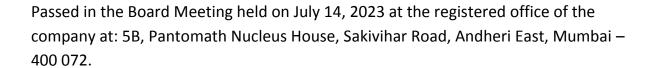


Pentagon Stock Brokers Private Limited

PENTAGON STOCK BROKERS PRIVATE LIMITED

PMLA POLICY (Version 3.2)



Revised policy was reviewed in the Board Meeting held on November 18, 2024.

For the purpose of this document:

Principal Officer-Mr. Vijay Singh

Designated Director-Mrs. Vijay Singh

This policy was implemented in accordance with the SEBI Circular issued along with earlier policy.

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The Directives as outlined below provide a general background and summary of the main provisions of the applicable anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing legislations in India. They also provide guidance on the practical implications of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). The Directives also set out the steps that a registered intermediary or its representatives shall implement to discourage and to identify any money laundering or terrorist financing activities. The relevance and usefulness of these Directives will be kept under review and it may be necessary to issue amendments from time to time.

These Directives are intended for use primarily by intermediaries registered under Section 12 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (SEBI Act). While it is recognized that a "one- size-fits-all" approach may not be appropriate for the securities industry in India, each registered intermediary shall consider the specific nature of its business, organizational structure, type of clients and transactions, etc. when implementing the suggested measures and procedures to ensure that they are effectively applied. The overriding principle is that they shall be able to satisfy themselves that the measures taken by them are adequate, appropriate and abide by the spirit of such measures and the requirements as enshrined in the PMLA.

SEBI had issued the Guidelines on Know Your Customer (KYC) standards and Anti Money Laundering (AML) measures vide their notification No.ISD/CIR/RR/AML/1/06 dated 18th January, 2006 and updated vide Circular No.:SEBI/HO/MIRSD/SEC-FATF/CIR/2023/0170 dated 13th October,2023. The Guidelines issued with the circular are in the context of the recommendation made by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on anti-money laundering standards. Compliance with these standards by all SEBI Registered intermediaries in the country has become imperative. These Guidelines lay down the minimum requirements / disclosures to be made with respect to clients.

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SECTION I: OVERVIEW

1. Background

The PMLA came into effect from 1st July 2005. Necessary Notifications / Rules under the said Act were published in the Gazette of India on 1st July, 2005 by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, and Government of India. The PMLA has been further amended vide notification dated March 6, 2009 and inter alia provides that violating the prohibitions on manipulative and deceptive devices, insider trading and substantial acquisition of securities or control as prescribed in Section 12 A read with Section 24 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (SEBI Act) will now be treated as a scheduled offence under schedule B of the PMLA.

As per the provisions of the PMLA, every banking company, financial institution (which includes chit fund company, a co-operative bank, a housing finance institution and a non-banking financial company) and intermediary (which includes a **stock-broker**, sub-broker, share transfer agent, banker to an issue, trustee to a trust deed, registrar to an issue, merchant banker, underwriter, portfolio manager, investment adviser and any other intermediary associated with securities market and registered under Section 12 of the SEBI Act, shall have to maintain a record of all the transactions; the nature and value of which has been prescribed in the Rules under the PMLA. Such transactions include;

- i. All cash transactions of the value of more than Rs. 10 lakh or its equivalent in foreign currency.
- ii. All series of cash transactions integrally connected to each other which have been valued below Rs. 10 lakh or its equivalent in foreign currency where such series of transactions have taken place within a month and the monthly aggregate exceeds an amount of ten lakh rupees or its equivalent in foreign currency.
- iii. All suspicious transactions whether or not made in cash and including, interalia, credits or debits into from any non-monetary account such as demat account, security account maintained by the registered intermediary.

It may, however, be clarified that for the purpose of suspicious transactions reporting, apart from 'transactions integrally connected', 'transactions remotely connected or related' shall also be considered. In case there is a variance in CDD/AML standards prescribed by SEBI and the

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regulators of the host country, branches/overseas subsidiaries of intermediaries are required to adopt the more stringent requirements of the two.

2. Policies and Procedures to Combat Money Laundering and Terrorist financing

These Directives have taken into account the requirements of the PMLA as applicable to the intermediaries registered under Section 12 of the SEBI Act. The detailed Directives in Section II have outlined relevant measures and procedures to guide the registered intermediaries in preventing ML and TF. Some of these suggested measures and procedures may not be applicable in every circumstance. Each intermediary shall consider carefully the specific nature of its business, organizational structure, type of client and transaction, etc. to satisfy itself that the measures taken by it are adequate and appropriate and follow the spirit of the suggested measures in Section II and the requirements as laid down in the PMLA.

Global measures taken to combat drug trafficking, terrorism and other organized and serious crimes have all emphasized the need for financial institutions, including securities market intermediaries, to establish internal procedures that effectively serve to prevent and impede money laundering and terrorist financing. The PMLA is in line with these measures and mandates that all intermediaries ensure the fulfillment of the aforementioned obligations.

