.
	(7) Setting up and managing a charity.
During the prior calendar year (2019), the subject person terminated all its customer relationships and is in the process of winding up its business activity. Should	Subject persons had an obligation to have a BRA with effect from January 2018. Where the subject person has already provided a copy of its Business Risk Assessment with the 2019 REQ submission, has reviewed the said BRA and concluded that no changes thereto are required, the subject person is not required to upload another copy of the BRA. In this case the subject person will be required to upload a signed declaration
the BRA be marked as Not Applicable?	stating that following the review of the BRA, no updates were required since the BRA still covered all the ML / FT risks to which the subject person is exposed to. The signed declaration may be an extract from the Board minutes certified by the company secretary or in the case of sole practitioners a signed declaration by the MLRO.
If an engaged agent met the client face-to-face, but not the management of the entity directly, would this be considered as face-to-face relationship?	Yes, this is considered as a face-to-face relationship
Should a subject person be aware of whether a BO of a customer benefited from IIP citizenship?	In line with the IP Section 3.2.1, subject persons are required to consider factors that can lead to the customer being considered as presenting a higher risk of ML / FT and this includes situations where the customer has applied for, or is benefitting from, residence rights.
When screening for customers who have been convicted of a criminal offence that could have potentially generated proceeds, should directors be screened?	Sanction screening should be carried out on customers, BOs and agents.
To what extent can adverse media reports influence the classification of a client as high risk?	Not each and every adverse article found online should result in the increase of the subject person's risk classification. Adverse information should first be analysed before any changes to the risk classification is made.
What does ongoing monitoring refer to?	Ongoing monitoring, in the context of the sale or transfer of immovable property, typically entails the need to consider whether the conduct or behaviour of the customer is in line with the information the subject person holds on the customer. Subject persons may be privy to information they need to consider so as to determine if a particular transaction makes sense or otherwise. This may entail considering whether a particular deal or how he / she intends to fund a transaction is not only in line with the information disclosed by the customer at the time of the transaction / deal but, where there is regular interaction with the notary, also whether it is in line with the information acquired during prior dealings.

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In respect of other relevant activity, notaries may, in terms of Regulation 2 of the PMLFTR be considered as subject persons when acting in the context of: i) managing of client monies, securities or other assets ii) opening or management of banks, savings or securities accounts iii) organisation of contributions necessary for the creation, operation or management of companies In the offering of these services and in the instances where a business relationship is established, notaries are expected to follow the obligations defined in Regulation 7(1)(c) and (d) and as further explained in Section 4.4 and 4.5 of the Implementing Procedures Is the internal audit function Regulation 5(5)(d) of the PMLFTR provides that "every subject person shall implement, obligatory? If so, what is the where appropriate with regard to the size and nature of the business, an independent expected frequency that audit function to test the internal measures, policies, controls and procedures". The audits are carried out and are Revised Implementing Procedures in Section 3.4 further provide that this need not result there any firms authorised to in the creation of an internal audit function, since it is possible for the subject person to provide these services? engage an external consultant independent of the subject person to evaluate the adequacy of its internal controls, policies and procedures. This task may also be assigned internally to a person other than the MLRO or anyone else involved in the implementation or operation of the subject person's AML / CFT compliance programme. Does a business risk Internal audit or independent testing is necessary to test the effective implementation of assessment by an one's policies, controls, and measures. independent firm cover the internal audit requirement? Through the carrying out of a business risk assessment one obtains an understanding of the risks that affect operations and the measures to manage such risks. On the contrary the internal audit or independent testing, in the context of the requirements of the PMLFTR, assesses the adequacy of the measures (controls) the subject person put in place to manage its risk exposure to ML/FT risk. In response to AML/CFT Reference can be made to Chapter 7 of the Implementing Procedures, Part I which training of employees, which indicates that awareness and training shall be provided to employees whose duties employees are required to include the handling of either relevant financial business or relevant activity. It is safe to undergo training. We have a assume that members of staff holding the position of courier/cleaner do not fall within the definition provided under Chapter 7 of the Implementing Procedures, Part I and can complement of 10 Full Time Equivalents. If 2 of these are therefore be excluded for the purposes of calculating the required percentage. a courier and a cleaner should we include all of them in the calculation of this percentage? For how long should As per Regulation 13(2) of the PMLFTR and Section 9.3 of the Revised Implementing Procedures, subject persons are to maintain records for a period of five years. The FIAU, documents be kept in order to comply with FIAU's relevant supervisory authorities or law enforcement agencies are entitled to demand implementing procedures that records, including personal data, is retained for longer periods, when this is and regulations? considered to be necessary for the purposes of the prevention, detection, analysis and investigation of money laundering or financing of terrorism activities by the FIAU, relevant supervisory authorities or law enforcement agencies. The FIAU can extend the retention period for a period of up to 10 years in total. When providing the number When providing the number of high risk clients, the subject person should only take into of high risk clients, should the consideration the inherent risk. answer take into consideration the inherent risk or the residual risk following controls?

