

Bank of Cyprus



## **COMPLIANCE DIVISION CHARTER**

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**Abbreviations:**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
AC	Audit Committee
CCO	Chief Compliance Officer
CD	Compliance Division
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CL	Compliance Liaison
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
RCA	Risk Control Awareness
SCO	Subsidiary Compliance Officer

**Document History**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Policy / Framework Name</b>	<b>Division</b>
1	Compliance Division Charter – V1.0 – 29/6/2020	Compliance Division
2	Compliance Division Charter – V2.0 - 30/08/2021	Compliance Division
3	Compliance Division Charter - V3.0 - 24/01/2022	Compliance Division
4	Compliance Division Charter – V4.0 – 24/10/2023	Compliance Division
5	Compliance Division Charter – V5.0 – 15/05/2024	Compliance Division
6	Compliance Division Charter – V6.0 – 05/02/2025	Compliance Division
7	Compliance Division Charter – V7.0 – 28/11/2025 Compliance Division	Compliance Division

## **1. Introduction**

The Compliance Function is a key component of a financial organization's second line of defence for managing compliance risks. Its responsibility is to ensure that the organization operates with integrity, adheres to applicable laws, regulations, and the highest ethical standards.

This Charter describes the framework for managing compliance within the Bank of Cyprus Group ("organization"), as approved by the Board of Directors. Deviation from this Charter shall require the prior approval of the Board of Directors.

## **2. Compliance Division Mission & Objectives**

The Compliance Division aims to ensure comprehensive alignment between business objectives and compliance obligations, integrating industry leading standards with the organization's core values. It is committed to being people-focused, pro-active, considerate of customer needs, transparent with regulators and external stakeholders, leading a culture of trust and credibility. Additionally, the division provides support and guidance to all business units, enabling them to incorporate the Bank's vision, strategy, and principles into their cultures and daily practices. The Compliance Division is committed to fostering a robust governance and risk culture that aligns with the Group's strategic objectives. This includes ensuring that risk management, governance, and compliance monitoring practices are integrated into all aspects of the business, promoting a culture of risk awareness, and maintaining effective communication and accountability across the organization.

The Compliance Division's objectives include but are not limited to establishing, implementing, and maintaining an appropriate compliance framework set by the Compliance Policy and supported by the compliance program, systems, policies, and procedures. The objectives of the Division are described below per thematic area of responsibility.

### **A. Regulatory framework**

Identify and maintain a registry with all compliance obligations including compliance with laws, primary legislation, directives, rules, and standards issued by legislators and supervisors, market conventions, codes of practice promoted by industry associations etc., assess the possible impact on the organization of any changes in the legal or regulatory environment, and facilitate and monitor the implementation of actions to ensure timely and effective compliance with regulatory obligations.

### **B. Risk identification, assessment, monitoring**

Conduct compliance risk assessments to facilitate proactive identification and management of risks, ensuring appropriate reporting and escalation where necessary. Perform compliance reviews following established methodologies to identify control weaknesses and areas of concern and offer well-founded recommendations for risk mitigation. Communicate findings effectively and monitor the timely execution of remedial actions. Utilise data and analytics to strengthen monitoring capabilities and support the achievement of strategic objectives. Provide the CEO with an annual assurance report regarding the effectiveness of compliance policies, procedures, and oversight activities, highlighting any critical compliance issues and risks identified. The Compliance Division is also actively involved in the development, monitoring, and review of the Risk

Appetite Framework (RAF). This includes ensuring that the RAF covers all material risks, including non-financial and emerging risks, and is aligned with the organization's strategy and risk culture.

