

POLICY ON OBSERVERS



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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

The Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism - MONEYVAL - is a permanent monitoring body of the Council of Europe entrusted with the task of assessing compliance with the principal international standards to counter money laundering and the financing of terrorism and the effectiveness of their implementation, as well as with the task of making recommendations to national authorities in respect of necessary improvements to their systems. Through a dynamic process of mutual evaluations, peer review and regular follow-up of its reports, MONEYVAL aims to improve the capacities of national authorities to fight money laundering and the financing of terrorism more effectively.

MONEYVAL adopted this Policy on observers at its 66th Plenary meeting in December 2023.

The measures set out in the present document should be read together with the rules regarding observers, which are set out in MONEYVAL's Statute and respectively the Rules of procedure.

French version: Politique à l'égard des observateurs

All requests concerning the reproduction or translation of all or part of the document should be addressed to the Directorate of Communications (F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex or publishing@coe.int). All other correspondence concerning this publication should be addressed to the MONEYVAL Secretariat, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe, F-67075 Strasbourg (moneyval@coe.int).

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MONEYVAL Policy on observer status

Criteria for admission

1. Any organisation or jurisdiction requesting observer status with MONEYVAL should:
 - a) have a stated role in preventing or combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation;
 - b) endorse the FATF standards;
 - c) commit to share and promote the values, principles and standards of the Council of Europe;
 - d) commit to participate actively to MONEYVAL and contribute to its work.
2. If an organisation were to become an observer, reciprocity should exist between it and MONEYVAL and/or its members, including with respect to attendance at meetings and information sharing.

Process

1. A Minister of the applicant jurisdiction or a person with authority of the applicant organisation shall address a written request to the Council of Europe Secretary General via the Chair of MONEYVAL expressing an interest in becoming an observer to MONEYVAL.
2. In its request, the country/organisation should provide information on the elements set out in the list below, taking into account each of the eligibility criteria set out above, and any other information it considers relevant.
3. The Bureau of MONEYVAL will consider the request as soon as possible and discuss any further actions or information required from the applicant. The Bureau, through the Secretariat, may ask the applicant to submit any additional documents and information relevant to the above-mentioned criteria to facilitate the decision-making process. It may also invite representatives of the applicant organisation or jurisdiction to participate in a hearing with MONEYVAL members and the FATF. In order to assess whether the granting of observer status would be in the interest of MONEYVAL, members should also consider the following aspects: a) the extent to which granting observer status to the applicant brings added value to the work of MONEYVAL; b) whether the granting of observer status may hinder or impact MONEYVAL's work or processes; c) the added value of MONEYVAL's involvement in the applicant's own AML/CFT/CFP activities.
4. When considering the above, MONEYVAL members should also take into account that observer status is not the only form of association with the work of MONEYVAL which can be envisaged, and that it may also consider other ad hoc forms of engagement to promote relations with and to benefit from particular expertise or opinions from other states and organisations.
5. The MONEYVAL Bureau shall be entrusted with preparing the draft recommendation and where applicable, proposals to amend MONEYVAL's statute, for the Group of Rapporteurs on Legal Co-operation of the Committee of Ministers at the earliest opportunity.
6. The proposed recommendation will be subject to a decision by MONEYVAL members before it is transmitted, together with the request from the applicant organisation/jurisdiction, for communication to the Committee of Ministers, in view of its final decision.

Applicant's submission	
Name of applicant	
Type of organisation (if applicable)	
Aim of the organisation (if applicable)	
Origin and reason of application	
Role/involvement in AML/CFT/CPF	
Information demonstrating endorsement of the FATF standards	
Information demonstrating commitment to share the Council of Europe values, principles and standards	
Participation in other relevant Council of Europe work	
Participation in other relevant international fora	
Participation in other monitoring mechanisms	
<p>Information on potential contribution to MONEYVAL</p> <p>This could include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. attending and contributing to MONEYVAL activities and/or projects; b. providing experts for AML/CFT workshops and/or for technical assistance to other members; c. making financial contributions, in line with article 8 paragraph 2 of MONEYVAL's Statute. 	
Information on expectations of the applicant with regard to MONEYVAL	
Information on own activities, events to which MONEYVAL would be invited on the basis of reciprocity and/or information-sharing arrangements	