To be in compliance with these obligations, the senior management of a registered intermediary shall be fully committed to establishing appropriate policies and procedures for the prevention of ML and TF and ensuring their effectiveness and compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements. The Registered Intermediaries shall:

- a) issue a statement of policies and procedures, on a group basis where applicable, for dealing with ML and TF reflecting the current statutory and regulatory requirements
- b) ensure that the content of these Directives are understood by all staff members
- c) regularly review the policies and procedures on the prevention of ML and TF to ensure their effectiveness. Further, in order to ensure the effectiveness of policies and procedures, the person doing such a review shall be different from the one who has framed such policies and procedures
- d) adopt client acceptance policies and procedures which are sensitive to the risk of ML and TF

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- e) undertake client due diligence ("CDD") measures to an extent that is sensitive to the risk of ML and TF depending on the type of client, business relationship or transaction
- f) have in system a place for identifying, monitoring and reporting suspected ML or TF transactions to the law enforcement authorities; and g) develop staff members' awareness and vigilance to guard against ML and TF.

Policies and procedures to combat ML shall cover:

a) Communication of group policies relating to prevention of ML and TF to all management and relevant staff that handle account information, securities transactions, money and client records etc.

whether in branches, departments or subsidiaries;

- b) Client acceptance policy and client due diligence measures, including requirements for proper identification;
- c) Maintenance of records;
- d) Compliance with relevant statutory and regulatory requirements;
- e) Co-operation with the relevant law enforcement authorities, including the timely disclosure of information; and
- f) Role of internal audit or compliance function to ensure compliance with the policies, procedures, and controls relating to the prevention of ML and TF, including the testing of the system for detecting suspected money laundering transactions, evaluating and checking the adequacy of exception reports generated on large and/or irregular transactions, the quality of reporting of suspicious transactions and the level of awareness of front line staff, of their responsibilities in this regard. The internal audit function shall be independent, adequately resourced and commensurate with the size of the business and operations, organization structure, number of clients and other such factors

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Section II: Detailed Directives

A. Written Anti Money Laundering Procedures

Objective:

The objective of this policy framework is to:

- Create awareness and provide clarity on KYC standards and AML measures.
- Outline the obligations under PMLA.
- Provide a framework for systems and procedures.

What is Money Laundering?

Money Laundering can be defined as engaging in financial transactions that involve income derived from criminal activity, transactions designed to conceal the true origin of criminally derived proceeds and appears to have been received through legitimate sources/origins.

This is done in three phases – Placement Phase, Layering Phase & Integration Phase.

- Placement Phase- The physical disposal of cash proceeds derived from illegal activity.
- Layering Phase-Separating illicit proceeds from their source by creating complex layers
 of financial transactions designed to hamper the audit trail, disguise the origin of such
 funds and provide anonymity to their owners.
- Integration Phase-Placing the laundered proceeds back into the economy in such a way that they re-enter the financial system appearing to be legitimate business funds.

Each registered intermediary shall adopt written procedures to implement the anti-money laundering provisions as envisaged under the PMLA. Such procedures shall include inter alia, the following three specific parameters which are related to the overall 'Client Due Diligence Process':

- a) Policy for acceptance of clients
- b) Procedure for identifying the clients
- c) Transaction monitoring and reporting especially Suspicious Transactions Reporting (STR).

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B. Client Due Diligence (CDD)

The CDD measures comprise the following:

- a) Obtaining sufficient information in order to identify persons who beneficially own or control the account. Whenever it is apparent that the securities acquired or maintained through an account are beneficially owned by a party other than the client, that party shall be identified using client identification and verification procedures. The beneficial owner is the natural person or persons who ultimately own, control or influence a client and/or persons on whose behalf a transaction is being conducted. It also incorporates those persons who exercise ultimate effective control over a legal person or arrangement
- b) Verify the client's identity using reliable, independent source documents, data or information
- c) Identify beneficial ownership and control, i.e. determine which individual(s) ultimately own(s) or control(s) the client and/or the person on whose behalf a transaction is being conducted –

For clients other than individuals or trusts: Where the client is a person other than an individual or trust, viz., company, partnership or unincorporated association/body of individuals, the intermediary shall identify the beneficial owners of the client and take reasonable measures to verify the identity of such persons, through the following information:

aa) The identity of the natural person, who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, exercises control through ownership or who ultimately has a controlling ownership interest or the right to control the management or policy decision.

Explanation: Controlling ownership interest means ownership of/entitlement to: i. more than 10% of shares or capital or profits of the juridical person, where the juridical person is a company;

ii. more than 10% of the capital or profits of the juridical person, where the juridical person is a partnership; or

iii. more than 15% of the property or capital or profits of the juridical person, where the juridical person is an unincorporated association or body of individuals.

bb) In cases where there exists doubt under clause (aa) above as to whether the person with the controlling ownership interest is the beneficial owner or where no natural person exerts

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control through ownership interests, the identity of the natural person exercising control over the juridical person through other means.

Explanation: Control through other means can be exercised through voting rights, agreement, arrangements or in any other manner.