The compliance identification process covers the following areas of compliance:

- i. the institution's code of business conduct and corporate values;
- ii. prudential laws and regulations;
- iii. arrangements for the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing;
- iv. arrangements for the provision of investment services and activities;
- v. tax laws that are relevant to the structuring of banking products or customer advice;
- vi. other regulations applicable to institutions such as regulations on consumer rights, and competition;
- vii. accounting and auditing requirements;
- viii. business standards and best practices such as on:
  - a. market conduct;
  - b. managing conflicts of interest;
  - c. treating customers fairly and ensuring the suitability of advice to customers.
- ix. Information technology and electronic banking

### **C. Compliance culture - raising awareness**

Foster a corporate culture grounded in integrity and ethical principles, with a comprehensive understanding of all applicable regulations, both national and international, as well as relevant standards, best practices, and compliance risks. Ensure these risks are managed in alignment with the organization's values, code of ethics, and code of conduct. Promote awareness and dissemination of a robust compliance culture throughout all organizational levels by developing targeted policies and procedures and providing comprehensive training on compliance obligations for all employees. Support and advise the Board of Directors and/or its Committees, Senior Management, and staff to fulfil their compliance responsibilities, utilizing a risk-based approach to align business objectives with the organization's risk appetite. Offer expert guidance on market expansion and significant modifications to existing operations, addressing compliance requirements, associated risks, and control measures for new projects, products, services, processes, and other relevant matters.

### **D. Compliance Reporting**

Submit periodic and ad hoc reports to the Audit Committee/Joint Audit and Risk Committee, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors on matters relating to its purpose, authority, responsibility, and performance in relation to the Compliance Division's programme as these are reflected in its annual Action Plan that include information on compliance regulatory or internal developments, significant compliance risks or control issues or breaches and incidents identified during compliance reviews etc and recommendations on how to mitigate such risks. Periodic reports may also be submitted to competent authorities as per regulatory requirements.

### **E. Specific Objectives**

Specific objectives to each department of the Compliance Division are:

#### **1. Prevention of Money Laundering, Local and International Sanctions**

Ensure compliance with the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Law and the Central Bank of Cyprus directives and circulars for the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, as well as the CBC Sanctions Directive, as these are amended from time to time.

## **2. Corporate Governance Compliance**

Maintain Compliance with the regulatory expectations and industry best practices in Internal Governance as well as with the Code of Conduct of the Cyprus Stock Exchange. The Chief Compliance Officer is also appointed as the Company's Corporate Governance Compliance Officer (a role required as per the Cyprus Stock Exchange Code) and as part of this role the CCO reports directly to the Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee. The relevant responsibilities are described in the Corporate Governance Policy and Framework.

## **3. Risk Culture**

Risk culture “encompasses the general awareness, attitudes and behaviours of an organisation's staff towards risk”. It includes organisational values, norms, beliefs, and habits related to risk. Additionally, it serves as a key indicator of how successfully an organisation's risk management policies and practices have been adopted by their workforce.

Towards enhancing the compliance risk culture, the Compliance Division applies the following strategy:

- i. Apply proactive actions because risks are emerging all the time and being compliant is no longer enough; the division applies a proactive approach that uses constant and consistent re-evaluation and redesigning of existing compliance processes, thresholds, rules, and response programmes, aiming to ensure that the organisation always stays up to date on current and future risks.
- ii. Raise awareness through communication and training as staff sometimes don't realise the compliance risk impact of their actions; consistent communication and training regarding compliance risk management processes are very important. The division provides frequent, detailed compliance risk training for employees which not only heightens their understanding of the various risks that the organization is exposed to, but it also equips them with the right tools to monitor and respond appropriately. Furthermore, it ensures that risk management is always top-of-mind and reinforces the formation of good risk-related work habits in employees.
- iii. Invest in compliance risk management technology and in automations that will assist in mitigating compliance risks.
- iv. Ensures that governance arrangements are robust and that a sound risk culture is promoted at all levels of the organization. This includes integrating risk culture into daily operations and decision-making processes, ensuring that all staff understand and adhere to the organization's values, norms, and expected behaviours related to risk management.
- v. Establishes clear procedures for reporting and escalating compliance issues to the management body and relevant committees. These procedures ensure that compliance issues are promptly identified, reported, and addressed to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of the organization's compliance framework.

