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Welcome to our Regulatory Newsletter for April 2021

Executive Summary

This month in Mainland China, the PBOC, CBIRC, CSRC and SAFE held talks with prominent firms such as Ant Group, Tencent, JD Finance, ByteDance, Meituan Finance, to address key issues in their financial business activities. Topics included rectifying unfair competition in the payment business sector, strengthening the anti-monopoly campaign, and improving corporate governance.

Over in Russia, several banks have had their banking licenses revoked for various reasons including concealing losses in an attempt to improve their balance sheets.

In South Korea, the FSC announced that it would allow for the continuation of short selling practices on the KOSPI 200 and the KOSDAQ 500 exchanges. The FSC plans to strengthen the regulations around short selling that will include harsher punishments for naked short selling, improved illegal short selling detection systems and increasing access to short selling systems for retail investors.

Meanwhile, several countries including Indonesia, Japan, South Korea and Singapore are encouraging, strengthening, and expanding innovations in order to accelerate the digital financial economy.



Here to assist you with
the latest ESG rules
and regulations
in the Asia Pacific region



Australia



On 1 April 2021, ASIC banned the issue and distribution of binary options to retail clients after an ASIC investigation found such options are likely to result in significant detriment to retail clients. The ban will take effect from 3 May 2021. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, APRA released a consultation designed to address concerns regarding the increased use of offshore reinsurers by life insurers. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 22 April 2021, ASIC launched a consultation on proposed updates to breach reporting reforms. Effective from 1 October 2021, the proposed reforms will clarify and strengthen current self-reporting requirements. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 22 April 2021, APRA released for consultation its draft guidance to banks, insurers and superannuation trustees on managing the financial risks of climate change. The guidance features proposed requirements on risk identification, monitoring, management and reporting. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, ASIC announced that it would extend the deadline for both listed and unlisted entities to lodge financial reports by one month for balance dates from 23 June to 7 July 2021 (inclusive). For more information, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, APRA released FAQs for registrable superannuation entity licensees clarifying issues relevant to meeting reporting obligations. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 28 April 2021, APRA released FAQs for authorized deposit-taking institutions to clarify when a rural exposure needs to be classified as commercial property and income producing real estate. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 29 April 2021, ASIC announced that it would allow certain Australian financial services licensees to use lease assets to satisfy license financial information. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 30 April 2021, APRA commenced consultation on a draft guidance to assist the industry to meet the requirements of APRA's updated prudential standard on remuneration, including assigning weightings to non-financial measures for calculating remuneration. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

On 1 April 2021, ASIC commenced civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, alleging it had charged monthly access fees to customers when it was not entitled to do so. Over 800,00 accounts are thought to be affected. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 1 April 2021, APRA increased Macquarie Bank Limited's liquidity and operational risk capital requirements in response to multiple material breaches of APRA's prudential and reporting standards. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 7 April 2021, the Federal Court of Australia ordered the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to pay a A\$7 million penalty after previously declaring that it had made false or misleading representations and engaged in misleading or deceptive conduct. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, ASIC commenced civil penalty proceedings against Westpac Banking Corporation, alleging it mis-sold consumer credit insurance with credit cards and other credit facilities to customers who had not agreed to buy the policies. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 12 April 2021, ASIC charged a director of Goldsky Investments Pty Ltd with eight counts of engaging in dishonest conduct and one count of operating a financial services business without a licence. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 13 April 2021, ASIC took action to wind up two companies who had obtained Australian investor funds through cold calling Australian consumers without being licensed or authorized to deal in financial products or provide financial services. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 14 April 2021, ASIC cancelled 8 Australian credit licenses for failing to be a member of the Australian Financial Complaints Authority as required by law. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 15 April 2021, ASIC disqualified a director from managing corporations for 5 years due to his involvement in 3 failed companies. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 19 April 2021, ASIC banned a director from fundraising and promoting investment products due to engaging in conduct that entailed inherently problematic, risky, and fatally flawed investment schemes. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 26 April 2021, a finance broker was sentenced to a fine of A\$3000 for fraud. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 28 April 2021, the Federal Court ordered GoGetta Equipment Funding to pay a A\$750,00 penalty for engaging in unlicensed consumer leasing. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 29 April 2021, ASIC banned a former financial adviser for 5 years for misleading and deceiving investors regarding superannuation. For more information, please click [here](#).