- cc) Where no natural person is identified under clauses (aa) or (bb) above, the identity of the relevant natural person who holds the position of senior managing official.
- ii. For client which is a trust: Where the client is a trust, the intermediary shall identify the beneficial owners of the client and take reasonable measures to verify the identity of such persons, through the identity of the settler of the trust, the trustee, the protector, the beneficiaries with 10% or more interest in the trust and any other natural person exercising ultimate effective control over the trust through a chain of control or ownership.
- iii) that that trustees disclose their status at the time of commencement of an account based relationship or when carrying out transactions as specified in clause (b) of sub-rule (1) rule 9."
- **iv. Exemption in case of listed companies:** Where the client or the owner of the controlling interest is a company listed on a stock exchange, or is a majority owned subsidiary of such a company, it is not necessary to identify and verify the identity of any shareholder or beneficial owner of such companies.
- v. Applicability for foreign investors: Intermediaries dealing with foreign investors' may be guided by the clarifications issued vide SEBI circulars CIR/MIRSD/11/2012 dated September 5, 2012 and CIR/ MIRSD/ 07/ 2013 dated September 12, 2013, for the purpose of identification of beneficial ownership of the client.
- vi. The Stock Exchanges and Depositories shall monitor the compliance of the aforementioned provision on identification of beneficial ownership through half yearly internal audits. In case of mutual funds, compliance of the same shall be monitored by the Boards of the Asset Management Companies and the Trustees and in case of **other intermediaries**, **by their Board of Directors**.
- d) Verify the identity of the beneficial owner of the client and/or the person on whose behalf a transaction is being conducted, corroborating the information provided in relation to (c).
- e) Understand the ownership and control structure of the client.

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- f) Conduct ongoing due diligence and scrutiny, i.e. Perform ongoing scrutiny of the transactions and account throughout the course of the business relationship to ensure that the transactions being conducted are consistent with the registered intermediary's knowledge of the client, its business and risk profile, taking into account, where necessary, the client's source of funds; and that trustees disclose their status at the time of commencement of an account based relationship or when carrying out transactions as specified in clause (b) of sub-rule (1) rule 9."
- g) Registered intermediaries shall periodically update all documents, data or information of all clients and beneficial owners collected under the CDD process.

Policy for acceptance of clients:

- Each client should be met in person: Company would accept client/s from whom we are
 able to meet personally. Either, the client should visit the office/branch or concerned official
 may visit the client at his residence / office address to get the necessary documents filled in
 and signed.
- Preferably accept clients who live within the jurisdiction of the branch. As far as possible, ensure that the new client is introduced by an existing client or employee.
- In case of accounts opened in the name(s) of NRI of FNs. (If the Company cannot personally verify the NRI/FN client), the Company/KYC Team shall ensure the photocopies of all the KYC documents/proofs and PAN card are attested by Indian Embassy or Consulate General in the Country where the NRI or FN resides.
- The attesting authority affix a "verified with originals" stamp on the said documents. The
 photocopies of the KYC documents and PAN card should be signed by NRI/FN. If the NRI or
 FN comes in person to open the account, the above attestation are required may be waived.
- Accepts client on whom Company is able to apply appropriate KYC procedures:-Obtain
 complete information from the client. It should be ensured that the initial forms taken by the
 client are filled in completely. All photocopies submitted by the client are checked against
 original documents without any exception. All supporting documents as specified by
 Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Exchanges are obtained and verified.
- Do not accept clients with identity matching persons known to have criminal background: Check whether the client's identify matches with any person having known criminal

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background or is not banned in any other manner, whether in terms of criminal or civil proceedings by any enforcement/regulatory agency worldwide.

KYC team shall check following before admitting any person as client:

- a) Client details should be checked in CVL-KRA Website, CKYC Website, Watchout Investor, UN List and SEBI debar list.
- b) A screening report to be generated for all new clients and enclosed along with the KYC form.

Clients of special category (CSC): Such clients shall include the following:

- a) Non resident clients
- b) High net-worth clients,
- c) Trust, Charities, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and organizations receiving donations
- d) Companies having close family shareholdings or beneficial ownership
- e) Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) are individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions in a foreign country, e.g., Heads of States or of Governments, senior politicians, senior government/judicial/military officers, senior executives of state-owned corporations, important political party officials, etc. The additional norms applicable to PEP shall also be applied to the accounts of the family members or close relatives of PEPs.
- f) Companies offering foreign exchange offerings
- g) Clients in high risk countries where existence / effectiveness of money laundering controls is suspect, where there is unusual banking secrecy, countries active in narcotics production, countries where corruption (as per Transparency International Corruption Perception Index) highly prevalent, countries against which government sanctions are applied, countries reputed to be any of the following - Havens/ of international sponsors terrorism, offshore financial centers, tax havens, countries where fraud is highly prevalent. While dealing with clients in high risk countries where the existence/effectiveness of money laundering control is suspect, intermediaries apart from being guided by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) statements that identify countries that do not or insufficiently apply the FATF Recommendations, published by the FATF on its website

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(www.fatf-gafi.org), shall also independently access and consider other publicly available information.

- h) Non face to face clients
- i) Clients with dubious reputation as per public information available etc.

The above mentioned list is only illustrative and the intermediary shall exercise independent judgment to ascertain whether any other set of clients shall be classified as CSC or not.

Be careful while accepting Clients of Special category. We should be careful while accepting clients of special category like NRIs, HNIs, Trust, Charities, NGOs, Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) [Approval of Board of Directors is required for opening trading account of PEP] persons of foreign origin, companies having closed shareholding/ownership, companies dealing in foreign currency, shell companies, overseas entities, clients in high risk countries, non face to face clients, clients with dubious background. Current/Former Head of State, Current/Former senior high profile politician, Companies offering foreign exchange, etc.) or clients from high-risk countries (like Libya, Pakistan, Afghanistan, etc.) or clients belonging to countries where corruption/fraud level is high (like Nigeria, Burma, etc). Scrutinize minutely the records/documents pertaining to clients belonging to aforesaid category.

