



## AUSTRAC Information Circular No. 55

### Reserve Bank of Australia Media Release Sanctions Against Burma

On 24 October 2007, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) issued a media release regarding financial sanctions implemented against Burmese regime figures and supporters. These sanctions have been imposed under the *Banking (Foreign Exchange) Regulations 1959*. This information circular should be read in conjunction with AUSTRAC Information Circular No. 44 regarding the RBA's administration of these and other current sanctions.

A copy of the media release of 24 October 2007 is attached and can also be viewed on the RBA's website at [http://www.rba.gov.au/MediaReleases/2007/mr\\_07\\_19.html](http://www.rba.gov.au/MediaReleases/2007/mr_07_19.html).

The list of sanctioned individuals can be viewed at [http://www.rba.gov.au/MediaReleases/2007/mr\\_07\\_19\\_annex.html](http://www.rba.gov.au/MediaReleases/2007/mr_07_19_annex.html).

Regulated entities should take the attached document into account when considering whether particular transactions should be reported to AUSTRAC as suspicious. Where a transaction is reportable under the *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988* (FTR Act) as a significant cash transaction and/or an international funds transfer instruction, regulated entities should remember that a suspect transaction report may be required in addition to the other report type(s) where grounds for suspicion exist.

Suspect transaction reports should be made via EDDWeb, or on Suspect Transaction Report Form 16. For urgent reporting, EDDWeb logon information, or to order paper reporting forms, contact the AUSTRAC Help Desk (details below).

The Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) is Australia's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regulator and specialist financial intelligence unit, originally established under the FTR Act and continued in existence by the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act).

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## Further information

AUSTRAC officers are able to provide general information relating to the FTR Act and the AML/CTF Act. Enquiries can be directed to the AUSTRAC Help Desk by:

- email to [help\\_desk@austrac.gov.au](mailto:help_desk@austrac.gov.au)
- telephone (02) 9950 0827 or 1300 021 037 (a local call within Australia).

The information contained in this document is intended only to provide a summary and general overview on these matters. It is not intended to be comprehensive. It does not constitute, nor should it be treated as, legal advice or opinions. This document may contain statements of policy which reflect AUSTRAC's administration of the legislation in carrying out its statutory functions. The Commonwealth accepts no liability for any loss suffered as a result of reliance on this publication. AUSTRAC recommends that independent professional advice be sought.

The information contained herein is current as at the date of this document.

Reporting entities should note that in relation to activities they undertake to comply with the AML/CTF Act, they will have obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988*, including the requirement to comply with the National Privacy Principles, even if they would otherwise be exempt from the Privacy Act. For further information about these obligations, please go to <http://www.privacy.gov.au> or call 1300 363 992.

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# Reserve Bank of Australia

## Media Release

24 October 2007

2007/19

### **BANKING (FOREIGN EXCHANGE) REGULATIONS 1959 SANCTIONS AGAINST BURMA**

The Reserve Bank of Australia has been directed by the Australian Government to take steps under the *Banking (Foreign Exchange) Regulations 1959* to implement financial sanctions against Burmese regime figures and supporters. Details of these individuals are contained in the [Annex](#).

Any transactions involving the transfer of funds or payments to, by the order of, or on behalf of any person listed in the Annex are prohibited without prior approval from the Reserve Bank.

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