CIRCULAR LETTER

TO : All Insurance Companies, Insurance Intermediaries, Mutual Benefit Associations and Trusts for Charitable Uses

SUBJECT : AMLC Resolution No. 54 (May 25, 2005) and Resolution Nos. 61, 62 and 66 (all of June 13, 2005)

Attached are copies of the various Anti-Money Laundering Council Resolutions requiring all covered institutions to submit directly to the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving the persons or entity cited as terrorists in the aforementioned resolutions.

For strict compliance.

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN S. SANTOS
Insurance Commissioner
WHEREAS, on 13 April 2005, the Government of the United States, through its Embassy in Manila, sent a letter dated 12 April 2005 addressed to Hon. Rafael B. Buenaventura, Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, regarding its request for information on the financial assets of Ibrahim Buisir (Buisir) and to freeze the same should any be found.

WHEREAS, the Government of the United States designated Buisir pursuant to U.S. Executive Order 13224 along with all offices of the Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA) a.k.a. Islamic Relief Agency (ISRA), throughout the world and four other senior IARA officials as Specially Designated Global Terrorist based on evidence of its support for Al Qaida, Al-Ittihad Islamiyya and Hamas.

WHEREAS, information available to the US shows that Buisir directed a European Al Qaida cell that provided support to operations in Europe by arranging travel and accommodations. This cell was also connected to Al Qaida members in Australia.

WHEREAS, additional information shows that Buisir was connected to Abdul Rahman Snow, a Germany-based Al Qaida member who transited Spain in early 2004. Buisir claims to be a supporter of the Al Qaida-affiliated Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) in Europe, providing logistical assistance, including travel arrangements, false identity papers, and other documentation to young Libyans, Moroccans and Algerians who wanted to undergo military training in Afghanistan.

WHEREAS, on 26 November 2004, the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) issued Resolution No. 446 requiring the Supervising Authorities to disseminate among all covered institutions under their respective jurisdictions copy of the Resolution and to direct the covered institutions to submit directly to the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving the Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA) and four other senior officers of IARA.

WHEREAS, the said resolution was prompted by the request of the Government of the United States, through its Embassy in Manila. For purposes of brevity, the declarations of the AMLC in Resolution No. 446 dated 26...
November 2004 are hereby deemed reproduced and incorporated in this resolution.

WHEREAS, the provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1373 require UN member states to freeze terrorist assets without delay and to prohibit their nationals or persons in their territories from financing terrorism. As a charter member of the United Nations and as part of the international coalition against terrorism, the Philippines, through the Anti-Money Laundering Council, must actively support the actions required under the subject UNSC Resolutions.

WHEREFORE, pursuant thereto, the Council unanimously resolves to require the Supervising Authorities, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Insurance Commission to circularize among all covered institutions under their respective jurisdictions, copy of this Resolution and to direct the covered institutions to submit directly to the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving Ibrahim Buisir in accordance with Sections 7 and 9 of the AMLA, as amended and Rule 9.3 of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations and other related or applicable rules, regulations, circulars and operating manuals promulgated by the Supervising Authorities.


AMANDO M. TETANGCO, JR.
Acting Chairman
(Officer-In-Charge, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas)

FE B. BARIN
Member
(Chairperson, Securities and Exchange Commission)

BENJAMIN S. SANTOS
Member
(Commissioner, Insurance Commission)
WHEREAS, this refers to the letter dated 27 April 2005 of the Government of the United States of America, through its Embassy in Manila, requesting the Philippines to check carefully for the assets of Bilal al-Hiyari (Hiyari), a Specially Designated Global Terrorist individual pursuant to E.O. 13224.

WHEREAS, Hiyari was convicted by the State Security court of Jordan in October 2004 for providing funds to the Zarqawi Network, also known as Jama'at al Tawhid wal Jihad and Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn, listed by the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee.