Cambodia



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Cambodia during April.

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Cambodia during April.

Mainland China



On 2 April 2021, PBOC issued the 'Interim Provisions on Record-filing of the Appointment for Directors, Supervisors and Senior Managers of Financial Holding Company'. The provisions standardize conditions, management, filing process, supervision and management of directors and supervisors of financial holding companies. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

On 2 April 2021, PBOC and CBIRC jointly issued a Consultation on 'Additional Provisions on the Supervision of Systemically Important Banks'. Systemically Important Banks (SIBs) will be put into five groups and face an additional capital requirement of 0.25%, 0.5%, 0.75%, 1% and 1.5% respectively. SIBs will also need to make plans for crisis recovery and draft living wills with resolution plans in case they cannot operate. The draft provisions also stipulate information reporting, risk data aggregation and corporate governance requirements for SIBs. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

On 2 April 2021, PBOC announced that it will revise the trading and circulation mechanism of the interbank bond market. According to the announcement, infrastructure providers should implement electronic transmission by establishing a direct system connection. Bond issuers and the lead underwriters are no longer required to provide the list of initial holders and their holdings to the National Interbank Funding Center. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

On 16 April 2021, PBOC officially made changes to the 'Administrative Measures of Anti-money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism for Financial Institutions' which will take effect on 1 August 2021. The measures further clarify the internal control and risk management requirements of financial institutions against money laundering, and optimize the anti-money laundering regulatory measures and approaches. Compared to the existing measures, the new measures expand the scope of application to non-bank payment institutions, internet micro-loan companies, consumer finance companies, as well as bank wealth management subsidiaries. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

Enforcement

On 12 April 2021, PBOC, CBIRC, CSRC and SAFE held another joint regulatory talk with the Ant Group. The Ant Group was ordered to address the "serious problems" in financial business activities and revamp its business mainly in five aspects, which are: (1) rectifying unfair competition in the payment business, (2) ending its monopoly on information collection, (3) applying to become a financial holding company and all business activities will be supervised by regulatory authorities, (4) improving corporate governance, and (5) managing liquidity risks of important fund products by reducing the balance of its money market fund Yu'EBao. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

On 29 April 2021, PBOC, CBIRC, CSRC and SAFE conducted regulatory talks with 13 internet firms which provide financial services, including Tencent, JD Finance, ByteDance, Meituan Finance, Didi Finance and Lufax, to further strengthen the anti-monopoly campaign and supervision of internet firms that engage in financial services. According to the statement, some tech firms have inadequate corporate governance or have engaged in regulatory arbitrage which violated the law. The financial regulators therefore set out rectification measures for these internet firms, emphasizing that all financial activities should be included under supervision, and financial service business should be licensed. Additionally, the firms are required to disconnect improper connections between payment instruments and financial products, as well as correcting unfair competition practices. For more information, please click [here](#) (Chinese only).

Hong Kong



On 15 April 2021, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) issued a joint consultation on the annual update to the list of Financial Services Providers under the over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives clearing regime. Interested parties are invited to submit comments to the HKMA or the SFC by 14 May 2021. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 28 April 2021, The HKMA published its annual report for 2020. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 27 April 2021, The Alliance for Green Commercial Banks (the Alliance), co-launched by the HKMA and International Finance Corporation (IFC), hosted the first roundtable in Green Finance. The roundtable attracted over 1,100 participants globally. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