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A Maltese local client operates a cash-intensive supermarket with an annual turnover of €100,000 and a residual profit of €20,000. Should this be considered as high risk business?	The fact that a customer is operating a cash intensive business should only be one of the factors which are considered when carrying out of the customer risk assessment. Other risk factors should also be taken into consideration, such as, the geographical risk and the interface risk.
The subject person's client is a corporate client, having one of its director classified as a PEP. Should be this corporate client be considered as a PEP for REQ purposes?	For the purposes of filling in the REQ, if one of the corporate client's director is a PEP, then the corporate client is not to be considered as a PEP as the customer in this case is the corporate customer. The concept of a PEP can only be applied to natural persons. In the event that the director in question acted as an agent during the application process, such risk exposure should be taken into consideration during the carrying out of the customer risk assessment.
If one PEP has multiple entities and the subject persons services these entities, what is the correct number of PEPs in this case?	A PEP is always a natural person and therefore the number to be entered in this case should be one.
Which Government, Parastatal entities, Local Council office holders or employees fall under definition of a PEP?	Regulation 2(1) of the PMLFTR defines a PEP as a natural person who is or has been entrusted with a prominent public function, other than middle ranking or more junior officials. The PMLFTR does not define what constitutes a "prominent public function" since they may vary depending on a number of factors, such as the type, size, budget, powers and responsibilities associated with a particular public function and the organisational framework of the government or international organisation concerned, as the specific jurisdiction concerned. The PMLFTR do provide a non-exhaustive list of public functions that are considered to be prominent public functions and would therefore render the holder thereof a PEP. This list is not exhaustive and subject persons are required to assess on a case by case basis whether a particular public function presents characteristics that would fall to be considered as a prominent public function in terms of the PMLFTR and the Implementing Procedures. The prominent public functions which would render the holder a PEP include the following: - Heads of state, heads of government, ministers, deputy or assistant ministers, and parliamentary secretaries - Members of the Parliament or similar legislative bodies including the Speakers and all members of the House of Representatives - Members of the governing bodies of political parties which are those parties represented in the House of Representatives. However, this definition does not include
When does a person cease to be classified as a PEP?	regional or town representatives. The Revised Implementing Procedures issued in 2019 provide that the application of EDD to PEPs, their family members and close associates is mandatory as long as a PEP remains entrusted with a prominent public function, and for at least, a subsequent 12-month period from when he/she ceases to be so entrusted.
Basel index: there are various country risk databases of equal reliability. Is there a reason reference is only made to the Basel Index in the REQ?	The Basel Index was deemed to be the most frequently used. Whereas other indexes are also considered as reputable, the BASEL index was chosen purely for consistency patterns across the REQ.

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Under the Geography section of the REQ, there is a part relating to the residence of beneficial owners. How should one report cases where beneficial owners of "legal persons" are from more than one jurisdiction?

Under the Geography section of the REQ, there is a part relating to the residence of beneficial owners. How If you / your entity has for example 50 customers that are legal entities, each having 2 UBOs, you / your entity will have a total of 100 UBOs. So percentages should reflect the total number of customers, irrespective of whether they are UBO of the same entity or otherwise.

Therefore if for example out of the 100 UBOs, 50 are resident in Malta, 20 resident in an EU/EEA jurisdiction, 30 are resident in a non-EU/non-EEA. The following questions should be answered as follows:

- > What percentage of customer BOs are resident in Malta? 50%
- > What percentage of customer BOs are foreign and are resident in an EU or EEA jurisdiction outside Malta? 20%
- > What percentage of customer BOs are foreign and are resident in a non-EU or non-EEA jurisdiction outside Malta? 30%

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Defintions

	An affiliate company is a company that is related to another company. For example an
	affiliate may be connected to another entity through common ownership or as part of
	the same group / organisation.
Basel Index	Reference made to the Basel Index is only included for the purpose of this exercise and
	should not be taken or construed as being an exhaustive list of jurisdictions considered
	as non reputable or high risk in line with their obligations under the relevant AML / CFT
	obligations. Subject persons are obliged to carry out the necessary jurisdiction risk
	assessments to understand the risk posed by such jurisdictions.
	The jurisdictions in the Basel Index can be found through the following link:
	https://www.baselgovernance.org/sites/default/files/2019-
	08/Basel%20AML%20Index%202019.pdf
Beneficial owner / ultimate	
beneficial owner	PMLFTR and the guidance in the IPs.
	Regulation 2(1) of the PMLFTR defines a beneficial owner as:
	a) any natural person or persons who ultimately owns or controls the customer; and / or
	b) the natural person or persons on whose behalf a transaction or activity is being conducted.
	With respect to trusts reference to beneficial owner should extend to settlor / protector
	/ trustee / beneficiaries / any other natural person actually exercising effective control over the trust.
Customers	Customer is defined as natural person or a legal person / entity with whom the subject
	person has a business relationship or for whom the subject person carried out an
	occasional transaction. In this context, customers refers to active customers as at the end of the prior calendar year.
	Reference to customers is made in respect of those clients that were provided with a
	relevant activity or relevant financial business by the subject person.