General Precautions:

- a) No account is opened in a fictitious / benami name or on an anonymous basis.
- b) Factors of risk perception (in terms of monitoring suspicious transactions) of the client are clearly defined having regard to clients' location (registered office address, correspondence addresses and other addresses if applicable), nature of business activity, trading turnover etc. and manner of making payment for transactions undertaken. The parameters shall enable classification of clients into low, medium and high risk. Clients of special category (as given below) may, if necessary, be classified even higher. Such clients require higher degree of due diligence and regular update of Know Your Client (KYC) profile. The Company has classified the investors into three risk category:
 - (i) High Risk
 - (ii) Medium Risk
 - (iii) Low Risk

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- c) Documentation requirements and other information to be collected in respect of different classes of clients depending on the perceived risk and having regard to the requirements of Rule 9 of the PML Rules, Directives and Circulars issued by SEBI from time to time.
- d) Ensure that an account is not opened where the intermediary is unable to apply appropriate CDD measures/ KYC policies. This shall apply in cases where it is not possible to ascertain the identity of the client, or the information provided to the intermediary is suspected to be nongenuine, or there is perceived non co-operation of the client in providing full and complete information. The market intermediary shall not continue to do business with such a person and file a suspicious activity report. It shall also evaluate whether there is suspicious trading in determining whether to freeze or close the account. The market intermediary shall be cautious to ensure that it does not return securities of money that may be from suspicious trades. However, the market intermediary shall consult the relevant authorities in determining what action it shall take when it suspects suspicious trading.
- e) The circumstances under which the client is permitted to act on behalf of another person / entity shall be clearly laid down. It shall be specified in what manner the account shall be operated, transaction limits for the operation, additional authority required for transactions exceeding a specified quantity/value and other appropriate details. Further the rights and responsibilities of both the persons i.e. the agent- client registered with the intermediary, as well as the person on whose behalf the agent is acting shall be clearly laid down. Adequate verification of a person's authority to act on behalf of the client shall also be carried out.
- f) Necessary checks and balance to be put into place before opening an account so as to ensure that the identity of the client does not match with any person having known criminal background or is not banned in any other manner, whether in terms of criminal or civil proceedings by any enforcement agency worldwide. The Company check CVL-KRA Website, CKYC Website, Wathchout Investor and SEBI Debarred list before onboarding the client.
- g) The CDD process shall necessarily be revisited when there are suspicions of money laundering or financing of terrorism (ML/FT).

Risk-based Approach:

It is generally recognized that certain clients may be of a higher or lower risk category depending on the circumstances such as the client's background, type of business relationship or transaction etc. As such, the registered intermediaries shall apply each of the client due diligence measures on a risk sensitive basis. The basic principle enshrined in this approach is

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that the registered intermediaries shall adopt an enhanced client due diligence process for higher risk categories of clients. Conversely, a simplified client due diligence process may be adopted for lower risk categories of clients. In line with the risk-based approach, the type and amount of identification information and documents that registered intermediaries shall obtain necessarily depend on the risk category of a particular client.

Further, low risk provisions shall not apply when there are suspicions of ML/FT or when other factors give rise to a belief that the customer does not in fact pose a low risk.

Risk Classification:

The level of Money Laundering (ML) risks that the Company is exposed to by an investor relationship depends on:

- Type of the customer and nature of business
- Type of product/service availed by the customer
- Country where the Customer is domiciled

Based on the above criteria, the customers may be classified into three Money laundering relationship depends on:

- (i) High Risk
- (ii) Medium Risk
- (iii) Low Risk

(i) High Risk

In addition to client defined in special category following clients are classified as high risk, provided their transaction value exceeds Rs. 1 Crore:

- (a) Non resident clients
- (b) High Net-worth clients
- (c) Trust, Charities, NGOs and organizations receiving donations
- (d) Unlisted Companies
- (e) Companies having close family shareholding and beneficial ownership
- (f) Politically exposed persons (PEP): Politically exposed persons are individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions in a foreign country eg.: Senior politicians, Heads of States of Government, senior government,/judicial/military/officials.
- (g) Clients who have defaulted in the past, have suspicious background and do not have any financial status.
- (h) Companies offering foreign exchange.

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- (i) Clients in high risk countries: (where existence / effectiveness of money laundering controls is suspect or which do not or insufficiently apply FATF standards, where there is unusual banking secrecy, countries active in narcotics production countries where corruption (as per transparency international corruption index) is highly prevalent. Countries against which government sanctions are applied. Countries reputed to be any of the following Havens/ sponsors of international terrorism, offshore financial centres, tax havens, Countries where fraud is highly prevalent.
- (j) Clients with dubious reputation as per public information available etc.
- (k) Non face to face Clients.

It should be to determine whether existing / potential customer is a PEP. Such procedures would include seeking additional information from clients. Further approval of senior management is required for – establishment business relationships with PEP & to continue the business relationship with PEP. All transaction of Clients identified as High Risk Category should be put to counter measures. These measures may include further enhanced scrutiny of transactions, enhanced relevant reporting mechanisms or systematic reporting of transactions and applying enhanced due diligence.

(ii) Medium Risk

Client defined in above category having transaction value below 1 million and those Clients who are mostly intra-day Clients or speculative Clients. Further based on business directive the clients who maintain running account continuously with the company may also be categorized as Medium risk clients as case to case basis.