WHEREAS, on 27 December 2004, Usama bin Laden announced that the Zarqawi network had merged with Al Qaida. Information available to the US Government confirms that this merger has in fact taken place. Hiyari became acquainted with Zarqawi in 1989 when they met in Afghanistan. Their relationship appears to have continued through the mid-late 1990s after they had both returned to Jordan.

WHEREAS, Bilal al-Hiyari's association with Al Qaida warrants his inclusion in the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee consolidated list.

WHEREAS, on 13 April 2005, the United States requested that the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee add Hiyari to its consolidated list of entities/individuals associated with Al Qaida/UBL/Taliban subject to sanctions (including asset freeze) that UN member states are obligated to implement pursuant to UNSC Resolution 1267 and subsequent resolutions, including most recently, 1526.

WHEREAS, the provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1373 require UN member states to freeze terrorist assets without delay and to prohibit their nationals or persons in their territories from financing terrorism. As a charter member of the United Nations and as part of the international coalition against terrorism, the Philippines, through the Anti-Money Laundering Council, must actively support the actions required under the subject UNSC Resolutions.

WHEREFORE, the Council resolves, as it is hereby resolved, to require the Supervising Authorities, namely: the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Insurance Commission to circularize among all covered institutions under their respective jurisdictions, copy of this Resolution and to direct the covered institutions to submit directly to
the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving BILAL AL-HIYARI in accordance with Sections 7 and 9 of the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA), as amended and Rule 9.3 of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations and other related or applicable rules, regulations, circulars and operating manuals promulgated by the Supervising Authorities.

13 June 2005, Manila, Philippines.

AMANDO M. TETANGCO, JR.
Acting Chairman
(Officer-In-Charge, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas)

DE B. BARIN
Member
(Chairperson, Securities and Exchange Commission)

BENJAMIN S. SANTOS
Member
(Commissioner, Insurance Commission)
Anti-Money Laundering Council
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex
Manila, Philippines

RESOLUTION NO. 62, Series of 2005

Whereas, this refers to the letter dated 4 May 2005 of the Government of the United States of America, through its Embassy in Manila, requesting the Philippines to check carefully for the assets of ELEHSSAN SOCIETY, the fund raising arm of Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) in Gaza and the West Bank, and to freeze the same should any be found.

Whereas, PIJ has been designated as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist by the US Government and is also named on the EU's list of terrorist entities. According to an indictment filed in February 2003, in the United States district Court in the Middle District of Florida, PIJ and Elehssan's objectives include murder, extortion, money laundering, fraud and misuse of visas.

Whereas, evidence available to the US corroborates that PIJ in Damascus, Syria was implicated in authorizing the 25 February 2005 terrorist attack in Tel-Aviv. PIJ leadership in Damascus, Syria controls all PIJ officials, activists and terrorists in the West Bank and Gaza.

Whereas, in addition to PIJ's use as a financial conduit, Elehssan is likewise used to recruit for its operational cadre. To support its recruitment efforts, PIJ provided money to run a summer camp project in the West Bank. The aim of at least one PIJ-run summer camp is the recruitment of suicide bombers.

Whereas, the provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1373 require UN member states to freeze terrorist assets without delay and to prohibit their nationals or persons in their territories from financing terrorism. As a charter member of the United Nations and as part of the international coalition against terrorism, the Philippines, through the Anti-Money Laundering Council, must actively support the actions required under the subject UNSC Resolutions.

Wherefore, the Council resolves, as it is hereby resolved, to require the Supervising Authorities, namely: the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Insurance Commission to circularize among all covered institutions under their respective jurisdictions, copy of this Resolution and to direct the covered institutions to submit directly to the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving the ELEHSSAN SOCIETY in accordance with Sections 7 and 9 of the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA), as amended and Rule 9.3 of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations and
other related or applicable rules, regulations, circulars and operating manuals promulgated by the Supervising Authorities.

