



# FATF updated Guidance on Beneficial Ownership (Recommendation 24)

Position paper – Executive summary

December 2022

EU Transparency Register ID 8765978796-80

**In March 2022, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) adopted amendments to Recommendation 24 (R.24) on the transparency and beneficial ownership of legal persons. A draft update on the Guidance to R.24 was published afterwards, aiming to facilitate the implementation of the new rules.**

## **WSBI-ESBG response to the consultation on the draft updated Guidance to R.24**

- Some national legislative acts transposing the EU AML Directive require the identification of more than one senior managing official when no beneficial owner can be identified. Additionally, such national rules state that a senior managing official may only be identified “after having exhausted all possible means and provided that there are no grounds for suspicion”. The Guidance may be accordingly adjusted to enhance clarity.
- National authorities’ verification of company registers should be actively promoted, as it would foster the reliability (*bona fide*) of the information held by them.
- An international beneficial owner register should be established and used by obligated parties for fulfilling their AML/CFT due diligence obligations.
- A list of stock exchanges, that hold information of listed companies to be used for meeting beneficial ownership obligations, should be established and used by market participants.
- Should the tax identification number be deemed as necessary know-your-customer (KYC) information, as stipulated in the draft EU AML Regulation, it should be made as accessible as appropriate.
- The exchange of information within the same group of banks or between banks should be permitted.