On 1 April 2021, the Eastern Magistrates' Court issued a warrant to arrest Ms Zeng Lingxi after she failed to appear in Court to answer two charges of obstructing the Securities and Futures Commission's search operation in May 2020. The SFC's search operation related to an investigation of a suspected social media ramp-and-dump scam involving manipulation of the shares of a Hong Kong-listed company. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 7 April 2021, the Market Misconduct Tribunal (MMT) sanctioned two former executives of Asia Telemedia Limited (ATML) following legal proceedings brought by the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) for insider dealing. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 9 April 2021, the Eastern Magistrates' Court acquitted Mr Leung Pak Keung of five charges of insider dealing. The SFC is reviewing the decision made. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 15 April 2021, the SFC reprimanded and fined Optimas Capital Limited (Optimas) HK\$1.05 million for failing to ensure short position reports (SPRs) for a collective investment scheme (CIS) under its management were accurate and compliant. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 22 April 2021, the SFC revoked the license of IDS Forex HK Limited (IDS Forex) and banned its former co-chief executives from re-entering the industry for life. The disciplinary action follows an SFC investigation triggered by a self-report by IDS Forex's then Responsible Officers in June 2017. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 22 April 2021, the SFC and Commercial Crime Bureau of the Police conducted a joint operation against a syndicate suspected of market misconduct and fraud. Four people were arrested at various locations in the territory for offences related to conspiracy to defraud. For more information, please click [here](#).

India



On 7 April 2021, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a circular informing Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) that it has eased the existing regulatory reporting requirements, allowing all AIFs to submit a report on their activity as an AIF to SEBI on a quarterly basis within 10 calendar days from the end of each quarter. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 29 April 2021, SEBI issued a circular where it relaxed the extension of timelines for various filings and relaxation from certain compliance obligations under the LODR Regulations inter-alia

due to the ongoing second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the restrictions imposed by various state governments. For more details, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

On 12 April 2021, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a penalty of ₹ 5 lakh on the Bihar Awami Co-operative Bank Ltd. This action was based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance.

On 20 April 2021, the RBI imposed a penalty of ₹0.50 lakh on Dhule & Nandurbar Jilha Sarkari Nokaranchi Sahakari Bank Ltd., Dhule, Maharashtra and a penalty of ₹ 1 lakh on Janata Sahakari Bank Limited, Gondia, Maharashtra. The statutory inspection of the banks revealed that they were in contravention of or non-compliant with directions issued by the RBI to Urban Co-operative Banks on Exposure Norms and Statutory/Other Restrictions - UCBS. For more details, please click [here](#) & [here](#).

On 20 April 2021, the RBI imposed penalty of ₹0.50 lakh on Jila Sahakari Kendriya Bank Maryadit, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh for contravention of or non-compliant with the directions issued by RBI on Know Your Customer (KYC). For more details, please click [here](#).

On 22 April 2021, the RBI cancelled the licence of Bhagyodaya Friends Urban Co-operative Bank Limited, Warud, Dist. Amravati, Maharashtra. The licence was cancelled because the bank did not have adequate capital and earning prospects, and the bank failed to comply with the requirements of section 22(3) (a), 22 (3) (b), 22(3)(c), 22(3) (d) and 22(3)(e) read with section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. Additionally, the continuance of the bank was prejudicial to the interests of its depositors, and public interest would be adversely affected if the bank was allowed to carry on its banking business any further. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, the RBI imposed restrictions on American Express Banking Corp. and Diners Club International Ltd. from on-boarding new domestic customers onto their card networks effective from May 1, 2021. These entities were found to be non-compliant with the directions on Storage of Payment System Data. This order will not impact existing customers. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 27 April 2021, the RBI cancelled the registration certificate of four NBFCs: M/s Vrundavan Securities Limited, M/s Durlav Finance Limited, VGM Finance Private Limited (Presently known as M/s Sufalam Financial Services Private Limited) and M/s Dhananjay Finance Limited. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 27 April 2021, the RBI imposed penalty of ₹ 40 lakh on Himachal Pradesh State Co-operative Bank Ltd., Shimla. The statutory inspection revealed that the bank was non-compliant with regulatory directions issued by NABARD contained in Review of Frauds - Guidelines on Monitoring and Reporting System. For more details, please click [here](#).