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Employees / relevant staff	"Relevant staff" refers to employees and other company officials whose duties include the handling of either relevant financial business or relevant activity (as defined in the PMLFTR), irrespective of their level of seniority. This includes but is not limited to: (a) directors; (b) senior management; (c) the MLRO and designated employee(s); (d) compliance staff; and (e) all members of staff involved in the activities of the subject person that fall within the definition of 'relevant financial business' and 'relevant activity'. The term 'employees' should not only refer to individuals who have a contract of employment with the subject person but should be interpreted to also include individuals who are engaged by the subject person to carry out aspects of its business involving relevant activity or relevant financial business (such as temporary or contract staff).	
EU List identifying high risk 3rd countries with strategic deficiencies	The jurisdictions in the EU list identifying high risk 3rd countries with strategic deficiencies can be found through the following link:	
	https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/criminal-justice/anti- money-laundering-and-counter-terrorist-financing/eu-policy-high-risk-third-	
EU List of Non-Cooperative Jurisdictions for Tax Purposes	countries en#evolutionoftheeulistonhighriskthirdcountries The EU list of Non-Cooperative Jurisdictions is a list that includes non-EU countries or territories that failed make sufficient commitments in response to EU concerns in terms of tax good governance. The list can be found in the following link: https://cfr.gov.mt/en/inlandrevenue/tcu/Pages/EU-List-of-non-cooperative-jurisdictions.aspx	
Face-to-face	Face-to-face basis refers to the cases when the customer is physically present for verification purposes. Where a subject person makes use of video conferencing tools to onboard customers in accordance with the guidance provided in the IPs to onboard customers, these should be considered to have been onboarded on a face-to-face basis.	
FATF Lists	The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) identifies jurisdictions with strategic deficiencies in their frameworks to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation. It periodically publishes lists with high risk jurisdictions subject (black list) to a call for action and jurisdictions with strategic deficiencies (grey list). The jurisdictions in the FATF lists can be found through the following link: https://fiumalta.org/FATF	
High risk industries	Subject persons are required to define their own list of high risk industries and products. For the purpose of responding to this question, subject persons should consider high risk industries to include: productions / trade in war related weapons, productions / trade in radioactive materials, mining, oil and gas, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, and adult entertainment.	
Dual use products	In accordance with SL 365.12, dual-use items refers to any used or unused items, including software and technology, which can be used for both civil and military purposes, and including all goods which can be used for both non-explosive uses and for assisting in any way in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.	
Inherent risk	Inherent risk is the risk a subject person is exposed to prior to adopting and applying any mitigating measures, policies, controls and procedures. Likelihood and impact will lead to the determination of the level of inherent risk a subject person is exposed to.	

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Intra-group transfers	Contracts relating to intra-group transfers, namely the sale of immovable property from one company to another which fall under the same group and / or in the case of a transfer of property by a company in the process of liquidation to its shareholder which do not involve transfer of cash.	
Non-face-to-face	Non-face-to-face refers to the cases when the customer (or its agent) was not physically present for verification purposes. It excludes those customers that were onboarded by the subject person through the use of video conferencing tools in accordance with the guidance provided in the IPs.	
Occasional transaction	The PMLFTR defines an occasional transaction as any transaction or service carried out or provided by a subject person for his / her customer, other than a transaction or service carried out or provided within a business relationship, and includes, but is not limited to, the following: a) a transaction amounting to €15,000 or more carried out in a single operation or in several operations that appear to be linked; b) a transfer of funds, as defined under Regulation (EU) 2015/847 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2015 which exceeds €1,000 in a single operation or in several operations that appears to be linked;	
	c) a transaction in cash amounting to €10,000 or more, carried out by a natural person or legal person trading in goods in a single operation or in several operations that appear to be linked; d) a transaction amounting to €2,000 or more, carried out by gaming or casino licensees in a single operation or in several operations that appear to be linked; e) the provision of tax advice; and f) the formation of a company, trust, foundation or a similar structure. [some of the above may also be carried out in the context of a business relationship]	
Offshore	The term offshore refers to jurisdictions that have distinctive characteristics such as low or zero taxation, tax secrecy and possibly lack of transparency. You are kindly requested to refer to the EU list of Non-Cooperative Jurisdictions for Tax Purposes. The list can be found in the following link: https://cfr.gov.mt/en/inlandrevenue/tcu/Pages/EU-List-of-non-cooperative-jurisdictions.aspx	
Onboarding	"Onboarding" refers to the process through which a business relationship is established or an occasional transaction is carried out.	
Outsourcing	Outsourcing refers to outsourced activities directly relating to the entity's relevant activity / relevant financial business and in the connection with its AML/CFT obligations. Chapter 6 - Outsourcing of the IP provides guidance to subject persons on what activities constitute outsourcing, the extent of outsourcing allowed and the conditions to which outsourcing should be subject.	
	Subject persons whose AML / CFT obligations are, in whole or in part, undertaken by an entity forming part of its group should, irrespective of the legal and commercial arrangements consider this to be an outsourced operation.	