More specifically, the Compliance Division provides information to Project Ethos which covers matters related to risk culture such as the score stemming from Compliance Reviews throughout the year. Furthermore, the Compliance Division contributes to the management report to the Board on persistent deficiencies on risk culture.

To strengthen risk culture, Compliance strives to:

- Integrate Compliance Culture with the overall risk culture of the Bank.
- Highlight the importance of leadership in promoting a strong compliance risk culture. This includes the active involvement of senior management and the board of directors in setting the tone from the top and demonstrating commitment to risk culture.
- Foster a culture of effective communication and challenge, where employees feel empowered to raise concerns and challenge decisions related to compliance. This includes promoting open dialogue and ensuring that compliance issues are promptly addressed.
- Ensure clear accountability and responsibility for compliance across all levels of the organization. This includes defining roles and responsibilities and ensuring that employees understand their obligations related to information security.
- Enhance training and awareness programs to ensure that all employees understand their roles and responsibilities relating to compliance. This includes promoting a culture of security awareness and encouraging proactive risk management.

### **3. Independence and Authority**

BOC has established the Three Lines of Defence model as a framework for effective risk management and control. In this model, management which is the first line, is responsible for managing risks. The second line, being the risk management units of the Bank (i.e. the Risk Management Division, the Compliance Division, the Information Security Division, and the Subsidiaries' Compliance Officers), is responsible for developing and maintaining an effective risk and compliance framework to support management in the delivery of its business and strategic objectives.

The Compliance Division ensures that internal control functions are independent from the business activities they monitor and control. These functions have sufficient authority, resources, and direct access to the management body to perform their duties effectively.

The Internal Audit Division, as the third line, provides independent assurance over the effectiveness of the risk management framework and governance.

# The 3 Lines of Defence Model



The Business Risk & Control Officers act as liaisons for control functions in high-risk business areas, providing enhanced risk and compliance oversight. They promote a corporate culture of risk and compliance according to guidance from Control Functions. As part of the 1st line of defence, they help enforce regulations, address compliance issues, manage risks, implement controls, and follow Group compliance guidelines.

- i. Compliance Liaisons (CLs) help management implement regulatory changes, compliance issues, and controls according to BoC principles. CLs do not take on compliance function activities or responsibilities. The primary responsibilities of CD are not delegated to CLs. As part of the first line of defence, CLs facilitate the second line of defence. Their assignment is based on the CBC's Directive on Internal Governance of Credit Institutions, as outlined in the Compliance Policy and Charter. They are appointed by department management with CD's agreement and report to both their manager and CD. The Compliance Division's independent status is formalised and communicated through this Charter. The Compliance Division operates independently from the organisation's business activities and Support Units. Its staff remuneration is not tied to the performance of the monitored or controlled activities.
- ii. The Chief Compliance Officer reports to the Audit Committee and for administrative matters, reports to the CEO. This latter line of reporting is administrative in nature and has nothing to do with the Compliance Division's oversight to avoid jeopardizing its independence and responsibilities towards the Audit Committee.
- iii. The performance appraisal of the Chief Compliance Officer is performed by the Chairman of the Audit Committee with input from the CEO further to their daily administrative relationship, and it is subsequently submitted to the management body.
- iv. The Audit Committee annually reviews and assesses the independence, adequacy, and effectiveness of the Compliance Division. In this respect, a declaration of the organisational independence of the Compliance Division is being submitted to the Audit Committee to be considered together with the annual performance appraisal of the Chief Compliance Officer. The annual compliance programme is reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee.

- v. The Chief Compliance Officer submits papers directly to Committees or the Board of Directors and where applicable, are copied to the CEO or the Executive Committee for notification purposes. To this end, the policies issued by the Compliance Division are notified to the Audit Committee or the Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee, or the Joint Audit and Risk Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- vi. The Compliance Division has the right and obligation to report its findings and assessments directly to the Board of Directors and its Committees, independent from senior management.
- vii. The Compliance Division budget is approved by the Board of Directors which ensures that it is sufficiently flexible to adapt to variation in response to developments.
- viii. The Board of Directors is responsible to ensure that the Compliance Division has the appropriate financial and human resources as well as powers to effectively perform its role.