On 29 April 2021, the RBI imposed penalty of ₹ 5 lakh on The Yavatmal Urban Cooperative Bank Limited, Yavatmal, Maharashtra. The inspection report of the bank revealed contravention of or non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on Frauds – Classification and Reporting. For more details, please click [here](#).

Indonesia



On 7 April 2021, Bank Indonesia (BI) announced it was supporting the Government in accelerating the digitalization of the distribution of Social Assistance (Bansos), also known as G2P (Government to Person) 4.0. The acceleration is carried out through 5 steps to strengthen aspects of the payment system that emphasize the principles of fast, easy, cheap, safe, and reliable. The steps entail strengthening, interconnecting, improving security, constructing multiple method of payments and expansion of available outlets for social assistance fund transactions. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, Bank Indonesia (BI) stated that it continued to encourage, strengthen, and expand innovations in the digitalization of the payment system in accelerating the digital financial economy. BI's commitment to support innovation in the payment system sector is in line with the 2025 Indonesian Payment System Blueprint (BSPI) initiative, namely regulatory reform as an effort to find a balance point between optimizing innovation while maintaining stability and national interests. In order to make it easier for innovators to innovate, BI also provides digital workplace facilities and infrastructure that carry the digital archipelago theme. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 12 April 2021, the Indonesian Financial Services Authority (Otoritas Jasa Keuangan, OJK) released a circular about the implementation of risk management for insurance broker companies, reinsurance broking companies, and insurance loss assessment companies. For more information, please click [here](#). (Bahasa only).

On 12 April 2021, the BI mentioned that it would continue to strengthen Indonesia's consumer protection ecosystem in the midst of the challenges arising from the rapid development of digital financial innovation. The improvement of BI consumer protection provisions includes adjusting the scope of consumer protection. Previously, it only covered the payment system, now it covers all areas of BI's authority in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations, namely the monetary, macroprudential and payment system sectors. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Indonesia during April.

Japan



On 2 April 2021, The FSA published the statement by the ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) that it intends to cease the publication of LIBOR based on the current methodology referencing rates provided by panel banks (panel-based LIBOR) immediately at the end of 2021. LIBOR is due to expire on 5 March 2021. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 6 April 2021, The FSA announced that The Council of Experts Concerning the Follow-up of Japan's Stewardship Code and Japan's Corporate Governance Code (Chairperson: Hideki Kanda, Professor of Gakushuin University Law School) had published an important proposal for the revisions of Japan's Corporate Governance Code and Guidelines for Investor and Company Engagement. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, The FSA published points that it would seek to address over the next year. These include points related to the newly applied disclosure regulations and points related to the results of the securities report review of the prior year. Furthermore, the FSA is to review reports submitted by licensed firms in FY 2021. The main three pillars of the review are: the application of the newly applied regulations; the implementation of key priority themes; and the utilizing of information from disclosure, media, and retail investors. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, The FSA announced the publication of "ASEAN Financial Inclusion Commission Survey" Report. It states that one of the important issues in ASEAN is the promotion of "financial inclusion". Movements to improve financial access in ASEAN are being promoted through the use of FinTech, and it is expected that the digitization of finance will continue to progress in the midst of the current pandemic. Support and cooperation between Japan and ASEAN countries require consideration of the economic and financial system development stages of each country. The major pillars are: Support for the expansion of financial infrastructure in each country (institutional framework, settlement infrastructure, etc., Human resource development, etc.), Low-cost small-lot cross-border payment service, Collaboration in the FinTech / Digital Finance field. For more information, please click [here](#) (Japanese only).

