

**GENERAL LICENCE: HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY**

**INT/2023/2711256**

1. This licence is granted under regulation 61 of The Syria (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 ("the Syria Regulations").
2. Any act which would otherwise breach the prohibitions in Regulations 11-15 and 16(1)(a) and (b) of the Syria Regulations is exempt from those prohibitions as set out below.
3. In this licence:

<b>"DP" or "Designated Person"</b> means	any person designated under the Syria Regulations
<b>"Designated Financial Institution"</b> means	any person(s) listed in Annex I to this licence
<b>"Relevant Person"</b> means	<p>the United Nations, including its programmes, funds and other entities and bodies, and its specialised agencies and related organisations;</p> <p>humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and members of those humanitarian organisations;</p> <p>bilaterally or multilaterally funded non-governmental organisations participating in the United Nations Humanitarian Response Plans, Refugee Response Plans, other United Nations appeals, or humanitarian clusters coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;</p> <p>international organisations carrying out relief activities in Syria;</p> <p>any employee, grantee, subsidiary, or implementing partner of any organisation falling within the above list while and to the extent that they are acting in those capacities.</p>
<b>"Relevant Activity"</b> means	Activities necessary to facilitate humanitarian assistance in relation to earthquake relief efforts in Syria and Turkey. This includes the provision, processing and payment of funds, or economic resources, and the provision of goods and services necessary to ensure the timely delivery of such assistance or to support such activities.
<b>"Relevant Institution"</b> means	<p>a person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (permission to carry on regulated activities)</p> <p>a person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Payment Services Regulations (SI 2017/752);</p> <p>a person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Electronic Money Regulations (SI 2011/99).</p> <p>a person that is a "recognised clearing house", "third country central counterparty", "recognised CSD" or "third country CSD" for the purposes of section 285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;</p>

	a person that is an operator of a recognised payment system (or that is a service provider in relation to recognised payment systems) for the purposes of Part 5 of the Banking Act 2009.
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### Permissions

4. Under this licence, subject to the conditions in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7, a Relevant Person may perform Relevant Activities provided that the Relevant Person believes that carrying out the Relevant Activity is so necessary to ensure the timely delivery of earthquake relief efforts in Syria and Turkey and there is no reasonable cause for the Relevant Person to suspect otherwise.
5. Any funds used to effect the permissions set out in paragraph 4 must not be from funds or economic resources that are owned, held or controlled by a Designated Person.
6. The permission set out in paragraph 4 does not permit the use of economic resources owned, held or controlled by a Designated Person except where a Designated Person has received funds, goods or services in exchange for those economic resources from a Relevant Person to perform Relevant Activities.
7. Paragraph 5 does not apply to funds that are controlled by a Designated Financial Institution in the event that those funds are not owned, held or controlled by any other Designated Person or where the transfer of funds is otherwise licensed.
8. Any Relevant Institution may carry out any activity necessary to affect the permissions listed in paragraph 4, subject to paragraph 5, 6 and 7.

### General

9. The permissions in this licence are without prejudice to the permissions provided by any other licence, whether general or in respect of particular acts, that have been or may be issued by HM Treasury from time to time.
10. The permissions in this licence do not authorise any act which the person carrying out the act knows, or has reasonable grounds for suspecting, will result in a breach of the Syria Regulations save as permitted under a licence granted under the Syria Regulations.
11. Information provided to HM Treasury in connection with this licence shall be disclosed to third parties only in compliance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.
12. This licence takes effect from 11:59 pm on 15 February 2023 and expires **on 14 February 2025 at 11:59pm.**
13. HM Treasury may vary, revoke or suspend this licence at any time.

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be the letters 'GFSI' in a stylized, cursive font.

Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

HM Treasury

15 February 2023

Amended 17 February 2023

Amended 20 June 2023

Amended 06 February 2024

**Amended 26 June 2024.**

**Annex I: Designated Financial Institutions**

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE BANK

CENTRAL BANK OF SYRIA

COMMERCIAL BANK OF SYRIA

INDUSTRIAL BANK

POPULAR CREDIT BANK

REAL ESTATE BANK OF SYRIA (REB)

SAVING BANK

SYRIAN LEBANESE COMMERCIAL BANK