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PEP measures Regulation 11 (5) of the PMLFTR states that: Subject persons shall ensure that the risk management procedures maintained in accordance with Regulation 5(5)(a) are conducive to determine whether a customer or a beneficial owner is a politically exposed person, and when undertaking occasional transactions for, or establishing or continuing business relationships with politically exposed persons shall: (a) require the approval of senior management; (b) take adequate measures to establish the source of wealth and source of funds; and (c) conduct enhanced ongoing monitoring of such business relationships. The definition of a PEP should be construed in accordance with the PMLFTR and the Politically Exposed Person guidance in the IPs Regulation 2(1) of the PMLFTR defines a PEP as a natural person who is or has been entrusted with a prominent public function, other than middle ranking or more junior officials. The PMLFTR provide a non-exhaustive list of public functions that are considered to be prominent public functions and would therefore render the holder thereof a PEP. Regulation 11(8) of the PMLFTR defines the term "family members" as including: (i) the spouse, or a person considered to be equivalent to a spouse; (ii) the children and their spouses, or persons considered to be equivalent to a spouse; and (iii) the parents. The list of "family members" is not an exhaustive list and therefore subject persons should consider whether other family relationships in specific circumstances may be considered to be similar to those under the indicative list in the PMLFTR. Regulation 11(8) also defines the term "close associates" as: (i) a natural person known to have joint beneficial ownership of a body corporate or any other form of legal arrangement, or any other close business relations, with that politically exposed person; (ii) a natural person who has sole beneficial ownership of a body corporate or any other form of legal arrangement that is known to have been established for the benefit of that politically exposed person. Relevant activity / Relevant Relevant activity and relevant financial business carry the same meaning as defined in financial business Regulation 2 (1) of the PMLFTR. Reliance on other subject The PMLFTR permit subject persons to rely on the CDD measures carried out by other persons subject persons or by certain other third parties. A reliance arrangement can be set up between entities when those entities are servicing the same customer, or when that same customer is in contact with multiple entities to a transaction, with each entity being under a legal obligation to carry out CDD measures on the customer. Subject persons should take adequate steps to ensure that, on request, the entity relied on immediately forwards relevant copies of the identification and verification documents on the CDD measures undertaken. In this regard, subject persons should have a written formal agreement with the entity, signed by both parties, that would regulate the procedures and conditions on these requests to ensure that the data is made available immediately. Residence "Residence" refers to the customer's principal country of residence or for a legal entity the jurisdiction where it is incorporated or has its principal place of business. With respect to trusts and similar legal arrangement the country of residence should be the jurisdiction of the laws governing the trusts and / or similar legal arrangement.

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Residual risk	Residual risk is the level of risk left after applying the mitigating measures, policies,
	controls and procedures to the level of inherent risk identified.
	Level of inherent Risk – Mitigating Measures = Level of Residual Risk
Senior management	The definition of "senior management" will depend on the type of body corporate or organisation setup of the entity. It intends to capture those individual(s): (a) who are responsible for taking strategic decisions that fundamentally effect the
	business operations or general direction of that entity; and
	(b) who exercise executive control over the daily or regular affairs of the entity through a senior management position.
	Paragraph (b) includes individuals at C-level who have executive functions or are otherwise responsible for the management of the entity, such as executive directors, chief executive officers (CEOs) and chief financial officers (CFOs), and who require the approval, prior to appointment, of the MFSA or MGA, respectively.
Subsidiary entity	The definition of subsidiary shall be construed to mean the same as explained in the
Substitut y Chitty	Companies Act. Companies that have the same ownership and share a common parent should be included within the definition of a subsidiary. On the other hand, entities simply having common ownership do not constitute a subsidiary, since there is no common parent entity.
	Where the REQ makes reference to a subsidiary of a subject person, only those subsidiaries that undertake a relevant activity / relevant financial business should be taken into consideration.

