



Mandatory Recording of Unique Identification Number of each Depositor by Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies when Opening Deposit Accounts

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka has, by way of Directions issued under the Banking Act, No. 30 of 1988 and Finance Business Act, No. 42 of 2011, required all Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies, respectively, to record a Unique Identification Number for each depositor when opening deposit accounts with effect from 01.10.2022, and granted time till 31.12.2023 for Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies to complete recording of Unique Identification Number of their existing depositors.

Accordingly, all Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies will commence recording of following Unique Identification Numbers for each type of depositors when opening deposit accounts:

Type of Depositor	Type of Identification Number	Remarks
Individuals		
Sri Lankan citizens	National Identity Card (NIC) Number	Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies can accept Driving License or Passport of the customer to open accounts, but it is compulsory to record NIC number mentioned thereof in their systems.
Sri Lankan Citizen (residing outside Sri Lanka/Permanent Resident holders/Temporary Resident holders), Sri Lankan Dual Citizens (residing in SL), Sri Lankan Dual Citizens (residing outside SL)	NIC Number	Sri Lankan Passport Number can be used only when NIC has been temporarily surrendered by a depositor.
Non-Sri Lankan citizens	Foreign Passport Number	Including Foreign National of Sri Lankan origin (residing outside Sri Lanka), Foreign National on temporary visit to Sri Lanka or intending to visit Sri Lanka, Foreign Diplomat.
Minor Depositors	Date of Birth + Birth Certificate Number Eg: (YYYY MM DD XXXX)	Date of birth followed by the Birth Certificate Number in the same field to create a 12 digits number.
Institutions		
Companies registered under the Companies Act	Company Registration Number	
Non-Governmental Organizations	Registration Number issued by National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations	
Institutions registered under divisional/local government bodies such as Proprietorships /Partnerships /Joint Ventures, etc.	Business Registration Number	
All other entities such as Clubs, Associations, Societies, etc.	Registration Number issued by the relevant Authorities	

When opening non-personal deposits, it is mandatory for Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies to record Registration Number of the entities issued by the relevant registering authorities as stated above as Unique Identification Numbers. Therefore, all entities including societies, clubs, associations, charities, etc. who have not yet obtained their registration under relevant authorities are urged to obtain their registration before opening deposit accounts with Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies.

This rule will be applicable to existing accounts as well and therefore all depositors of Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies are advised to notify relevant Unique Identification Numbers to the applicable Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies, as the case may be, if the relevant Unique Identification Numbers has not been provided at the time of opening the account/s.

By implementing this new measure, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka expects to strengthen the soundness and integrity of the information management process of the Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies and facilitate compiling of information by Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance and Liquidity Support Scheme.

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