

On May 30, 2012, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) announced the designation of one entity pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13382 ("Blocking Property of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferators and Their Supporters").

Syria International Islamic Bank is being designated because it acts on behalf of U.S. - and EU-designated Commercial Bank of Syria and provides services to U.S.-designated Syrian Lebanese Commercial Bank.

The Commercial Bank of Syria was designated by the United States on August 10, 2011 for providing WMD proliferation-related services to Syria's Scientific Studies and Research Center as well as North Korea's Tanchon Commercial Bank. The Syrian Lebanese Commercial Bank was designated on August 10, 2011 for being owned or controlled by the Commercial Bank of Syria.

Syria International Islamic Bank has wittingly acted as a front for the Commercial Bank of Syria, circumventing sanctions placed by the United States and the European Union for the financial support of Syria's WMD proliferation activities.

From 2011 to 2012, Syria International Islamic Bank surreptitiously facilitated financing worth almost \$150 million on behalf of the Commercial Bank of Syria.

Financial arrangements that purported to be made by Syria International Islamic Bank were in reality made by Commercial Bank of Syria.

In 2012, Syria International Islamic Bank has facilitated several substantial payments for the Syrian Lebanese Commercial Bank, and facilitated a payment from this designated bank to an entity of proliferation concern.

In addition to assisting the Syrian regime's WMD proliferation activities by circumventing United States and European Union sanctions, Syria International Islamic Bank also has a history of providing financial services to entities associated with public corruption by the Syrian regime.

**Identifying information:**

Entity: Syria International Islamic Bank

AKA: Syrian International Islamic Bank, SIIB

Location: (Head Office) Syria International

Islamic Bank Building, Main Highway Road, Al Mazzeh

Area, P.O. Box 35494, Damascus, Syria

Location: (Head Office) P.O. Box 35494, Mezza'h Vellat Sharqiyah, beside the Saudi Arabia Consulate, Damascus, Syria

This information is available on the Department of Treasury website. For more information, please see: [www.treasury.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac](http://www.treasury.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac).

We hope this information is useful. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other related security and counter proliferation matters, and are prepared to provide additional assistance as appropriate.