Office of Financial
Sanctions Implementation
HM Treasury

General Licence – Publication Notice

General licence - INT/2026/11404204

OFSI has the power to issue General Licences for country sanctions regimes under the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 ("the Sanctions Act").

On 24 November 2026, OFSI issued General Licence INT/2026/11404204 under regulation 33 of the Yemen (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 (the "Yemen Regulations") pertaining to humanitarian and civilian support activities in Yemen.

Any persons intending to use General Licence INT/2026/11404204 should consult the copy of the Licence for full details of the permissions and usage requirements.

For the purposes of General Licence INT/2026/11404204:

Designated Person means any person designated under the Yemen Regulations or owned or controlled by an individual or entity so designated.

Person means an individual or a body of persons (corporate or unincorporate) but does not include a Designated Person.

Humanitarian Exception means the humanitarian exception in regulation 30A of the Yemen Regulations.

Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person means:

- any organisation that receives, or has received in the last 5 years, funding from any part of the Government of the United Kingdom for the purposes of providing humanitarian assistance or supporting basic human needs;
- the Disasters Emergency Committee;
- any charity currently registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, the Scottish Charity Regulator or the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland;
- 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;
- any Person providing goods or services to any of the Persons listed above, including but not limited to, the provision, processing and payment of funds or economic resources and making available digital technologies.

Relevant Humanitarian Activities means activities necessary to provide humanitarian assistance, other activities that support basic human needs and facilitate the timely provision of those activities in Yemen. 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 in Yemen, regardless of whether those supporting services are provided in Yemen.

Civilian Support Permitted Activities means activities in connection with the importation into, supply and distribution within Yemen of essential goods and services necessary to meet the needs of the civilian population of Yemen, including, but not limited to, food and agricultural commodities, fuel, medicines, medical supplies and equipment, machinery used to process food for civilian

consumption, and other essential products necessary to meet the needs of the civilian population of Yemen.

Civilian Support Permitted Payments means any fees, duties, taxes, public utility and telecommunications payments incurred by UK Suppliers in the importation and distribution of goods in Yemen. This also includes financial transfers and related payment transactions, including correspondent or intermediary banking transactions in the payment chain, necessary for Civilian Support Permitted Activities.

UK Suppliers means companies or other persons who may be subject to UK jurisdiction and are importing, supplying or distributing food, fuel, medical supplies and other essential products needed for Relevant Humanitarian Activities or Civilian Support Permitted Activities.

UK Insurers/Reinsurers means firms with permission to effect or carry out contracts of insurance or reinsurance in the United Kingdom and registered by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Individual means an individual other than an individual who is a Designated Person.

Personal Remittances means non-commercial transfers of funds from the UK or an account held with a Relevant Institution to, or for the benefit of, an Individual in Yemen for personal or household use.

Relevant Institution means:

- a Person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (permission to carry on regulated activity);
- a Person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Payment Services Regulations (SI 2017/752);
- a Person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Electronic Money Regulations (SI 2011/99);
- 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;
- a Person that is an operator of a recognised payment system, or a service provider in relation to recognised payment systems, for the purposes of Part 5 of the Banking Act 2009.

Permissions:

Under General Licence INT/2026/11404204, subject to the conditions below:

To the extent that activity is not permitted under the Humanitarian Exception, a Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person may perform Relevant Humanitarian Activities provided that the Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person believes that carrying out those activities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance, other activities that support basic human needs and facilitate the timely provision of that assistance or those activities in Yemen, and that there is no reasonable cause for the Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person to suspect otherwise.

To the extent that the activity is not permitted under the Humanitarian Exception, UK Suppliers may carry out Civilian Support Permitted Activities.

In support of Relevant Humanitarian Activities and Civilian Support Permitted Activities, as applicable:

- UK Suppliers may make payments and carry out financial transactions, including Civilian Support Permitted Payments, necessary to carry out Civilian Support Permitted Activities; and
- Relevant Humanitarian Activities Persons may make payments and carry out financial transactions necessary to carry out Relevant Humanitarian Activities, subject to the conditions below.

UK Insurers/Reinsurers may provide insurance or reinsurance necessary for Relevant Humanitarian Activities and Civilian Support Permitted Activities permitted under the General Licence.

Any Individual may transfer Personal Remittances to an Individual in Yemen.

Any Relevant Institution may provide financial services and carry out any activity, including processing payments and correspondent or intermediary banking transactions, to the extent necessary to give effect to the permissions under the General Licence, subject to the conditions applicable to the underlying permission.

The permissions in General Licence INT/2026/11404204 do not apply in relation to prohibitions which arise in relation to a 'UN designated person' within the meaning of regulation 30ZA(8) of the Yemen Regulations.

Conditions

a) Any funds used to effect the permissions relating to Relevant Humanitarian Activities must not be from funds or economic resources that are owned, held or controlled by a Designated Person.
b) The permissions relating to Relevant Humanitarian Activities do 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 Humanitarian Activities Person to perform Relevant Humanitarian Activities.

Notification Requirement:

The Yemen Humanitarian and Civilian Support Activities General Licence applies to activities conducted under the General Licence that would otherwise breach the prohibitions in regulations 12-16 of the Yemen Regulations, from the issue date on 24 November 2026.

The notification requirement requires Relevant Humanitarian Activities Persons, UK Suppliers and UK Insurers/Reinsurers to notify OFSI once, by providing their contact details within 30 days of first commencing any activity under the relevant permission in the General Licence.

If you are a Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person conducting Relevant Humanitarian Activities in Yemen and need to rely on the General Licence, you must notify OFSI within 30 days of first commencing activity under the relevant permission.

If you are a UK Supplier conducting Civilian Support Permitted Activities in Yemen and need to rely on the General Licence, you must notify OFSI within 30 days of first commencing activity under the relevant permission.

Where a lead Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person or UK Supplier can be identified, a single notification by email is sufficient to comply with the General Licence. The notification must include the name, address and email and contact numbers of each Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person or UK Supplier. If you are unable to confirm that a notification has been submitted on your behalf, you must notify OFSI yourself within 30 days of first commencing activity under the relevant permission. Each Relevant Humanitarian Activities Person or UK Supplier is only required to provide a notification once.

If you are a UK Insurer/Reinsurer providing insurance or reinsurance under the General Licence and need to rely on the General Licence, you must notify OFSI within 30 days of first commencing activity under the relevant permission.

Notification provided to OFSI pursuant to the requirement does not constitute an admission of breach or suspected breach of financial sanctions by the person undertaking the notification, nor an admission that the General Licence has in fact been relied on; and receipt of that notification by OFSI does not amount to an indication of whether or not OFSI considers that there has been a breach of financial sanctions or the conditions of General Licence INT/2026/11404204.

Purporting to act under the authority of an OFSI licence whilst failing to comply with any condition of that licence is a criminal offence.

General

The permissions in General Licence INT/2026/11404204 are without prejudice to the permissions provided by any other licence, whether general or in respect of particular acts, that has been or may be issued by HM Treasury from time to time.

The permissions in General Licence INT/2026/11404204 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 Yemen Regulations, save as permitted under licences granted under those Regulations.

General Licence INT/2026/11404204 takes effect from 24 November 2026.

Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

HM Treasury