



اتحاد المصارف العربية  
Union of Arab Banks

COMPLIANCE

WORKSHOP

**THE NEW ROLES & CHALLENGES OF MLROS  
IN A COMPLEX REGULATORY LANDSCAPE**

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**DOHA - STATE OF QATAR  
MILLENNIUM PLAZA DOHA  
17 - 19 FEBRUARY, 2025**



## OVERVIEW

Given the plethora of compliance tasks and responsibilities that MLROs need to shoulder in such a complex regulatory landscape, this course will walk attendees through in-depth view of evolving AML/CFT, sanctions & proliferation risks that required direct involvement of MLROs for efficient mitigation. Topics to be covered include: personal liability, senior management regime, case management, STR filing, pillars of the compliance program, Anti-Bribery & corruption measures, sustaining correspondent banking relations, sanctions risks, and the intricacies of restricted goods and proliferation finance. Also, the course will simulate real-life compliance case studies and polling questions to assess and validate attendees understanding and engagement.

## OBJECTIVES

The course will aim at providing trainees with the necessary tools and insights on how to cope and carry out successfully the complex mandates of the compliance functions in order to protect the integrity of their institutions. In addition to the above-mentioned themes, the course will also offer a deep dive into evolving sanctions risks, new AML/CFT requirements for investment advisers and company service providers, and managing financial crime risks emanating from Citizenship and Residency by Investment (CBI/RBI) schemes. Finally, the course will address the reporting lines of the MLRO with competent authorities and board of directors as well as shed light on how to manage blocked assets & dig for the ultimate beneficial owner in complex corporate structures.

By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Comprehend the immense responsibilities of MLROs in this era
- Acquire -360degree vision on the diverse risks of financial crimes
- Identify loop holes in internal controls and compliance systems

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

MLROs, AML/CFT and compliance officers, Board members and secretaries, Regulators and examiners, Internal audit, Operations department (transfers, branch managers, trade finance), Customer service ,Risk officers, External auditors, RMs & Mid-management in Financial Institutions departments , Government agencies and law enforcement, Lawyers, & Supply chain and procurement managers .

## OUTLINE

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- **REPORTING LINES FOR MLRO & MLRO SKILL SET & QUALITIES**
  - Keeping the Board of directors updated on major compliance KRIs
  - The buy-in from the board of directors
  - Governance and compliance structure
- **AML/CFT & SANCTIONS RISKS IN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**
  - TBML & wire-stripping risks
  - New EU sanctions regulations affecting ownership and control
  - Enhancing KYC operations
- **LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**
  - KYC, KYE, & KYV policies
  - The on-going due diligence process
  - Independent 3rd line of defense
  - Training and upskilling
  - The role of compliance and risk officers
- **RISK ASSESSMENT**
  - Inherent Risk Matrix: Customer, Product, Geography, and Delivery Channels
  - The role of Risk and audit Board committees
  - Sanctions Due Diligence and Evolving Sanctions Risks
  - Compliance with UNSCRs, OFAC, & EU sanctions regimes
- **DEALING WITH CORRESPONDENT BANKS, REGULATORS, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITORS**
  - Independence of internal auditors does not mean isolation
  - Avoiding de-risking in correspondent banking services
  - Promptness and transparency in dealing with regulatory authorities
  - Remediation of audit findings should be a priority and must be discussed with Audit board committees
- **ANTI-BRIBERY & CORRUPTION (ABC) POLICY**
  - Extraterritoriality of bribery offence
  - Supply/demand side bribery
  - Bribing a foreign public official (PEP)
  - Gifts & hospitality policy





**SPEAKER:**

**SHAWKI AHWASH-CAMS, CGSS**

**AML/CFT, Sanctions, Proliferation Finance (PF), Anti-Bribery & Corruption (ABC), Financial Crime Risk Assessment (FCRA), International Regulatory Compliance, ESG, Corporate Governance, & Corporate Investigations.**

Shawki is a former banker with +20 years of experience spanning multiple areas like cross-border payments and investigations, trade finance, customer onboarding and KYC operations, correspondent banking, and last but not least AML/CFT & sanctions. In his compliance function, Shawki assumed the role of Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO) and head of sanctions division for 10 years within Lebanese banking sector.

In parallel, Shawki is a university lecturer, speaker, and trainer at: Union of Arab Banks (UAB), ACAMS, Romanian Banking Institute (RBI-Bucharest), OECD/Paris, Governance Dynamics (UAE), General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (CIBAFI)-Bahrain, Emirates Institute of Finance (EIF-UAE), and other institutions tasked with countering money laundering, terrorist financing, sanctions evasion, & proliferation finance.

**PARTICIPATION FEES:**

- **UAB Members: 1200\$**
- **Non Members: 1500\$**

**MEANS OF PAYMENT**

Arab Bank – Amman – Jordan

Shmeisani Branch

Account no : 0118/010272-510

Iban no: JO76 ARAB 1180 0000 0011 8010 2725 10

Swift code : ARABJOAX118

Beneficiary name : Union of Arab Banks

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