

Caribbean Financial Action Task Force Pre-Assessment Training Best Western Plus Belize Biltmore Plaza, January 11th – 13th, 2023

Belize is currently undergoing a mutual evaluation of its implementation of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendations for an effective anti-money laundering, countering the financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction national regime. This evaluation is being carried out by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF). One of the highlights of the assessment process is an on-site visit to Belize by an assessment team, which is scheduled for the 4th – 15th of December 2023. During the on-site visit, the assessment team will be meeting with representatives from key anti-money laundering, combating the financing of terrorism and proliferation (AML/CFT/CPF) public and private sector stakeholders to gather relevant information on how the FATF Recommendations are being implemented in Belize.

In order to provide assistance to the country for further understanding of the mutual evaluation process, a team from the CFATF visited Belize to conduct a country Pre-Assessment Training with both private and public sector officials during the period January 11th – 13th, 2023. The first two days were geared toward the public sector and included representatives from key public sector agencies such as the Financial Intelligence Unit, Attorney General's Ministry, Central Bank of Belize, Belize Police Department, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Customs & Excise Department, Financial Services Commission, Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry, Belize Tax Service Department, Office of the Supervisor of Insurance and Private Pensions, and Immigration and Border Management Services. Private sector representatives included banks, credit unions, insurance companies, money lending businesses, money transfer service providers, trust and company service providers, real estate agents, casinos and free zone businesses, among others.

The training covered key areas of the mutual evaluation process which included the submission of information on technical compliance and effectiveness of a country's AML/CFT/CPF systems, the conduct of the on-site visit and interviews with private and public sector stakeholders among other topics.

January 13th, 2023