To carry out efficiently the duties relating to compliance:

- i. The Compliance Division staff and the Compliance Liaisons (CLs) are authorized to communicate with any member of the staff and to have unrestricted access to all documents, files, and other data required to perform their duties and all employees of the organization must help by providing the requested information.
- ii. The organisation must ensure that staff in the Compliance Division have access to the right data systems, assistance, and internal and external information to carry out their duties.
- iii. The organisation must ensure that when in need, the Compliance Division may have access to expert advice and assistance from external service providers when there is lack of knowledge, skills, resources or other competencies needed following the organizations procedures.
- iv. The CCO has the right to attend, as observer, any internal meeting at the organisation as he/she deems appropriate in order to carry out his/her duties.

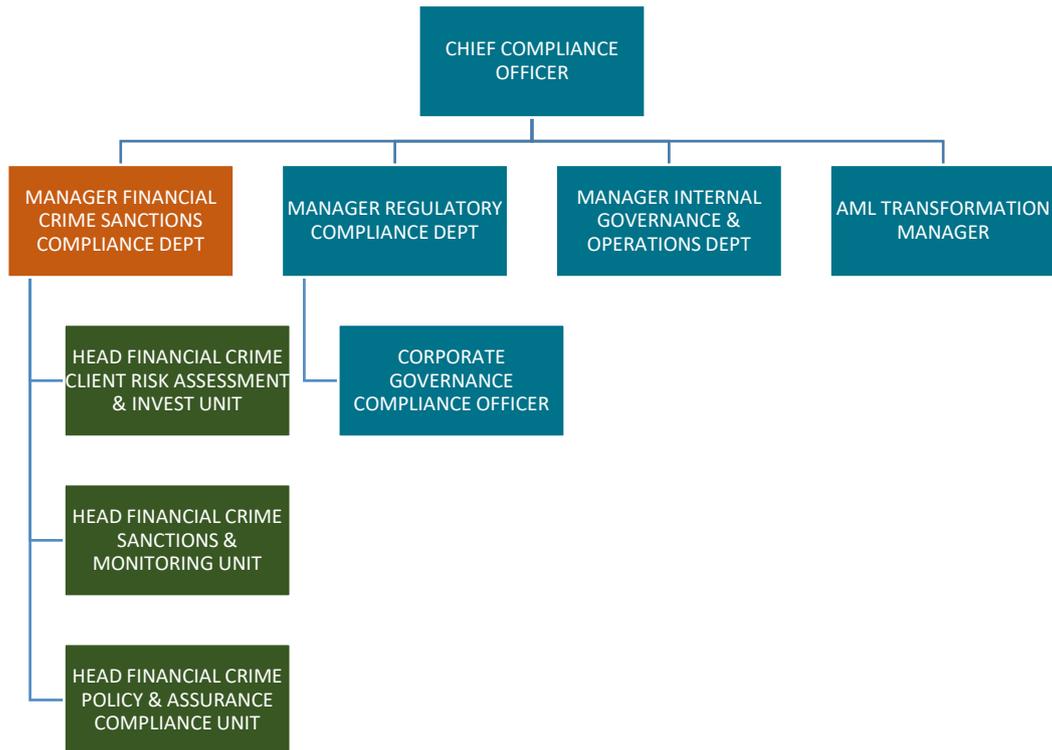
#### **4. Oversight Framework for the Subsidiary Compliance Officers**

As part of the obligations stemming from the Internal Governance of Credit Institutions Directive 2021 and the EBA GL/2017/11, and in line with the importance that the organization places on monitoring, managing and controlling the compliance risks across the organization including its subsidiaries (CISCO, Eurolife, General Insurance, Jinius, and JCC), the Compliance Division is mandated to oversee the Subsidiaries' Compliance Officers (SCOs), who act as an impartial second line of defense at the subsidiaries and ensure that the subsidiaries adhere to this Charter and carry out their compliance duties effectively.

