

STATEMENT

On the 38th-42nd meetings of the Interagency Committee on Combating Money Laundering, Terrorism Financing, and Proliferation Financing in the Republic of Armenia

(2023–2025)

Over the period 2023–2025, five meetings of the Interagency Committee on Combating Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing, and Proliferation Financing (hereinafter: referred to as the Committee) were convened. During these meeting, *inter alia*, the following key issues in the area to combating money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation Financing (hereinafter referred to as ML/TF/PF) were discussed and agreed upon:

1. ML/TF/PF National Risk Assessment – Responsible officials were appointed within government agencies to prepare for and participate in the NRA process, the process of completing questionnaires and submitting information was coordinated; the draft report was circulated to relevant agencies for review, and the versions of the "Report on the National Risk Assessment of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in the Republic of Armenia (2021–2023)" and the "Report on the National Risk Assessment of Proliferation Financing of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Republic of Armenia (2021–2023)" finalized based on the proposals received were approved by the Committee.

2. National Strategy for 2025–2028 on Combating ML/TF/PF – The Committee discussed and approved the "2025–2028 National Strategy on Combating Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing, and the Financing of the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction."

3. Preparatory work for the assessment of Armenia's AML/CFT system by MONEYVAL – To ensure proper preparation for the 6th round assessment scheduled for 2025, roles and responsibilities were distributed among the relevant domestic agencies, and responsible staff members were appointed; a decision was made to assess the compliance of legislative regulations and initiate necessary legislative amendments; and the process of completing questionnaires and submitting information was discussed and coordinated.

4. Discussion on the results of the assessment of the virtual asset market in the RA and the work aimed at its regulation – The results of the assessment of the virtual asset market in the RA and the progress of regulatory efforts were discussed. It was decided to present the results of the regulatory work to the relevant government agencies.

5. Discussion on the work aimed at amending the investigative and judicial jurisdiction for criminal proceedings involving ML offense – Proposed legislative amendments were discussed, as a result, the agreed-upon draft laws "On Amending the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia" and "On Supplementing the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia" were adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on January 16, 2024.

6. Approval of the "Guideline on Investigating Money Laundering Cases" and the "Guideline on Investigating Terrorist Financing Crimes" – The Committee has approved the "Guideline on Investigating Money Laundering Cases" and the "Guideline on Investigating Terrorist Financing Crimes." It was decided to take active steps to make the guidelines accessible to relevant personnel in the responsible agencies and to incorporate them into training and certification materials.