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Specific Guidance

No.	Question	Guidance
1.01	Please indicate total annual turnover according to the latest available audited financial statements and / or tax declaration.	Respondents are required to indicate turnover on the basis of the latest available financial statements or submitted tax return. Where the latest available audited financial statements or submitted tax return does not correspond to the prior calendar year, subject persons are required to provided the required information from the latest available financial statement or submitted tax return available. In those instances where the subject person's financial statements are not reported in Euro, the reported turnover in foreign currency amount should be translated into Euro at the average annual exchange rate for the given accounting reference period as published by the European Central Bank. Furthermore, where the 2019 financial statements have not yet been audited or the 2019 tax declaration has not yet been submitted, subject persons are expected to use the latest available audited financial statements or tax declaration. Annual average exchange rates may be accessed through the following link: https://www.centralbankmalta.org/average-exchange-rates
1.03	Please indicate the total number of employees (including partners, executive directors, associates and staff), expressed in full time equivalents ("FTEs"), working for you / your entity as at the end of the prior calendar year.	The subject person is to consider only those officers and employees with which it has entered into an employment relationship, or any of its directors who have an executive role, and which are still in employment with the subject person as at the end of the year under review. To determine the FTE rate please take the total hours worked weekly by any of the officers, employees and executive directors and divide on the basis of a 40-hour week. Non-executive directors or officers and employees of any third party service provider are not to be taken into consideration. Thus, in the event that there are no actual employees or executive directors, the subject person is to select the 'Not Applicable' reply.
3.05	Did the Business Risk Assessment conducted take into account the results of the SNRA and NRA?	"NRA" refers to National Risk Assessment "SNRA" refer to Supranational Risk Assessment

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No.	Question	Guidance
4.05	Do you on a risk sensitive basis collect information on a customer's source of wealth	Risk sensitive basis refers to the collection of information of the basis of a customer risk assessment.
	and source of funds?	Subject persons should consider requiring such information when the AML/CFT risks are not low.
		On the other hand, with respect to occasional transactions, risk sensitive should, at the least, be interpreted to include customer risk assessments ratings that are a "High".
4.06	Please indicate, for all your customers where a business relationship is formed or, depending on the risk, only for a specific part of your	This question refers to information that may be collected, on a risk basis, by a subject person in order to understand the customer's business and strengthen its customer risk assessment.
	customers, whether you / your entity collects information on actual or expected activity (including cash flows) with respect to size, frequency and geographical distribution.	Geographical distribution refers to the jurisdictions where or through which the customer carries out its operations (customers, suppliers, place of management) and undertakes its financial activity (money flows).
4.07	Do you / your entity's policies and procedures require enhanced due diligence to be applied in higher risk situations?	Subject persons are required to establish the variables and risk parameters, in line with its risk appetite and as applied in the customer risk assessment, to identify and determine those instances and circumstances that result in a "higher risk situation". This should be appropriately documented in the entity's policies and procedures.
		Further to the above, Regulation 11 of the PMLFTR requires the application of EDD in relation to the following situations:
		a) In relation to activities or services that are determined by the FIAU to represent a high risk of ML / FT, having taken into consideration the findings of any national risk assessment and any other relevant factors, as may be deemed appropriate;
		b) Where, on the basis of the risk assessment carried out in accordance with Regulation 5(1) of the PMLFTR, the subject person determines that an occasional transaction, a business relationship or any transaction represents a high risk of ML / FT;

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No.	Question	Guidance c) When dealing with natural or legal persons established in a non-reputable jurisdiction as defined in Regulation 2(1) of the PMLFTR, other than branches or majority-owned subsidiaries which comply with group-wide policies and procedures, as required under Regulation 6 of the PMLFTR, in relation to such branches or majority-owned subsidiaries EDD is to be applied when these present a high risk of ML / FT. d) the cases referred to in sub-regulations (3) to(9). In relation to point (d) above, subject persons are expected to carry out enhanced due diligence measures when: i) establishing correspondent relationships, ii) customers are politically exposures persons and iii) when having complex and unusually large transactions and unusual patterns of transactions which have no apparent economic or lawful purpose.
4.14	Where customer due diligence cannot be completed, do the policies and procedures require you / your entity to consider whether there is a need to file a STR with the FIAU and only proceed with the cancellation / termination of the business relationship / service, once it is determined that there is no suspicion justifying the filing of a STR?	The IPs require subject persons to consider terminating the business relationship / the carrying out of an occasional transaction when CDD cannot be completed only after taking into consideration whether an STR needs to be filed. Section 4.7 of the IPs provides further guidance on subject persons' obligations on this matter.
4.17	How often do you / your entity review the customer risk assessment?	Subject persons' obligation to review the customer risk assessment is only applicable in those instances where a business relationship is established. Where the subject person only undertakes occasional transactions, they should select the "Not Applicable" option in their reply.
5.04	Are you or your entity aware of any of your customers whose assets were frozen, confiscated or seized?	Respondents are required to select "Yes", if any of their customers has been served a freezing order. The 'Not Applicable' option should be only selected by subject persons who do not have business relationships but only occasional transactions.
7.01	Have you / your entity, given the size and nature of its business, appointed an officer at management level to monitor the day to day implementation of its AML / CFT measures, policies, controls and procedures?	Where the subject person is a sole practitioner and the appointed officer is themselves, they may choose to select the option "No, MLRO has taken this role".
8.01	Do you / does your entity have policies and procedures regarding the reporting of suspicious activity or transactions?	The subject person's policies and procedures are required to address both internal and external reporting.

