

VACANCY

Director of the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit (FIAU) Application deadline: 30th September 2023 Jobsplus Permit No. 680/2023

About the FIAU

The Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit (FIAU) is a government agency established by the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and falling under the remit of the Ministry for Finance & Employment. The Unit is an independent body with a distinct personality from that of the government and has full operational independence and autonomy. It is governed by a Board of Governors, acting as a non-executive, policymaking, and governance oversight body.

The FIAU's vision is of a reputable financial system safeguarded from criminal abuse that serves the legitimate expectations of society and the business community. The FIAU has made it its mission to protect Malta's financial system and the community from serious crime by combating money laundering and funding of terrorism, through the generation and dissemination of useful intelligence, and the application of effective and proportionate preventative measures.

The FIAU has a number of functions including the receipt, collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence; supervision and enforcement of AML/CFT compliance by subject persons; maintaining the Centralised Bank Account Register; and monitoring compliance with the Use of Cash (Restriction) Regulations. The Unit also provides Guidance and Outreach to subject persons and other stakeholders.

Call for applications

The FIAU is looking for a highly qualified and experienced individual with initiative and self-motivation to serve as the Director of the Unit.

Responsibilities

The Director is responsible for the efficient and effective execution of the functions, powers, and operations of the FIAU in accordance with the policy established by the Board of Governors. Reporting to the Chairman and the Board, the Director shall have the following responsibilities:

- Providing strategic leadership and managing a diverse team of dedicated professionals, fostering a collaborative and high-performance work environment with the ultimate aim of having one FIAU team;
- Ensuring the Unit provides timely, quality and useful financial intelligence to the police, cooperates and shares financial intelligence with national competent authorities and foreign counterparts;
- Implementing a risk-based approach to monitoring AML/CFT compliance whilst ensuring effective AML/CFT supervision and effective, dissuasive and proportionate AML/CFT enforcement;

- Ensuring that an effective cash limitation supervisory system is implemented and enforced;
- Continuing to supply the respective sectors with AML/CFT training and guidance to boost AML/CFT compliance in Malta;
- Pursuing the maintenance and development of the Centralised Bank Account Registry;
- Coordinating and collaborating with government entities, national authorities, the National Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Funding of Terrorism, and stakeholders;
- Collaborating with and participating in meetings of international institutions and organisations including the EU Commission, European Banking Authority, Council of Europe MONEYVAL Committee, FATF and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units;
- Ongoing awareness of and strategic response to developments and technological advancements in the financial services sector and emerging money laundering and financing of terrorism challenges, trends, threats and risks, both nationally and internationally;
- Implementing the FIAU Strategy within the framework of the National Strategy for Financial Services, and the FIAU Development Plan;
- Implementing investment in digital technology and resources to enable the FIAU to carry out its functions in a more efficient and effective manner;
- Overseeing the Unit's budget and allocation; and
- Any other duties assigned to him/her by the Chairman and the Board of Governors.

Qualifications, experience and skills

The ideal candidate should possess the following qualifications, experience and skills:

- Pertinent Qualification at MQF Level 6 or equivalent qualification in: Law, Accountancy, Banking, Finance, Financial Services, Insurance, Economics, Business Administration, Criminology, or in a relevant field;
- A minimum of 7 years of senior-level experience in any one or more of intelligence, analytical, investigatory, compliance, enforcement, or internal audit roles preferably in the financial services sector or related fields. A minimum of 5 years' experience will be considered where an applicant is in possession of a pertinent degree at MQF Level 7 or equivalent qualification: in Law, Accountancy, Banking, Finance, Financial Services, Insurance, Economics, Business Administration, Criminology, or in a relevant field;
- A proven track record of leadership, strategic decision-making and organisation management at a senior level;
- In-depth knowledge of both national and European anti-money laundering and combating financing of terrorism laws, regulations, and Directives, and international AML/CFT standards;
- Up to date knowledge of the latest developments in financial crime prevention, and emerging ML/FT challenges, trends, techniques and risks;
- Ability to build and maintain strong relationships with stakeholders;
- Strong analytical and critical thinking skills;
- Excellent communication skills (verbal and in writing) in both the Maltese and English languages;
- Very good interpersonal abilities, people management and motivation skills;
- High levels of integrity, honesty and ethical standards, and a commitment to upholding the values of the FIAU.

Certification related to financial crime investigation, anti-money laundering and combating financing of terrorism or other relevant certification will be considered valuable.

Application Process

Interested candidates are invited to submit the following documents:

- A comprehensive curriculum vitae outlining relevant experience and accomplishments;
- Documentary evidence in support of the information provided, including but not limited to proof of qualifications;
- A detailed cover letter explaining why the applicant is suitable for the position; and,
- Contact information for three professional references.

Applications must be in writing, signed, and addressed to the Board of Governors – Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit. Applications should be submitted by hand in a sealed envelope marked "Application Director" at:

Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit Trident Park No. 5, Triq L-Mdina Central Business District Birkirkara CBD 2010

The application deadline is 30th September 2023. Late applications will not be considered.

The submission of any false information or statement, or the omission of relevant information, even if unintended, may lead to the cancellation of an application or result in the termination of the candidate's appointment.

Selection Process:

All eligible applicants will be considered and given the opportunity to attend for a first interview. A maximum of three candidates will be shortlisted and will be called for a second interview.

The selected candidate will be required to undergo relevant tests, background checks, and security screening prior to being offered the position in view of the sensitive nature of this role.

Other Information

The FIAU is an Equal Opportunities Employer and has a policy of equal opportunity in all aspects of employment and is committed to avoid any form of discrimination in its recruitment procedures.

The FIAU undertakes that the processing of personal data is done in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation), the Data Protection Act (Chapter 586 of the Laws of Malta) and any other relevant European Union and national law.

All applications and related materials will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

The FIAU reserves the right to withdraw this call at any time and not to select any of the Candidates.