(iii) Low Risk

Clients those pose Nil or low risk. They are Individuals/Corporates/HNIs who have respectable social and financial standing. These are the Clients who make a payment on time and take delivery of shares.

The low risk provisions should not apply when there are suspicions of Money Laundering / Financing Terrorism (ML/FT) or when other factors give rise to a belief that the customer does not in fact pose a low risk

Risk Assessment

a) Registered intermediaries shall carry out risk assessment to identify, assess and take effective measures to mitigate its money laundering and terrorist financing risk with respect to its clients, countries or geographical areas, nature and volume of transactions, payment methods used by clients, etc. The risk assessment shall also take into account any country specific information

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that is circulated by the Government of India and SEBI from time to time, as well as, the updated list of individuals and entities who are subjected to sanction measures as required under the various United Nations' Security Council Resolutions (these can be accessed at the URL-http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml and http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1988/list.shtml).

b) The risk assessment carried out shall consider all the relevant risk factors before determining the level of overall risk and the appropriate level and type of mitigation to be applied. The assessment shall be documented, updated regularly and made available to competent authorities and self regulating bodies, as and when required.

Client identification procedure:

The KYC policy shall clearly spell out the client identification procedure to be carried out at different stages i.e. while establishing the intermediary – client relationship, while carrying out transactions for the client or when the intermediary has doubts regarding the veracity or the adequacy of previously obtained client identification data.

Intermediaries shall be in compliance with the following requirements while putting in place a Client Identification Procedure (CIP):

- a) All registered intermediaries shall proactively put in place appropriate risk management systems to determine whether their client or potential client or the beneficial owner of such client is a politically exposed person. Such procedures shall include seeking relevant information from the client, referring to publicly available information or accessing the commercial electronic databases of PEPS.
- b) All registered intermediaries are required to obtain senior management approval for establishing business relationships with PEPs. Where a client has been accepted and the client or beneficial owner is subsequently found to be, or subsequently becomes a PEP, registered intermediaries shall obtain senior management approval to continue the business relationship.
- c) Registered intermediaries shall also take reasonable measures to verify the sources of funds as well as the wealth of clients and beneficial owners identified as PEP.
- d) The client shall be identified by the intermediary by using reliable sources including documents / information. The intermediary shall obtain adequate information to satisfactorily establish the identity of each new client and the purpose of the intended nature of the relationship.

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- e) The information must be adequate enough to satisfy competent authorities (regulatory / enforcement authorities) in future that due diligence was observed by the intermediary in compliance with the directives. Each original document shall be seen prior to acceptance of a copy.
- f) Failure by prospective client to provide satisfactory evidence of identity shall be noted and reported to the higher authority within the intermediary.

SEBI has prescribed the minimum requirements relating to KYC for certain classes of registered intermediaries from time to time as detailed in Schedule II. Taking into account the basic principles enshrined in the KYC norms which have already been prescribed or which may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time, all registered intermediaries shall frame their own internal directives based on their experience in dealing with their clients and legal requirements as per the established practices. Further, the intermediary shall conduct ongoing due diligence where it notices inconsistencies in the information provided. The underlying objective shall be to follow the requirements enshrined in the PMLA, SEBI Act and Regulations, directives and circulars issued thereunder so that the intermediary is aware of the clients on whose behalf it is dealing.

Every intermediary shall formulate and implement a CIP which shall incorporate the requirements of the PML Rules Notification No. 9/2005 dated July 01, 2005 (as amended from time to time), which notifies rules for maintenance of records of the nature and value of transactions, the procedure and manner of maintaining and time for furnishing of information and verification of records of the identity of the clients of the banking companies, financial institutions and intermediaries of securities market and such other additional requirements that it considers appropriate to enable it to determine the true identity of its clients.

It may be noted that irrespective of the amount of investment made by clients, no minimum threshold or exemption is available to registered intermediaries (brokers, depository participants, AMCs etc.) from obtaining the minimum information/documents from clients as stipulated in the PML Rules/ SEBI Circulars (as amended from time to time) regarding the verification of the records of the identity of clients. Further no exemption from carrying out CDD exists in respect of any category of clients. In other words, there shall be no minimum investment threshold/ category-wise exemption available for carrying out CDD measures by registered intermediaries. This shall be strictly implemented by all intermediaries and non-compliance shall attract appropriate sanctions.

Reliance on third party for carrying out Client Due Diligence (CDD)

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Registered intermediaries may rely on a third party for the purpose of:

- (a) identification and verification of the identity of a client and
- (b) Determination of whether the client is acting on behalf of a beneficial owner, identification of the beneficial owner and verification of the identity of the beneficial owner. Such third party shall be regulated, supervised or monitored for, and have measures in place for compliance with CDD and record-keeping requirements in line with the obligations under the PML Act.

Such reliance shall be subject to the conditions that are specified in Rule 9 (2) of the PML Rules and shall be in accordance with the regulations and circulars/ guidelines issued by SEBI from time to time. Further, it is clarified that the registered intermediary shall be ultimately responsible for CDD and undertaking enhanced due diligence measures, as applicable.

C. Monitoring of transactions

Regular monitoring of transactions is vital for ensuring effectiveness of the AML procedures. This is possible only if the intermediary has an understanding of the normal activity of the client so that it can identify deviations in transactions / activities.