13 June 2005, Manila, Philippines.

AMANDO M. TETANGCO
(AA. Acting Chairman
(Officer-In-Charge, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas)

FE B. BARIN
Member
(Chairperson, Securities and Exchange Commission)

BENJAMIN S. SANTOS
Member
(Commissioner, Insurance Commission)
RESOLUTION NO. 66, Series of 2005

Whereas, in a letter dated 16 May 2005 of the Government of the United States of America, through its Embassy in Manila, requested the Philippines to check carefully for offices or financial assets of the following individuals, and to freeze the same should any be found:

1. Abu Rusdan – a.k.a. Abu Thoriq; Rusdjan; Rusyan; Rusydan; Thoriquuddin; Thoriquiddin; Thoriquidin; Toriquddin;
2. Zulkarnaen – a.k.a. Zulkaman; Zulkarnain; Zulkarnin; Arif Sunarso; Aris Sumarsono; Aris Sunarso; Ustad Daud Zulkarnaen; Murshid; and
3. Joko Pitono – a.k.a. Joko Pitoyo; Joko Pintono; Dulmatin; Dul Matin; Abdul Martin; Abdul Matin; Amar Umar; Amar Usman; Anar Usman; Djoko Supriyanto; Jak Imron; Muktamar; Novarianto; Topel.

Whereas, on 12 May 2005, the US Treasury Department designated Abu Rusdan, Zulkarnaen and Joko Pitono as Specially Designated Global Terrorists pursuant to US Executive Order 13224. The said individuals are members of the Al Qaeda-related terrorist group, the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), a terrorist organization with cells operating in several countries in Southeast Asia.

Whereas, JI’s stated goal is to create an Islamic state comprising Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Southern Philippines. Members of JI have been trained, funded and directed by the Al Qaeda leadership to pursue Al Qaeda’s terrorist agenda across the region.

Whereas, information available to the US Government indicates that Abu Rusdan replaced Abu Bakar Bashir as the “emir” or leader of JI in 2002 after Bashir was arrested. As the “emir”, Abu Rusdan chaired several JI leadership meetings and organized its affairs. In February 2004, Abu Rusdan was convicted by an Indonesian court for helping hide Bali bomber Huda Bin Abdul Haq a.k.a. Mukhlis and was sentenced to three and a half years in jail.

Whereas, Zulkarnaen is a member of the JI central command and the head of its military section. As a military commander, Zulkarnaen is responsible for intelligence operations, military training and authorized to launch terrorist attacks. He was one of the first JI members to go to Afghanistan and reportedly spent a decade training other JI members.
Whereas, Joko Pitono, a top bomb maker for JI, was involved in making bombs for the Christmas Eve 2000 attacks on churches in Indonesia. He was also involved in the August 2000 bombing of the Philippine Ambassador's house in Jakarta.

Whereas, on 12 May 2005, the US and Australian Government requested the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee to add the names of Abu Rusdan, Zulkarnaen and Joko Pitono to its list of entities/individuals subject to sanctions that UN member states are required to implement pursuant to UNSC Resolutions 1267 and 1526.

Whereas, the provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1373 require UN member states to freeze terrorist assets without delay and to prohibit their nationals or persons in their territories from financing terrorism. As a charter member of the United Nations and as part of the international coalition against terrorism, the Philippines, through the Anti-Money Laundering Council, must actively support the actions required under the subject UNSCR Resolutions.

Wherefore, the Council resolves, as it is hereby resolved, to require the Supervising Authorities, namely: the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Insurance Commission to circulate among all covered institutions under their respective jurisdictions, copy of this Resolution and to direct the covered institutions to submit directly to the Council reports of covered or suspicious transactions, if any, involving Abu Rusdan, Zulkarnaen and Joko Pitono in accordance with Sections 7 and 9 of the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA), as amended and Rule 9.3 of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations and other related or applicable rules, regulations, circulars and operating manuals promulgated by the Supervising Authorities.

13 June 2005, Manila, Philippines.

AMANDO M. TETANGCO, JR.
Acting Chairman
(Officer-In-Charge, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas)

BE B. BARIN
Member
(Chairperson, Securities and Exchange Commission)

BENJAMIN S. SANTOS
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