#### **5. Organisational Structure**

The Compliance Division is headed/led by the Chief Compliance Officer who is appointed by the Board of Directors further to the recommendation of the Audit Committee and subject to the prior written approval of the Central Bank of Cyprus; the removal of the Chief Compliance Officer is decided by the Board of Directors further to the recommendation of the Audit Committee.

The Compliance Division's structure is shown below:



Where:

- i. The Manager Financial Crime & Sanctions Compliance Department reporting to the Compliance Director, is the appointed Anti Money Laundering Compliance Officer of the Bank, a role provided in the relevant legislation. She plans and supervises the implementation of the Group's compliance strategy in matters of Financial Crime (Anti-Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) and Financial Sanctions) in order to ensure that the Group complies with the legislation, the instructions of the Central Bank of Cyprus (CBC), European Union (EU), international practices and international sanctions.
- ii. The Manager Regulatory Compliance Department reporting to the Compliance Director, contributes to the formulation/design of the Group's governance, markets and Regulatory Compliance strategy and oversees its implementation to ensure that the Group complies with local, European, and international regulations and practices governing the Group.
- iii. The Manager Internal Governance and Operations Department is responsible to provide support to the Director of the Compliance Division in the organization, coordination and setting of priorities, so that all administrative and operational matters concerning the Compliance Division are handled, monitored and processed in a timely manner, in order to ensure the proper functioning of the Division.
- iv. The Corporate Governance Compliance Officer ensures the strict adherence of the Group and the Board of Directors with the corporate governance directives and regulations.

## 6. Responsibility and Accountability of the Chief Compliance Officer

The Chief Compliance Officer's responsibilities are summarized below.

- i. Ensure the objectivity and independence of the Compliance Division.

- ii. Acquire human resources with sufficient qualifications and skills to ensure the competence of the Compliance Division to carry out its tasks and responsibilities.
- iii. Continually assess and monitor the skills necessary to carry out the division's duties to the required level.
- iv. Ensure the appropriate ongoing training of staff of the Compliance Division to carry out the increasing diversity of tasks because of the introduction of new products and processes, changes to regulations or professional standards and other developments in the financial sector.
- v. Stay up to date on appropriate compliance procedures and pertinent guidelines for compliance-related matters.
- vi. Promptly inform the heads of other internal control Divisions of any findings relating to them.
- vii. Submit reports to the Board and relevant committees and attend their meetings to present the said reports and provide additional information and/or clarification or assistance on managing the issues raised.
- viii. Prepare and deliver to newly appointed members of the Board, in coordination with the secretary of the management body, an induction seminar adequately covering the respective areas of responsibilities of the Compliance Division with references to the responsibilities of the Board and the requirements of the regulatory framework.
- ix. Express an opinion on the selection as well as the fitness of the persons in charge of the compliance departments of subsidiaries in Cyprus and abroad as well as foreign branches and the appointed SCOs as mentioned above.
- x. Update the Competent Authority of any significant findings on, or developments that came to his/her attention that have material impact on, the institution's risk profile and of any significant changes in the structure and Divisions of the compliance Division.
- xi. Hold meetings with the Competent Authority at any time Competent Authority may require, discussing the scope and coverage of the work of the Compliance Division, its risk analysis, findings and recommendations.
- xii. Receive all reports, information and communication sent by the Regulatory Authorities which include findings or comments in relation to the responsibilities of Compliance Division.
- xiii. Have direct access to the Board and its Committees, to raise concerns or warnings as deemed appropriate when the institution is or may be affected by specific developments and / or in the event of specific risk developments affecting or likely to affect the institution.
- xiv. Attend on a regular basis and at least quarterly, the Audit Committee meetings to present compliance and the Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee meetings for corporate governance matters, without the presence of executive members of the Board.
- xv. The Chief Compliance Officer, in his/her capacity as a Corporate Governance Compliance Officer is invited to all material Subsidiaries' Audit Committee meetings and the Subsidiary Board meetings and attends at her discretion.
- xvi. Escalate to the Bank's Board Audit Committee, any matter that he deems necessary that potentially compromises the effectiveness of the overall compliance oversight of any of the Subsidiaries.