The intermediary shall pay special attention to all complex unusually large transactions / patterns which appear to have no economic purpose. The intermediary may specify internal threshold limits for each class of client accounts and pay special attention to transactions which exceeds these limits. The background including all documents/office records /memorandums/clarifications sought pertaining to such transactions and purpose thereof shall also be examined carefully and findings shall be recorded in writing. Further such findings, records and related documents shall be made available to auditors and also to SEBI/stock exchanges/FIUIND/ other relevant Authorities, during audit, inspection or as and when required. These records are required to be maintained and preserved for a period of eight years from the date of transaction between the client and intermediary.

The intermediary shall ensure a record of the transactions is preserved and maintained in terms of Section 12 of the PMLA and those transactions of a suspicious nature or any other transactions notified under Section 12 of the Act are reported to the Director, FIU-IND. Suspicious transactions shall also be regularly reported to the higher authorities within the intermediary.

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Further, the compliance cell of the intermediary shall randomly examine a selection of transactions undertaken by clients to comment on their nature i.e. whether they are in the nature of suspicious transactions or not.

D. Suspicious Transaction Monitoring and Reporting

What is meant by "suspicion?"

The Rules notified under the PMLA defines a "suspicious transaction" as a transaction whether or not made in cash which, to a person acting in good faith-

- a) Give rise to a reasonable ground of suspicion that it may involve the proceeds of crime; or
- b) Appears to be made in circumstances of unusual or unjustified complexity; or
- c) Appears to have no economic rationale or bonafide purpose.

The provisions of the PMLA place an obligation on the Company to furnish information in respect of suspicious transactions within seven working days from the date of arriving a conclusion of such transaction.

Intermediaries shall ensure that appropriate steps are taken to enable suspicious transactions to be recognized and have appropriate procedures for reporting suspicious transactions. While determining suspicious transactions, intermediaries shall be guided by the definition of a suspicious transaction contained in PML Rules as amended from time to time.

Suspicion is personal and subjective and falls far short of proof based on firm evidence. Suspicion may be defined as being beyond mere speculation and based on some foundation i.e. "A degree of satisfaction and not necessarily amounting to belief but at least extending beyond speculation as to whether an event has occurred or not"; and "Although the creation of suspicion requires a lesser factual basis than the creation of a belief, it must nonetheless be built upon some foundation."

Any suspicion transaction should be immediately notified to any designated officer within the Company i.e. to the Principal Officer.

The Principal Officer / Money Laundering Control Officer & other appropriate compliance, risk management & related staff members shall have timely access to customer identification data & other CDD information, transaction records & other relevant information

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A list of circumstances which may be in the nature of suspicious transactions is given below. This list is only illustrative and whether a particular transaction is suspicious or not will depend upon the background, details of the transactions and other facts and circumstances:

- a) Clients whose identity verification seems difficult or clients that appear not to cooperate
- b) Asset management services for clients where the source of the funds is not clear or not in keeping with clients' apparent standing /business activity;
- c) Clients based in high risk jurisdictions;
- d) Substantial increases in business without apparent cause;
- e) Clients transferring large sums of money to or from overseas locations with instructions for payment in cash;
- f) Attempted transfer of investment proceeds to apparently unrelated third parties;
- g) Unusual transactions by CSCs and businesses undertaken by offshore banks/financial services, businesses reported to be in the nature of export import of small items.

It is likely that in some cases transactions are abandoned or aborted by clients on being asked to give some details or to provide documents. It is clarified that intermediaries shall report all such attempted transactions in STRs, even if not completed by clients, irrespective of the amount of the transaction.

E. Internal Reporting of Suspicious Transaction

There is a statutory obligation on all staff to report to the Principal Officers, transactions where they have knowledge, suspicion, or reasonable grounds for knowledge or suspicion of money laundering.

1) Any member of staff (like KYC team, dealers relationship Managers, DP team members of back office and accounts team) who handles or is responsible for handling transactions which may involve money laundering, makes a report promptly to the Principal Officer (PO) if he knows or suspects or has reasonable grounds to know or suspect that a client, or the person on whose behalf the client is acting, is engaged in money laundering.

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2) Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated on any member of staff who fails, without adequate reason, to make a report of the kind envisaged in this section.

It is desirable that any member of the staff should consult their immediate superior before sending a report to the Principal Officer. Where it is considered necessary for a report to be passed first to a supervisor or manager, there is a clear reporting chain under which those suspicions will be passed promptly, without delay, to the Principal Officer. Once an employee has reported his/her suspicions to the Principal Officer he/she has satisfied the obligation.

F. List of Designated Individuals/ Entities

An updated list of individuals and entities which are subject to various sanction measures such as freezing of assets/accounts, denial of financial services etc., as approved by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to various United Nations' Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) be accessed at its website can at http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/consolist.shtml. Registered intermediaries are directed to ensure that accounts are not opened in the name of anyone whose name appears in said list. Registered intermediaries shall continuously scan all existing accounts to ensure that no account is held by or linked to any of the entities or individuals included in the list. Full details of accounts bearing resemblance with any of the individuals/entities in the list shall immediately be intimated to SEBI and FIUIND.

G. Procedure for freezing of funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services

Section 51A of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA), relating to the purpose of prevention of, and for coping with terrorist activities was brought into effect through UAPA Amendment Act, 2008. In this regard, the Central Government has issued an Order dated August 27, 2009 detailing the procedure for the implementation of Section 51A of the UAPA.