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No.	Question	Guidance
8.02	Please list the number of alerts / transactions you / your entity investigated as a result of unusual activity or transactions during the prior calendar year?	Reference made to number of alerts / transactions should be limited to those instances where further analysis / investigation was carried out by the subject person to be able to determine the existence of suspicious activity relating to ML / FT, including the requirement for a submission of a STR. Subject persons should not include false positives but rather actual alerts or transactions that required the carrying out of a review to discover and examine the facts of the alert or transaction so as to establish whether there is suspicion or
		reasonable grounds to suspect that money laundering took place. In cases wherein the subject person did not have such investigations, they are required to mark "0".
8.03	Were there any "internal reports" or "alerts", received during prior calendar year, which were analysed by the MLRO but did not instigate a STR?	Subject persons are required to answer this question even where "internal reports" are not raised as the subject person is a sole practitioner.
8.04	How many requests for information from the Maltese authorities did you / your entity receive about any of your customers during the prior calendar year?	The term "Maltese authorities" refers to: Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit (FIAU), Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA), Malta Gaming Authority (MGA), The Malta Police Force, Sanctions Monitoring Board and the Asset Recovery Bureau. Reference to customers is made with respect to current clients (active or inactive), customers who no longer have a business relationship with the entity and those for whom an occasional transaction was carried out.
9.03	Please provide the % of staff that received AML / CFT training in the prior calendar year.	Reference to "staff" should be interpreted as "relevant staff".
9.05	Where tasks relating to AML / CFT compliance are outsourced (within or outside the Group), what % of the provider's staff directly servicing you / your entity, received training on AML / CFT throughout the prior year?	The term "group" refers to a parent undertaking and all its subsidiary undertakings. Subject persons whose AML / CFT obligations are, in whole or in part, undertaken by an entity forming part of its group should, irrespective of the legal and commercial arrangements in place, also respond to this question.

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No. Question Guidance 10.01 Chapter 9 – Recordkeeping Procedures of the IPs states that Do you / your entity have policies and procedures in place subject persons must have procedures in place and apply the providing for compliance with same, so as to ensure that the following records are the record keeping obligations maintained: arising from the PMLFTR? a) records of the actions taken to adopt and implement the risk-based approach; b) the CDD information and documents obtained for identification and verification of identity purposes; c) records containing details relating to the business relationship that is formed and all transactions carried out in the course of a business relationship or an occasional transaction; Subject persons should also retain the following records required as evidence of compliance with the PMLFTR and for statistical purposes: a) internal reports made to the MLRO; b) a record of any written determinations made by the MLRO and the designated employee, including the reasons for not filing an STR with the FIAU; c) STRs made by the subject person to the FIAU and any follow-up submissions made in connection thereto; d) a record of AML / CFT training attended by sole practitioners / provided to employees; e) records of conduct certificates or other documentation obtained in carrying out employee screening; f) records of any outsourcing agreements entered into and other documentation that provides evidence of the subject person's adherence to its obligations under Chapter 6 of these Implementing Procedures, Part I; g) records of any reliance agreements entered into and of any related assessments undertaken on the other subject person or third party in terms; and h) other important records, including: any reports by the MLRO, records of consideration of those reports made to senior management and of any action taken as a consequence thereof, records of any internal audit reports or assessments dealing with AML / CFT issues, and any other records that are necessary to demonstrate compliance with the obligations under the PMLA, the PMLFTR and any Implementing Procedures. Subject persons are required to maintain records for a period of 5 years, however in specific cases subject persons may be requested to retain their records for longer periods. The 5 year retention period commences from the date on which the business relationship is terminated or the occasional transaction is carried out.

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No.	Question	Guidance
10.02	Upon request by the FIAU, are you / your entity in a position to retrieve the requested customer records / or investigative records within the established deadlines?	When requests for information are made by the FIAU, subject persons should ensure that they are able to reply in a timely manner but not later than 5 working days, provided that subject persons are able to reply in a shorter period of time where the FIAU deems it necessary, depending on the request
	*If you / your entity received reminders or requested extensions for deadlines imposed by the FIAU, do not mark as [yes, always].	
11.02	Managing money, securities or assets on behalf of clients by way of investment (i.e.: excluding client accounts)	This question specifically refers to the number of customers from whom, in the prior calendar year, the subject person received and / or held monies, securities or assets in order to manage on behalf of the customer.
11.05	How many promise of sale agreements relating to purchase and sale contracts did you / your entity publish / acted as agent for, where the deposit was paid in cash exceeding €15,000?	In the context of this question, the term "cash" specifically refers to payments in bank notes or coins and not to cheque payments or transfers such as bank drafts / bank transfers.
11.06	How many purchase and sale contracts (i.e. excluding promise of sale agreements) did you / your entity publish / acted as agent where the consideration was paid entirely in cash?	In the context of this question, the term cash specifically refers to bank notes or coins and not to transfers such as bank drafts / bank transfers.
11.07	How many purchase and sale contracts did you / your entity publish / acted as agent where the consideration was partially paid in cash sums exceeding €50,000?	The term "cash sums" specifically refers to bank notes or coins payments that exceeded €50,000.
11.16	Please specify the contracts or deals carried out during the prior calendar year, which involved properties in Special Designated areas.	Special Designated Areas ('SDAs') are defined zones where no restrictions to acquire a property apply. This means that a foreign citizen wishing to buy property in these areas can do so with equal rights to those of a Maltese citizen.
11.17	Were there contracts or deals from the prior calendar year which involved successive transactions relating to the same property which took place within a short period of time?	Reference to "short period of time" should be taken to mean less than 1 year.
11.18	Were there any contracts or deals during the prior calendar year, subsequent to which it came to your attention that the seller was declared as bankrupt	While notaries and real estate agents may not hold this type of information at the time of the deed, subject persons should respond to this question accordingly if they have subsequent knowledge of any such activity.
	or insolvent?	If the subject persons do not have sufficient information to respond to this question, they should select the "Not Applicable" option in their reply.

