FS 1.10 – 20 September 2016 (*last updated 18 August 2017*)



Financial Services Commission Mauritius

## LICENSING CRITERIA Global Legal Advisory Services Licence – FS-1.10

## Note to the Applicant:

- 1. The objective of the Licensing Criteria is to ensure the continuous and efficient collaboration between the Commission and the Applicant for a licence in order to ease the licensing process.
- 2. It should be noted that the proposed Licensing Criteria neither derogate nor restrict the powers vested upon the Commission by statute, and should be read together with the relevant Acts, regulations, rules, guidelines, circulars and codes.
- 3. The Licensing Criteria aim to provide guidance to investors and service providers with respect to the requirements before applying for a Licence.
- 4. The Commission recommends that in submitting an application, an applicant should be conversant with the relevant provisions laws, guidelines and Circulars which the Commission has issued or may issue from time to time.
- 5. The Commission will require that all applications be accompanied by a cover letter and by the information and/or documentation prescribed in the proposed Licensing Criteria.
- 6. Incomplete applications received by the Commission may be returned to the applicant.
- 7. The Commission, upon inadequate or no response within two (2) months from the date of its last query, shall not proceed further with the application. After these two months, the applicant will have to submit a fresh application.

Information/Documents to be submitted with respect to application for a

**Global Legal Advisory Services Licence** 

## A. Relevant Forms /Documents

**1** Formal application from the Law Firm under Section 77B of the Financial Services Act 2007 (the 'Act') for a Global Legal Advisory Services Licence and duly filled-in, dated and signed <u>Application Form</u>.

Submission of prescribed processing/annual fees.

Licence	Code	Fees	
		Processing	Annual
Clobal Lagal	FS 1 10	Rs. 30, 000	Pc 75 000
Global Legal Advisory Services	FS 1.10	USD 1,000	Rs. 75, 000 USD 2,500

- 3 Duly filled in <u>authority form</u> and written and signed consent of each promoter or controller.
  - Statutory filings lodged with the Registrar of Companies for the Incorporation/Registration of the Global Legal Advisory Entity in Mauritius.

## B. Activity

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Detailed Business Plan including but not limited to the following:

- Introduction and background of promoter(s)/shareholder(s)/ beneficial owner(s);
- Business objective, strategy and proposed activity;
- Organisation structure;
- Capacity building plan for the next three years of operation;
- Target market and client profile;
- Source of funding;
- 3 years' financial forecasts ; and
- Any other relevant information.

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С	Details on the Parent Law	Firm	
6	Evidence that the parent law firm is qualified, licensed or regulated as a firm entitled to practice law in its home jurisdiction	<ul> <li>Certificate of Incorporation/Registration;</li> <li>Evidence that the parent law firm is duly registered in its home jurisdiction;</li> <li>Corporate Profile (including list of Partners/Directors/shareholders);</li> <li>Latest audited financial statements;</li> <li>Certificate of good standing on the parent law firm;</li> <li>Disclosure whether the law firm has ceased to provide legal services, or has been wound up, or suspended, or struck off.</li> </ul>	
D.	Fitness and Propriety of Promoter(s)/Shareholder(s)/ Beneficial Owner(s)		
7	Promoter(s)/ Shareholder(s)/ Beneficial owner(s)	<ul> <li>Individual:</li> <li>CV Details;</li> <li>PQ Form;</li> <li>Valid passport copy or NID;</li> <li>Proof of address [E.g. A recent utility bill issued or a recent bank or credit card statement or a recent bank reference (Bank reference must not be more than 6 months old)].</li> <li>If residing in Mauritius, submission of the following:</li> <li>Valid Occupational Permit;</li> <li>Proof of address in Mauritius [E.g. A recent utility bill issued or a recent bank or credit bank or credit card statement].</li> </ul>	
E	Human Resources and Staffing		
8	Foreign Lawyers (the Applicant should have 2 foreign lawyers, who are qualified in the foreign jurisdiction to practice the law of that jurisdiction, in employment or are part of the entity (S77B(2)(b) of the FSA 2007)).	<ul> <li>CV Details</li> <li>Evidence that the foreign lawyers are qualified in the foreign jurisdiction to practise the law of that jurisdiction</li> </ul>	

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9	<b>Officers</b> (the Applicant shall have at least 2 full time officers resident in Mauritius)	<ul> <li>CV Details;</li> <li>PQ Form;</li> <li>Valid passport copy or NID;</li> <li>Proof of address [E.g. A recent utility bill issued or a recent bank or credit card statement or a recent bank reference (Bank reference must not be more than 6 months old)].</li> </ul>			
10	Secretary	CV Details			
11	Directors	<ul> <li>CV Details;</li> <li>PQ Form;</li> <li>Valid passport copy or NID;</li> <li>Proof of address [E.g. A recent utility bill issued or a recent bank or credit card statement or a recent bank reference (Bank reference must not be more than 6 months old)].</li> </ul>			
F	Prudential and safeguarding Requirements				
12	Indication of the registered office address of the Applicant together with a copy of leasing agreement (if any) (as per S77B(2)(c), the Applicant should have a physical establishment in Mauritius)				
G.	Others				
13	An indication of the balance sheet date of the Applicant.				
14	A written undertaking from the Applicant that it will not provide advocacy services before the Courts of Mauritius or put itself forward as providing advice or legal services on, or in relation to, litigation before the Courts of Mauritius.				
15	The Applicant shall maintain at all times its principal bank account in Mauritius.				
16	The Applicant shall ensure that it has at all times adequate financial resources to carry out its activities.				

Disclaimer: The above list is provided for guidance and is not exhaustive. The Commission will assess the information provided on its own merits and may require additional information to determine the application.

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