

KPMG AEOI Updates & Tracking Service CRS Alert



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Antigua and Barbuda: Issued Circular on Self-Certification Requirements for New Accounts

On 01 October 2025, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) of Antigua and Barbuda issued Circular No. 2, aligned with the OECD's Common Reporting Standard (CRS) Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) 22 (found here), which has been incorporated into the Commentary of OECD's CRS 2.0 (found <a href=here) approved in 2023. This circular provides clarification on the self-certification requirements for new accounts.

Under the CRS, Reporting Financial Institutions (RFIs) are required to obtain valid self-certification during the account opening process for all new accounts. However, in line with CRS FAQ 22, RFIs may obtain and validate self-certification after the account has been opened, provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

- The self-certification is obtained within a reasonable timeframe.
- Validation is completed prior to any CRS reporting.
- Adequate procedures are in place to prevent circumvention of the requirements.

If self-certification is obtained after the account is opened, RFIs must:

- Ensure timely follow-up and remedial action.
- Confirm the accuracy and reasonableness of the information provided. To achieve this, RFIs must establish procedures such as:
 - Cross-referencing with official documentation.

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- Implementing risk-based measures.
- Self-certification must be relied upon only after successful validation to avoid any potential penalties.

Additionally, RFIs must maintain internal policies that clearly define:

- Acceptable timelines;
- Escalation protocols;
- Remediation steps for missing or deficient self-certifications;
- Documentation controls for post-account-opening validation.

Relevant Information:

The self-certification form should include:

- Full name of the account holder;
- Date of Birth (DOB) (for individuals);
- Residential address;
- Tax Identification Number (TIN) issued by the country of residence;
- A declaration of tax residency status.

The information obtained through self-certification must be reported under CRS obligations.

Furthermore, the IRD reminds RFIs to have systems in place for the secure collection, storage, and verification of self-certification forms. RFIs are also expected to conduct regular internal audits to assess and document compliance with these requirements.

Reference: Circular 2 [PDF 215KB].

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For more information on KPMG AEOI Updates & Tracking Service, please see here.

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