## **7. Frameworks, Policies and Processes**

The Compliance Division maintains several policies/frameworks such as the:

- i. Compliance Risk Appetite Statement
- ii. Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Policy

- iii. Sanctions Policy
- iv. Customer Acceptance Policy
- v. Corporate Governance Guidelines for Group Subsidiaries
- vi. Board Nominations and Diversity Policy
- vii. Corporate Governance Policy & Framework
- viii. Corporate Governance of BOC Executive Committees Policy
- ix. Suitability of Members of the Management Body and Key Function Holders Policy
- x. Board of Directors Induction and Training Policy
- xi. Compliance Division Charter
- xii. Compliance Division Reviews Methodology
- xiii. Compliance Division Quality Reviews Methodology
- xiv. Control Functions Common Operational Framework
- xv. Competition Law Compliance Policy
- xvi. Compliance Policy
- xvii. Customer Complaints Management Policy
- xviii. Market Abuse Policy
- xix. Financial Tax Exchange Information Policy
- xx. Whistleblowing Policy
- xxi. Coordination and Communication with Authorities Policy
- xxii. MiFID related Policies (14)
- xxiii. Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy
- xxiv. Treating Customers Fairly Policy
- xxv. Conflicts of Interest Policy

## **8. Professional Standards**

Both at the parent and subsidiary levels, the Compliance Division needs to have qualified employees. Every member of the compliance team needs to receive ongoing training on compliance-related topics. Ideally, they should also hold accreditations related to compliance, such as those for lawyers, Certified Global Sanctions Specialists (CGSS), Certified Money Laundering Specialists (CAMS), ICA Professional Qualifications, CySEC Advanced Compliance Certification, project managers, data analytics etc.

## **9. Support from external service providers**

The Compliance Division seeks advice and consultancy support from outside service providers as needed.

## **10. Compliance Division's relation with other Control Divisions**

The relationship between Control Divisions (Compliance Division, Internal Audit Division, Risk Management Division and Information Security Division) is described in the 'Control Functions Common Operational Framework'.

## **Appendix 1: Oversight framework of Subsidiary Compliance Officers**

### **1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE FRAMEWORK**

This framework of Subsidiary Compliance Officers aims to emphasize the importance that BOC Group places on monitoring, managing, and controlling the compliance risks across the organization including its subsidiaries (CISCO, Eurolife, General Insurance, and Jinius and JCC). Because of this obligation, the Compliance Division is mandated to oversee the Subsidiaries' Compliance Officers of the Group, who act as an impartial second line of defence at the Subsidiary and ensure that the subsidiaries adhere to this Framework and carry out their compliance duties effectively. Based on the Internal Governance of Credit Institutions Directive 2021, Article 72(11) "Credit institutions shall ensure that their compliance monitoring processes and procedures are regularly submitted to the staff appointed as regulatory compliance officers in large business units, branches and subsidiaries in the Republic and abroad to carry out regulatory compliance tasks, in order to assist such staff in carrying out their compliance duties". EBA GL/2017/11, para 67, provides that the internal control functions are independent of the business lines they control, including that there is an adequate segregation of duties and that they have the appropriate financial and human resources as well as powers to effectively perform their role (please refer to section 2 below). This framework should be read in conjunction with the Group Compliance Policy and the Corporate Governance Guidelines for Group Subsidiaries Policy.