On 26 April 2021, The FSA announced that it may extend the deadline for the submission of disclosure documents (securities report, internal control report, quarterly report, semi-annual report, etc.) due to the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 24 March 2021, The FSA published the draft amendments to the "Comprehensive Guidelines for Supervision of Small- and Medium-Sized and Regional Financial Institutions." The proposal intends to expressly set forth the perspective of adapting to the so-called "new normal" circumstances and improving business/operational productivity, taking into account the prolonged impact of COVID-19 among others. For more details, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

On 2 April 2021, the FSA took action against Global Asset Management Co., Ltd. an investment management business, Type II financial instruments business, and investment advisory and agency business, by ordering a partial suspension of the entity's business operations from April 2 to July 1, 2021, The company is required to improve its operations pursuant to the "Financial Instruments and Exchange Act" prior to restarting its operations. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, the FSA imposed an administrative penalty charge against an individual for committing insider trading regarding stocks of AISIN SEIKI CO., LTD. by using information learned as an employee of a contract negotiator with the entity. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, the FSA issued administrative penalty charges against two individuals (retail investors) for market manipulation regarding stocks of Jorudan Co., Ltd. For more information, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, the FSA issued an administrative penalty charge against UMC Electronics Co., Ltd. for making false statements in its securities reports. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 8 April 2021, the FSA issued administrative penalty charges against two individuals. One is alleged to have communicated insider information regarding stocks of DLE Inc. learned as an employee of a contract negotiator with DLE Inc. The other (as a non-insider) is reported to have committed insider trading regarding the said entity's stocks by using the information received from the aforementioned employee. For more information, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

Korea



On 14 April 2021, the Financial Services Commission held a meeting on the rules surrounding the suspension of the licensing review process. As a result of the meeting, the following proposals were made to amend the rules: adding more specific criteria for suspending the review process; requiring more checks on the progress of an application to reduce indefinite suspensions; and requiring the continuation of the process after a certain amount of time. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 14 April 2021, the FSC added three new “Innovative Financial Services” to its regulatory sandbox including a blockchain-based digital real estate securities platform, a digital real-name verification service for bank branch visitors, and a mobile-based contactless bank. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 19 April 2021, the FSC announced that on 3 May 2021, it would implement improvements to the securities lending system for retail investors. Retail investors interested in participating in short selling will now be required to complete learning modules and sit a mock trading program before they can participate. They will also now only be able to borrow stocks for up to 60 days, which is shorter than the allowed term for professional and institutional investors. There will also be volume limits for retail investors. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 29 April 2021, the FSC announced that it would allow the continuation of short selling practices on the KOSPI 200 and the KOSDAQ 500 exchanges from 3 May 2021. Additionally, the FSC announced that it would strengthen the regulations around short selling including, stronger punishments for naked short selling, an improved illegal short selling detection system, increased access to short selling systems for retail investors, and various changes to the market maker system. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Korea during April.

Malaysia



On 1 April 2021, the Bank Negara Malaysia announced that it has recently amended the Chiang Mai initiative Multilateralization Agreement. For more information please click [here](#).

On 7 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes three additional names For more information please click [here](#).

On 9 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes Global Crypto Exchange. For more information please click [here](#).

On 12 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes Ruby Markets. For more information please click [here](#).

On 14 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes Xtrade. For more information please click [here](#).

On 19 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes Golden Age Asset Management Ltd, Sheng Shi Group Sdn Bhd and two potential clone entities. For more information please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) announced that they have updated the Investor Alert List which now includes 14 additional entities. For more information please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Malaysia during April.

Mauritius



On 8 April 2021, the FSC Mauritius released a circular letter announcing that it will accept audited financial statements prepared in accordance with the issuer's national accounting standards, as opposed to local Mauritian accounting standards, provided they are in line with generally accepted accounting principles. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, the FSC Mauritius released Guidelines for the "Conversion" or "Shift" of Defined Benefit Pension Schemes to Defined Contribution Pension Schemes. For more information, please refer to the circular released [here](#) or the Guidelines [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Mauritius during April.