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No.	Question	Guidance
12.01	Contracts of Sale: Please list the total number of deeds of sale of property published / for which	Reference to property should be taken to mean immovable property.
	you acted as an agent in the prior calendar year.	Contracts relating to intra-group transfers, namely the sale of immovable property from one company to another which fall under the same group and / or in the case of a transfer of property by a company in the process of liquidation to its shareholder which do not involve transfer of cash should be excluded for the purpose of this question.
12.02	Other relevant activity: Please list the total number of customers to whom you provided relevant activity, other than services concerning the buying and selling of real property or business entities as	"Other relevant activity" shall include other services apart from the traditional buying and selling of real property or business entities as defined in Regulation 2 of the PMLFTR: a) managing of client monies, securities or other assets b) opening or management of banks, savings or securities accounts c) organisation of contributions necessary for the creation,
	defined by PMLFTR.	operation or management of companies
12.03	Please list the total number of contracts where the purchasers were natural persons.	Where the deed of sale involved more than one natural person acting as purchasers, these should be counted as one natural person. Beneficial owners of customers that are legal persons should
12.05	Characteristics of legal persons: Please list the number of purchasers / customers having multi-tier ownership structures.	not be reported in your reply. Multi-tier ownership structures refer to ownership structures of legal persons where at least one of the immediate shareholders is another legal person. An example of a multi-tier ownership structure is a parent subsidiary corporate structure.
12.10	Please list the total number of natural persons, to whom you provided other relevant activity.	Other relevant activities may include one or more of the following: a) managing of client money, securities or other assets, unless the activity is undertaken under a licence issued under the provisions of the Investment Services Act; b) opening or management of bank, savings or securities accounts; c) organisation of contributions necessary for the creation, operation or management of companies; d) creation, operation or management of companies, trusts, foundations or similar structures, or when acting as a trust or company service provider. Beneficial owners of customers that are legal persons should not be reported in your reply.
12.11	Please list the total number of legal persons and arrangements (eg: trusts), to whom you provided other relevant activity.	Other relevant activities may include one or more of the following: a) managing of client money, securities or other assets, unless the activity is undertaken under a licence issued under the provisions of the Investment Services Act; b) opening or management of bank, savings or securities accounts; c) organisation of contributions necessary for the creation, operation or management of companies; d) creation, operation or management of companies, trusts, foundations or similar structures, or when acting as a trust or company service provider.

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No.	Question	Guidance
12.12	Please list the % of contracts and customer relationships / transactions considered to be 'high risk'.	The requested percentage needs to be calculated on the basis of the total number of contracts published in the prior calendar year in addition to the customers to whom other services where provided. Subject persons are required carry out a customer risk assessment on the basis of their own policies and procedures.
12.14	Please list the % of contracts and customer relationships / transactions considered to be 'standard / medium risk'.	The requested percentage needs to be calculated on the basis of the total number of contracts published in the prior calendar year in addition to the customers to whom other services where provided. Subject persons are required carry out a customer risk assessment on the basis of their own policies and procedures.
12.16	Please list the % of contracts and customer relationships / transactions considered to be 'low risk'.	The requested percentage needs to be calculated on the basis of the total number of contracts published in the prior calendar year in addition to the customers to whom other services where provided. Subject persons are required carry out a customer risk assessment on the basis of their own policies and procedures.
12.20	Please list the number of customers (natural persons) and / or BOs that have benefited from residence or citizenship by investment schemes, or are applicants / prospective applicants for such schemes.	"Residence / citizenship by investment scheme includes the Malta Individual Investor Program and the Malta Residence and Visa Program. Investor citizenship schemes are often referred to as CIPs ('citizenship investment programmes'), 'citizenships for sale' or 'golden passports'. They allow foreigners to be naturalised as a citizen of a country in return for an investment, provided certain criteria are fulfilled. Investor citizenship schemes differ from investor residence ('golden visa') schemes, which aim to attract investment in exchange for residence rights in the country concerned. The question refers to customers serviced by the entity that are natural persons only. Therefore in instances where the UBO of a legal entity benefited from any of the mentioned schemes, it should not be inputted for the purposes of completing this question.
12.25	Do you / your entity have customers that act as holding companies with subsidiaries or investments in non-EU / EEA jurisdictions?	Holding companies are typically entities that hold investments principally related to equity shares in other entities. Holding companies may also own other assets such as immovable property, intellectual property and other financial assets. Holding companies do not actively participate in the running of the day-to-day operations of the entities it holds an investment in.
12.26	Please list the number of customers that are cash intensive businesses.	Cash intensive businesses are businesses by which their operations receive or depend largely on cash-based transactions such as restaurants, petrol stations, convenience stores, parking garages, etc.
12.27	Please list the number of customers that are VFA agents or VFA license holders or are in the process of obtaining a VFA license.	Respondents are requested to report the number of customers that are VFA agents or customers who hold or are in the process of applying for a VFA license with whom you have a business, professional, or commercial relationship or who were involved as parties in executed contracts.