Under the aforementioned Section, the Central Government is empowered to freeze, seize or attach funds and other financial assets or economic resources held by, on behalf of, or at the direction of the individuals or entities listed in the Schedule to the Order, or any other person engaged in or suspected to be engaged in terrorism. The Government is also further empowered to prohibit any individual or entity from making any funds, financial assets or

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economic resources or related services available for the benefit of the individuals or entities listed in the Schedule to the Order or any other person engaged in or suspected to be engaged in terrorism.

In case, the results of the verification indicate that the properties are owned by or held for the benefit of the designated individuals/entities, an order to freeze these assets under section 51A of the UAPA would be issued within 24 hours of such verification and conveyed electronically to the concerned depository under intimation to SEBI and FIU-IND and On receipt of this information after verification, DP shall act immediately on the same.

H. Reporting to Financial Intelligence Unit-India

In terms of the PML Rules, intermediaries are required to report information relating to cash and suspicious transactions to the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) at the following address: Director, FIU-IND, Financial Intelligence Unit-India, 6th Floor, Hotel Samrat, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021. Website: http://fiuindia.gov.in

Intermediaries shall carefully go through all the reporting requirements and formats that are available on the website of FIU – IND under the Section Obligation of Reporting Entity – Furnishing Information – Reporting Format (https://fiuindia.gov.in/files/downloads/Filing_Information.html). These documents contain detailed directives on the compilation and manner/procedure of submission of the reports to FIU-IND. The related hardware and technical requirement for preparing reports, the related data files and data structures thereof are also detailed in these documents While detailed instructions for filing all types of reports are given in the instructions part of the related formats, intermediaries shall adhere to the following:

- a) The Cash Transaction Report (CTR) (wherever applicable) for each month shall be submitted to FIU-IND by 15th of the succeeding month.
- b) The Suspicious Transaction Report (STR) shall be submitted within 7 days of arriving at a conclusion that any transaction, whether cash or non-cash, or a series of transactions integrally connected are of suspicious nature. The Principal Officer shall record his reasons for treating any transaction or a series of transactions as suspicious. It shall be ensured that there is no undue delay in arriving at such a conclusion.

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- c) The Non Profit Organization Transaction Reports (NTRs) for each month shall be submitted to FIU-IND by 15th of the succeeding month.
- d) The Principal Officer will be responsible for timely submission of CTR, STR and NTR to FIU-IND;
- e) Utmost confidentiality shall be maintained in filing of CTR, STR and NTR to FIUIND.
- f) No nil reporting needs to be made to FIU-IND in case there are no cash/ suspicious/ non profit organization transactions to be reported.

I. No Tipping Off

Intermediaries shall not put any restrictions on operations in the accounts where an STR has been made. Intermediaries and their directors, officers and employees (permanent and temporary) shall be prohibited from disclosing ("tipping off") the fact that a STR or related information is being reported or provided to the FIU-IND. This prohibition on tipping off extends not only to the filing of the STR and/ or related information but even before, during and after the submission of an STR. Thus, it shall be ensured that there is no tipping off to the client at any level It is clarified that the registered intermediaries, irrespective of the amount of transaction and/or the threshold limit envisaged for predicate offences specified in part B of Schedule of PMLA, 2002, shall file STR if they have reasonable grounds to believe that the transactions involve proceeds of crime.

J. Designation of officers for ensuring compliance with provisions of PMLA

Appointment of a Principal Officer:

Mr. Ankur Shah is the Principal Officer of the Pentagon Stock Brokers Private Limited.

The Principal Officer would act as a central reference point in facilitating onward reporting of suspicious transactions and for playing an active role in the identification and assessment of potentially suspicious transactions and shall have access to and be able to report to senior management at the next reporting level or the Board of Directors. Names, designation and addresses (including email addresses) of 'Principal Officer' including any changes therein shall also be intimated to the Office of the Director-FIU. As a matter of principle, it is advisable that

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the 'Principal Officer' is of a sufficiently senior position and is able to discharge the functions with independence and authority.

Appointment of a Designated Director:

In addition to the existing requirement of designation of a Principal Officer, the registered intermediaries shall also designate a person as a 'Designated Director'. In terms of Rule 2 (ba) of the PML Rules, the definition of a Designated Director reads as under: "Designated director means a person designated by the reporting entity to ensure overall compliance with the obligations imposed under chapter IV of the Act and the Rules and includes —

- a) the Managing Director or a Whole-Time Director duly authorizes by the Board of Directors if the reporting entity is a company,
- b) the managing partner if the reporting entity is a partnership firm,
- c) the proprietor if the reporting entity is a proprietorship firm,
- d) the managing trustee if the reporting entity is a trust,
- e) a person or individual, as the case may be, who controls and manages the affairs of the reporting entity if the reporting entity is an unincorporated association or a body of individuals, and
- f) such other person or class of persons as may be notified by the Government if the reporting entity does not fall in any of the categories above."

The Company has appointed Mr. Vijay Sing as a designated director of Pentagon Stock Brokers Private Limited and the same has been informed to FIU-IND.

K. Record Keeping

Registered intermediaries shall ensure compliance with the record keeping requirements contained in the SEBI Act, 1992, Rules and Regulations made thereunder, PMLA as well as other relevant legislation, Rules, Regulations, Exchange Byelaws and Circulars.