### **2. INDEPENDENCE OF SCOs AND THEIR REPORTING LINE**

BOC subsidiaries have formally autonomous Compliance Functions, and the Subsidiary Compliance Officers are independent from the business activities they control. They are appointed by the Board of Directors of the Subsidiary further to the recommendation of the Audit Committee of the Subsidiary and the agreement of the Compliance Division. Their appointment is subject to the prior approval of the relevant competent authority, where applicable. The removal of the SCOs is decided by the Board of the Subsidiary further to the recommendation of the Audit Committee of the Subsidiary.

Based on this obligation, each subsidiary appoints its own Compliance Officer who reports on a regular basis to the Compliance Division regarding their compliance action plans and activities, risks, and findings; they are responsible to monitor the regulatory risks ,update their Risk Map, handle regulatory change developments and update issues and actions assigned to them through the Compliance Management System.

The SCO's report directly to the Audit Committee of the Subsidiary and submit to it a report on a quarterly basis with copies being sent to the General Manager of the Subsidiary and the Compliance Division. The report covers, as a minimum, the following:

- i. New regulatory developments and key compliance issues and measures/actions taken to implement them during the reporting period.
- ii. Information on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Subsidiary's policies and procedures.
- iii. Yearly Action plan progress and any deviations/delays from the action plan and or targets set.
- iv. On-site inspections or desk-based reviews performed by the Compliance Function, key findings identified, and actions taken to address identified risks.
- v. Significant compliance issues, risks, incidents that have occurred since the last report.
- vi. Overview of material correspondence with competent authorities.

As part of the organization's Compliance Division's oversight obligation, SCOs are responsible for:

- i. Submitting quarterly and annual reports detailing their activities, which should include updates on major regulatory projects, training on compliance issues, findings from onsite reviews and investigations, and mitigation measures taken for compliance risks. It should also include information on key compliance issues and the steps taken to implement them after conducting a risk assessment. Finally, it should include issues for local management and recommendations.
- ii. Performing the gap analysis of new or amended regulations assigned to them by the Compliance Division, identifying the compliance obligations stemming from these regulations, assessing the impact on the Subsidiary's processes, procedures, and operations, and ensuring that mitigation actions are implemented for compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
- iii. Supporting their management to carry out their responsibilities for compliance with regulatory changes, addressing compliance issues and implementing controls in adherence to compliance principles.
- iv. Identifying, measuring, monitoring, and reporting regulatory risks and ensuring compliance with internal and external requirements within the Subsidiary.
- v. Completing all other tasks through the Compliance Risks/Findings Management and Repository Software, re: analysing, assessing, and managing daily regulatory feeds assigned by Compliance Division, monitoring issues, and pending actions, developing, and maintaining the Subsidiary regulatory risk map, identifying existing mitigating controls, introducing additional controls, monitoring mitigating actions, maintaining the regulatory reporting diary, regulatory incidents, conflicts of interests and gifts registries.
- vi. Facilitating the dissemination of compliance culture within the Subsidiary as per the guidance received by the Compliance Division.
- vii. Monitoring the overall governance of the Subsidiaries' Boards and Committees, e.g. the timely submission of agenda and papers, the quality of the papers and the minutes in terms of content and detail etc, as they have under their responsibility the role of the Corporate Governance Compliance Officer. In this respect SCOs are responsible to ensure that:
  - a. The agenda is sent together with the meeting invite well in advance before the papers.
  - b. All papers are circulated to the participants at least 5 days before the scheduled meeting,
  - c. All papers related to compliance duties, including Regulatory Compliance, Corporate Governance and AML, are submitted to the Compliance Division's responsible department for review before they are communicated as official papers of the scheduled meeting. This allows responsible officers from Compliance Division sufficient time to review and provide feedback ensuring the completeness and accuracy of the papers, before they are officially communicated as meeting papers. The material is reviewed by the responsible compliance department and discussed and agreed between Compliance Division and the relevant officers of the Subsidiary before the AC/ARC meeting.

For matters of administration, SCOs refer to the Subsidiary's General Manager but this does not relate to any form of overseeing of the Subsidiary's Compliance Function by the General Manager, which would potentially compromise the SCOs independence.