Myanmar



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Myanmar during April.

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Myanmar during April.

New Zealand



On 14 April 2021, the Financial Markets Authority (FMA) published guidance based on ongoing trends in the FMA's and others' research on the KiwiSaver market, described as also relevant to non-KiwiSaver managed funds. The guidance is based on four key principles: (1) Risk and return are critical, (2) The financial value of investment management must be shared, (3) Advice and service is received, not just offered, and (4) Review yourself as you review others. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 15 April 2021, the Financial Markets Authority (FMA) welcomed the release of the National Strategy for Financial Capability. The FMA collaborated with the Commission for Financial Capability (CFFC) on the development of the strategy and stated that it looks forward to continuing to work with the commission, and other organisations, to build New Zealanders' financial capability. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 21 April 2021, the Financial Markets Authority (FMA) asked KiwiSaver providers, other fund managers and financial advisers to avoid advertising performance for the 12-month period to 31 March 2021 (or, where promotion has already happened, withdrawing advertisements and promotions) through any channels, including period-specific promotion on websites. Industry bodies are also called to ensure the content and tone of required or otherwise regular investor and customer communications, does not place undue emphasis on, or commentary equating to promotion of, performance over the 12-month period. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for New Zealand during April.

Philippines



On 19 April 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) launched a new Company Registration system containing both stock and nonstock options for various types of registration; including natural persons, partnerships, associations and corporations. The application will now be processed through the Electronic Simplified Processing of Application for Registration of Companies (eSPARC). For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

On 22 April 2021, the SEC revoked the corporate license of Bill Ford VIP Trading, Inc (BF VIP) for its involvement in an unauthorised investment scheme in an attempt to induce investors into buying and selling securities without a proper license from the Commission. Accordingly, BF VIP was found to have made misrepresentations to the general public. For more information, please click [here](#).

Russia



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Russia during April.

Enforcement

On 2 April 2021, the Bank of Russia (BoR) revoked the banking licence of JSC Maykopbank (Maykopbank) for concealing losses in an attempt to improve its balance sheet, and for breaking other applicable Bank of Russia regulations. At the point of revocation, bad loans accounted for over half of Maykopbank's balance sheet. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 2 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Commercial Bank Geobank LLC (Geobank) for the full loss of its equity and for subsequent breaches of Russian banking laws. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 2 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Credit Company RIB LLC (RIB) for the breach of Russian banking laws and for the failure to adhere to Bank of Russia AML/CFT regulations. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 9 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Joint Stock Oil-Industrial Investment Commercial Bank, (Nefteprombank) for the full loss of its equity, for the failure to adhere to Russian banking laws, through the provision of extremely high-risk loans, and for potentially fraudulent conduct. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 16 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Joint Stock Commercial Bank Interprombank (Interprombank) for concealing losses in an attempt to improve its balance sheet, and for breaking other applicable Bank of Russia regulations. At the point of revocation, bad loans accounted for 57% of the bank's balance sheet. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 16 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Bank Neyva Limited Liability Company (Bank Neyva) for the breach of Russian banking laws and for the failure to adhere to Bank of Russia AML/CFT regulations. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 23 April 2021, BoR revoked the banking licence of Professional Investment Bank (Joint-Stock Company) (PIB) for concealing losses in an attempt to improve its balance sheet, and for breaking other applicable Bank of Russia regulations. At the point of revocation, bad loans accounted for over half of PIB's balance sheet. For more information, please click [here](#).