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Question	Guidance
Please list the % of BOs residing in Malta.	Subject persons are only required to provide the requested information for customers that are legal persons or legal arrangements.
	The same definition of beneficial owner as included in the PMLFTR and IPs is to be applied to this question.
	The response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immovable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10,000 or over constitute relevant activity.
Please list the % of foreign BOs residing in a non-Maltese EU or EEA member state jurisdiction.	Subject persons are only required to provide the requested information for customers that are legal persons or legal arrangements.
	The same definition of beneficial owner as included in the PMLFTR and IPs is to be applied to this question.
	The response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immovable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10k or over constitute relevant activity.
Please list the % of foreign BOs residing in a non-EU or non-EEA member state jurisdiction.	Subject persons are only required to provide the requested information for customers that are legal persons or legal arrangements.
	The same definition of beneficial owner as included in the PMLFTR and IPs is to be applied to this question.
	The response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immovable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10k or over constitute relevant activity.
Did you / your entity have, based on the prior calendar year, BOs residing in a jurisdiction listed in the FATF lists and / or the EU list identifying high risk 3rd countries with strategic deficiencies and / or the jurisdictions featuring in the top 20 countries of the Basel Index?	Subject person's response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immoveable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10k or over constitute an occasional transaction.
	Please list the % of BOs residing in Malta. Please list the % of foreign BOs residing in a non-Maltese EU or EEA member state jurisdiction. Please list the % of foreign BOs residing in a non-EU or non-EEA member state jurisdiction. Did you / your entity have, based on the prior calendar year, BOs residing in a jurisdiction listed in the FATF lists and / or the EU list identifying high risk 3rd countries with strategic deficiencies and / or the jurisdictions featuring in the top

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No.	Question	Guidance
13.18	Please list the % of foreign BOs residing in an non-EU or non-EEA member state jurisdiction.	Subject persons are only required to provide the requested information for customers that are legal persons or legal arrangements.
		The same definition of beneficial owner as included in the PMLFTR and IPs is to be applied to this question.
		Subject person's response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immovable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10k or over constitute an occasional transaction.
13.19	Please list the % of foreign BOs resident in jurisdictions listed in the FATF lists and / or EU list identifying high risk 3rd countries with strategic deficiencies and / or the jurisdictions featuring in the top 20 countries of the Basel Index?	Subject person's response should be compiled on the basis of all occasional transactions that were carried out in the prior calendar year and the business relationships as at the end of the prior calendar year. With respect to letting of immoveable property, only transactions with a monthly rental value of €10k or over constitute an occasional transaction.
14.03	Out of the total number of customers to which you provided other services, how many of these were onboarded or serviced (in an occasional transaction) without having been first met on a face-to-face	"Other services" refers to: managing money, securities or assets on behalf of clients by way of investment; providing trust or company services; opening or management of bank, savings or securities accounts; organization of contributions / funding for the creation, operation, or management of companies and provision of tax advice.
	basis?	Subject persons are to categorise those instances where he / she met the customer's agent as a face-to-face relationship. An agent means a person or entity who has an agreement with a subject person in order to provide services or products to the subject person's customers.
14.04	What % of customers were onboarded during the prior calendar year where a reliance arrangement was in place in terms of Regulation 12 of the PMLFTR?	Third parties may be used by a subject person during the onboarding process of its customers. Some examples of how third parties may be used include: a) reliance on the CDD measures of another subject person or third party; b) use of third party software to carry out some aspects of identity verification; c) outsourcing any part of identity verification to a third party.
		A third party refers to a natural person that is not in the direct employment of the entity or to a legal person that is not connected to the subject person either as part of the same group or through common beneficial owners.

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