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Registered Intermediaries shall maintain such records as are sufficient to permit reconstruction of individual transactions (including the amounts and types of currencies involved, if any) so as to provide, if necessary, evidence for prosecution of criminal behaviour.

Should there be any suspected drug related or other laundered money or terrorist property, the competent investigating authorities would need to trace through the audit trail for reconstructing a financial profile of the suspect account. To enable this reconstruction, registered intermediaries shall retain the following information for the accounts of their clients in order to maintain a satisfactory audit trail:

- a) the beneficial owner of the account;
- b) the volume of the funds flowing through the account; and
- c) for selected transactions:
- i. the origin of the funds
- ii. the form in which the funds were offered or withdrawn, e.g. cheques, demand drafts etc.
- iii. the identity of the person undertaking the transaction;
- iv. the destination of the funds; v. the form of instruction and authority.

Registered Intermediaries shall ensure that all client and transaction records and information are available on a timely basis to the competent investigating authorities. Where required by the investigating authority, they shall retain certain records, e.g. client identification, account files, and business correspondence, for periods which may exceed those required under the SEBI Act, Rules and Regulations framed thereunder PMLA, other relevant legislations, Rules and Regulations or Exchange byelaws or circulars.

More specifically, all the intermediaries shall put in place a system of maintaining proper record of transactions prescribed under Rule 3 of PML Rules as mentioned below:

- a) all cash transactions of the value of more than ten lakh rupees or its equivalent in foreign currency;
- b) all series of cash transactions integrally connected to each other which have been individually valued below rupees ten lakh or its equivalent in foreign currency where such series of transactions have taken place within a month and the monthly aggregate exceeds an amount of ten lakh rupees or its equivalent in foreign currency;

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- c) all cash transactions where forged or counterfeit currency notes or bank notes have been used as genuine or where any forgery of a valuable security or a document has taken place facilitating the transactions;
- d) all suspicious transactions whether or not made in cash and by way of as mentioned in the Rules.

L. Information to be maintained

Intermediaries are required to maintain and preserve the following information in respect of transactions referred to in Rule 3 of PML Rules:

- a) the nature of the transactions;
- b) the amount of the transaction and the currency in which it is denominated;
- c) the date on which the transaction was conducted; and
- d) the parties to the transaction.

M. Retention of Records

Intermediaries shall take appropriate steps to evolve an internal mechanism for proper maintenance and preservation of such records and information in a manner that allows easy and quick retrieval of data as and when requested by the competent authorities. Further, the records mentioned in Rule 3 of PML Rules have to be maintained and preserved for a period of five years from the date of transactions between the client and intermediary.

Intermediaries are required to formulate and implement the CIP containing the requirements as laid down in Rule 9 of the PML Rules and such other additional requirements that it considers appropriate. Records evidencing the identity of its clients and beneficial owners as well as account files and business correspondence shall be maintained and preserved for a period of five years after the business relationship between a client and intermediary has ended or the account has been closed, whichever is later.

Thus the following document retention terms shall be observed:

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- a) All necessary records on transactions, both domestic and international, shall be maintained at least for the minimum period prescribed under the relevant Act and Rules (PMLA and rules framed thereunder as well SEBI Act) and other legislations, Regulations or exchange bye-laws or circulars.
- b) Registered intermediaries shall maintain and preserve the records of documents evidencing the identity of its clients and beneficial owners (e.g. copies or records of official identification documents like passports, identity cards, driving licenses or similar documents) as well as account files and business correspondence for a period of five years after the business relationship between a client and intermediary has ended or the account has been closed, whichever is later.

In situations where the records relate to on-going investigations or transactions which have been the subject of a suspicious transaction reporting, they shall be retained until it is confirmed that the case has been closed.

Records of information reported to the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU – IND): Registered Intermediaries shall maintain and preserve the records of information related to transactions, whether attempted or executed, which are reported to the Director, FIU – IND, as required under Rules 7 and 8 of the PML Rules, for a period of five years from the date of the transaction between the client and the intermediary.

N. Employees' Hiring/Employee's Training/ Investor Education

Hiring of Employees

At the time of screening key employees in the Company, the HR personnel should make sure that the key employees must be made aware about the AML/CFT requirement at the time of joining the organization and on such other time as they deem fit to ensure that key employees shall perform & discharge their duties efficiently and effectively to combat risk of money laundering which is considered to be a prominent area/aspect in an industry in which the company operates

Employees' Training:

The company should have an ongoing employee training program in terms of following:

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• Conducting presentations from time to time to create awareness amongst the concerned employees.

Training requirements shall have specific focuses for frontline staff, back office staff, compliance staff, risk management staff and staff dealing with new clients. It is crucial that all those concerned fully understand the rationale behind these directives, obligations and requirements, implement them consistently and are sensitive to the risks of their systems being misused by unscrupulous elements.

Investors Education

With a view to discharge our responsibility in the view of PMLA requirement, the Company should endeavor to do the following:

- Provide literature to potential clients which make them aware about the AML/CFT requirement.
- Disseminating / spreading the information amongst the investors/clients via different modes.

REVIEW OF POLICY

The PMLA policy of the company is reviewed once in a financial year. In case of regulatory change in between then it is reviewed and updated to comply with the new regulatory order\ guidance within the time frame specified by the regulators.



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