

Awareness Session on Managing Financial Crime Risks in the Financial Services Sector of Sri Lanka (Programme 21) – May 25, 2026, at the John Exter International Conference Hall, Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

The 21st awareness programme on Managing Financial Crime Risks in the Financial Services Sector of Sri Lanka, jointly organized by the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and the Association of Compliance Officers of Banks (ACOB), under the auspices of Public Private Partnership initiative between FIU & ACOB, was held on May 25, 2026 at the John Exter International Conference Hall (JEICH), Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL). The main purpose of the programme was to provide feedback to Licensed Banks on reporting Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs).



Additionally, two sessions were conducted on key concerns highlighted by Dr. Gordon Hook, international AML/CFT consultant, based on the 2nd mock evaluation carried out in February 2026 and frequent non-compliances observed during the onsite examinations.

The programme commenced with opening remarks by Dr. Subhani Keerthiratne, Director, FIU on major FIU regulatory updates, Sri Lanka's preparation for the upcoming mutual evaluation – 2026, mutual evaluation timeline, mutual evaluation assessment team and obligations of Reporting Institutions. The frequent non-compliances observed during onsite examinations were subsequently presented by Mrs. Subuhi Jonas, Senior Assistant Director, Head of AML/CFT unit of the Bank Supervision Department.

The session was further enriched by presentations on “feedback on reporting STRs” and the “key concerns highlighted by Dr. Gordon Hook, based on 2nd mock evaluation carried out in February 2026”, delivered by Mr. Chandima Bandara, Senior Assistant Director, Head of Intelligence Management Division of the FIU and Mr. Dilan Siriwardana, Senior Assistant Director, Head of Project Office, respectively.

The programme was attended by around 75 participants, representing Licensed Commercial Banks and Licensed Specialized Banks, as well as officers from the Bank Supervision Department of the CBSL.