Towards the end of last year, the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit ("FIAU") had held an introductory meeting with both credit and financial institutions on the eventual development and deployment of a centralised registry to hold data on determinate bank and payment accounts as well as on safe custody services.

Notwithstanding the current situation, the FIAU is pleased to announce that work in relation to the **Central Bank Account Registry (CBAR) Project** is progressing and the FIAU is now in a position to provide more insights into, and explanations of, the XML Schema and the associated validation rules, to all entities that will be required to upload data through the CBAR system. A copy of the said Schema and accompanying documentation will be made available on our website. Any feedback can be sent to us by the 10th May 2020.

**About the CBAR Project**

Through the recent amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act of 7 February 2020, the FIAU’s functions have been widened to also include the establishment, management and administration of the CBAR system.

The CBAR system is intended to be a registry system with the scope of gathering high level information on:

- IBAN identifiable accounts
- Safety Deposit Boxes
- Safe-Custody Services

The CBAR system will also gather information in relation to natural and non-natural persons who own, control, manage or otherwise benefit from any of the abovementioned products and services.

All credit institutions and financial institutions that offer the aforementioned products and services, will be required to register through the CBAR system and to upload relevant data through the CBAR system, which data has to be kept up to date. A draft copy of the relevant subsidiary legislation and related guidance will also be made available to all concerned parties for consultation in the very near future.

**Workshop Details**

The FIAU would therefore like to invite money laundering reporting officers ("MLROs") and IT technical officials who will be involved in the mapping of internal data to the CBAR XML Schema to attend for a
CBAR technical workshop. Unfortunately, in view of the current circumstances and the Covid-19 measures, it is not possible to meet in person. This session will therefore be held online as a webinar. An invitation link will be sent to the MLROs of all those institutions who offer accounts identifiable by IBANs and of those credit institutions who offer safe custody services.

Please find below the Date and Time of the webinar

Credit Institutions – 6th May 2020 from 10:00 – 12:00 – Registration Link
Financial Institutions – 6th May 2020 from 14:00 – 16:00 – Registration Link

While the FIAU understands you might have other commitments, you are all highly encouraged to make the relevant officers available to attend the webinar. In the event that the MLRO and/or the relative IT officers are unable to attend, you are invited to delegate attendance to another officer within your entity that may provide the details of the information relayed by the FIAU during the webinar.

**Agenda for the webinar:**

1. **Introduction**
   a. About the project
   b. The Developer
2. **XML Schema**
   a. XSD Explanation
   b. XML Examples
   c. Handling Closed Accounts
   d. File Naming Convention
3. **System Validation Rules**
4. **Questions and Answers**

Should you have any questions both before, and after the webinar, you are kindly requested to direct your queries to a dedicated support email: CBARTechnical@fiumalta.org