FATF AGREES TO END SOUTH AFRICA'S MUTUAL EVALUATION FOLLOW-UP PROCESS

The National Treasury and the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) welcome the decision taken by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) at its Plenary meeting held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 1 to 3 November 2017 to remove South Africa from its targeted follow-up process.

Under the targeted follow-up process, South Africa was required to report to every FATF Plenary on the progress made in addressing deficiencies identified in the 2009 Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) in respect of customer due diligence and record-keeping measurers.

The FATF Plenary considered South Africa's 14th Mutual Evaluation Follow-up Report and the presentation by the South African delegation on progress made since the June 2017 Plenary. The FATF took note of the fact that several provisions of the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment Act, 2017, had come into operation on 2 October 2017 together with substantial amendments to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations and the withdrawal of all the Exemptions under the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001. The FATF concluded that with these actions, South Africa has addressed the remaining deficiencies relating customer due diligence and record-keeping adequately and decided to end the follow-up process in respect of South Africa.

The amendments to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations and the withdrawal of the Exemptions follow the announcement by Minister Gigaba on 13 June 2017 that the implementation of the FIC Amendment Act would start on different dates.

Date: 10 November 2017