### 3. OVERSIGHT OF SCOs BY THE COMPLIANCE DIVISION

The oversight of the SCOs by the Compliance Division, ensures that the Subsidiary' Compliance Function is effective and efficient and fully aligned with the compliance strategy of the organization. To ensure this, the Compliance Division:

- i. Oversees and challenges the regulatory risks identified by the SCOs through the gap analysis of new or amended regulations, assessments of new or amended processes and procedures, project assessments, new or amended product/services assessments and any other ad-hoc assessments with regulatory impact such as new operating models, reorganisations etc, to ensure that compliance risks within the Subsidiary are managed effectively and recommends additional controls and corrective actions, where needed.
- ii. Oversees the compliance risk assessment process followed by the SCOs and monitors the implementation of mitigating actions for the management of identified risks.
- iii. Performs periodic onsite/offsite compliance assurance reviews for assessing the implementation of organization-wide compliance policies and procedures by the Subsidiary.
- iv. Provides constructive support and feedback on an ongoing basis to perform their duties independently, effectively, and efficiently.
- v. Ensures that the SCOs have enough competency to facilitate the implementation of the organization-wide policies / procedures /guidelines in their area of work.
- vi. Organises and provides training in specialized areas as needed and ongoing guidance and support to the SCOs to remain qualified on an ongoing basis and carry out their duties effectively.
- vii. Ensures that the SCOs facilitate the dissemination of compliance culture within their company with the objective of raising awareness and ensuring that each member of staff within the Subsidiary understands the regulatory framework associated with his/her duties and the associated compliance risks on a proactive basis.
- viii. Reviews and assesses the Subsidiaries' internal compliance policies and procedures, follows up deficiencies and, where necessary, provides recommendations for amendments.
- ix. Assesses the SCOs periodic reports to identify any gaps in relation to their content.
- x. Ensures that the SCO's activities are set out in a compliance programme which is reviewed by the Compliance Division to identify any areas of enhancement. The SCO's action plans are monitored on their progress on a quarterly basis by the Compliance Division to ensure timely completion of actions and effective management of regulatory risks.
- xi. Oversees the Subsidiary complaints process and utilises customer complaints as a source of relevant information in the context of its general monitoring responsibilities.
- xii. Cooperates and exchanges information with other internal control and risk management Divisions on compliance matters of Subsidiaries, assesses any regulatory incidents identified by the SCOs and monitors any mitigating actions to avoid reoccurrence and manage the risk.
- xiii. Has constant communication with the SCOs and encourages them to escalate and discuss with the Compliance Division any areas of concern.
- xiv. Ensures that the SCOs assessments on new products and procedures comply with the current legal environment and business standards and any known changes to legislation, regulations, supervisory requirements, and business standards.
- xv. Ensures that the SCOs maintain their independence at all times and that they report their findings and assessments directly to the Subsidiary Audit Committee independent from Senior management.

- xvi. Ensures that the SCOs are invited to the Subsidiary Audit Committee meetings (or combined Audit/Risk Committee meetings, where applicable) on a regular basis and at least once a year and report to the Audit Committee of the Subsidiary, on compliance issues, on a quarterly basis.
- xvii. Ensures that the Compliance Division is invited to attend all the Subsidiaries Audit Committee's meetings (or combined Audit/Risk Committee meetings, where applicable) even if it does not have any topics to be discussed. In this respect, the Senior Officer Regulatory Compliance attends all the Subsidiaries Audit Committee's meetings (or combined Audit/Risk Committee meetings, where applicable) as a permanent observer by invitation. This shall be reflected in the Committee's Terms of Reference., The Manager Financial Crime & Sanctions, and the Corporate Governance Officer, are always invited by the Subsidiary Company Secretary to attend, however they attend only if a topic related to their function is discussed
- xviii. Reports to the Bank Audit Committee the subsidiary's compliance risks through the quarterly/ monthly / yearly reporting.  
Contributes to the Subsidiaries Compliance Officers' Performance Appraisal.