



Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering  
Groupe d'action financière sur le blanchiment de capitaux

Paris, 18 December 2001

## **No FATF counter-measures to apply against the Philippines for now**

Members of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) have decided for the time being not to apply counter-measures<sup>1</sup> to the Philippines in addition to Recommendation 21<sup>2</sup>. This decision is the result of a review by the FATF of the Philippine Anti-Money Laundering Act of 29 September 2001.

While this new legislation takes steps to strengthen the country's anti-money laundering system, it contains a number of important deficiencies. A detailed analysis of the new legislation has been sent to the Government of the Philippines.

The Philippines remains on the list of non-cooperative countries and territories. The FATF will monitor the situation in the Philippines closely and discuss this issue again at its next Plenary meeting in Hong Kong, China on 30 January-1 February 2002. The FATF hopes that the Philippines will address the deficiencies in the above-mentioned Act prior to that meeting so that the FATF will not have to consider the eventual application of counter-measures by its members.

The FATF is an independent international body whose Secretariat is housed at the OECD. The twenty nine member countries and governments of the FATF are: Argentina; Australia; Austria; Belgium; Brazil; Canada; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Luxembourg; Mexico; the Kingdom of the Netherlands; New Zealand; Norway; Portugal; Singapore; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; United Kingdom and the United States. Two international organisations are also members of the FATF: the European Commission and the Gulf Co-operation Council.

For further information, please contact the FATF Secretariat (tel: 33 1 45 24 79 45 or [Contact@fatf-gafi.org](mailto:Contact@fatf-gafi.org))

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<sup>1</sup> The counter-measures agreed in June 2001 are contained in the FATF Review to Identify Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories: Increasing the Worldwide Effectiveness of Anti-Money Laundering Measures (22 June 2001) at: [www.fatf-gafi.org/NCCT\\_en.htm](http://www.fatf-gafi.org/NCCT_en.htm).

<sup>2</sup> 21. Financial institutions should give special attention to business relations and transactions with persons, including companies and financial institutions, from countries which do not or insufficiently apply these Recommendations. Whenever these transactions have no apparent economic or visible lawful purpose, their background and purpose should, as far as possible, be examined, the findings established in writing, and be available to help supervisors, auditors and law enforcement agencies.