Singapore



On 26 April 2021, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) launched a report on increasing the inclusiveness of the digital economy and the infrastructure required to achieve this. The report focuses on 4 areas including Digital Identity, Authorisation and Consent, Payments Interoperability, and Data Exchange. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 27 April 2021, the MAS announced that it had created a new industry group with the aim of improving Singapore's standing as a fund domiciliation destination. The Singapore Funds Industry Group (SFIG) will consist of significant partners throughout the asset-management value chain, with the aim of better serving entire lifecycle of the fund domiciliation process. The SFIG will consist of four working groups (Infrastructure and Innovation, Policy, Capabilities and Training, and Promotion and Advocacy) that will try to identify trends within the industry and how best to cater for them. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Singapore during April.

Sri Lanka



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Sri Lanka during April.

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Sri Lanka during April.

Taiwan



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Taiwan during April.

Enforcement

On 22 April 2021, the FSC fined Fuh Hwa Securities Investment Trust, Capital Investment Trust Corporation and Uni-President Assets Management and various employees for breaking the Securities Investment Trust and Consulting Act and the Regulations Governing Securities Investment Trust Enterprises. The aforementioned companies were found not to have conducted the compulsory product due diligence when engaging in transactions. Therefore, they did not take into account the best interests of customers resulting in losses. For more information, please click [here](#). (Chinese only).

On 29 April 2021, the FSC fined Nan Shan Life Insurance Co., Ltd NTD\$ 7.6 million for breaking the Insurance Act and the Money Laundering Control Act. During an inspection, the FSC found the company had failed to establish comprehensive internal control systems to monitor its several business lines. A credit card payment verification process concerning insurance premiums was not implemented, and AML checks on policyholders were therefore insufficient. There were also major deficiencies in the reporting mechanism of major incidents within the company which led to late notifications on the company's deficiencies to the FSC. The companies were required by the FSC to implement a remediation process. For more information, please click [here](#). (Chinese only).

Thailand



On 7 April 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) amended the regulations regarding the approval of auditors in the capital market. The amendments involve the relaxation of some requirements for obtaining approval which may be overly rigid and inconsistent with the current auditing practice and circumstances in Thailand. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 12 April 2021, the SEC is revising its regulations for securities companies providing bond securities business services and custodian services in order to support services provided to foreign investors who invest in Thai bonds. The proposal requires service providers to examine and ensure that the ultimate beneficiary owners (UBO) register for their authentication with the BOT before providing the services. For more information, please click [here](#).

On 12 April 2021, the Bank of Thailand (BOT) revealed the procedures for the transition from the THBFX interest rate, which include accelerating the contract adjustment from the THBFX interest rate reference to the Thai Overnight Repurchase Rate (THOR), and terminating new transactions based on THBFX interest rates. For more information, please click [here](#) (Thai only).

On 12 April 2021, the BOT published the regulations on Bond Investor Registration (BIR) Phase 1, applicable to non-resident (NR) investors, and launched the BIR electronic registration system. The regulations require commercial banks, providing custody services, to arrange for their NR clients, who invest in debt securities in Thailand, to open Segregated Securities Accounts (SSA) at the Ultimate Beneficial Owner (UBO) level. They are also required to ensure that the NR investors register for authentication with the BOT by 4 January 2022. Once registered, NR investor's trading of debt securities must be settled through the SSA registered with the BOT only. For more information, please click [here](#).

Enforcement

A media search did not find any enforcements for Thailand during April.

Vietnam



A media search did not find any relevant articles for Vietnam during April.

Enforcement

On 5 April 2021, the State Securities Commission announced that they had issued administrative sanctions against Mr. Nguyen Quang Vinh who was found to have used 35 accounts to continuously buy, sell and cross trade stock TAR between accounts for the purpose of creating artificial supply and demand. For more information please click [here](#).

On 6 April 2021, the State Securities Commission issued administrative sanctions and fined Ms. Nguyen Thu Huyen VND55,000,000 over failure to report that she was related to the General Director of stock VRC when she sold shares of the Company. For more information please click [here](#).

Suggestions

Please send any comments or suggestions or other information you would like included in the next issue to newsletter@complianceasia.com. In addition, if there are others in your organisation who you believe will benefit from this newsletter, please do let us know.