

**Independent Reasonable Assurance Report
(ISAE 3000 Engagement)**

on

Regulated Entity's Follow up Review Compliance Report

on

Compliance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations for Responsible Sourcing of Gold

for the period

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

RG REFINERY FZE

04 December 2024

[This document includes 5 pages in total including the cover page]

To,
The General Manager,
RG Refinery FZE,
400 M2 Warehouse T5-123, T5-124, T5-104,
P.O.Box 513414 Sharjah,
United Arab Emirates.

Independent Reasonable Assurance Report to RG Refinery FZE (ISAE 3000 engagements)

Introduction

AKW Tax Reclaim Accounting & Consultancy (“AKW” or the “Reviewer”) was engaged by RG Refinery FZE (the “Regulated Entity”) to provide an Independent Reasonable Assurance on its Follow up Review Compliance Report (the “Regulated Entity’s Compliance Report”) on compliance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations for Responsible Sourcing of Gold, Version 1, August 2022 (the “MoE Due Diligence Regulations”) for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

Scope

The objective of this engagement was to provide an opinion on whether the Regulated Entity’s Compliance Report dated 04 December 2024 describes fairly the activities undertaken during the year to demonstrate compliance, and whether management’s overall conclusion contained therein is in accordance with the requirements of the MoE Due Diligence Regulations.

Responsibility of the Management of the Regulated Entity

The Management of the Regulated Entity is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Regulated Entity’s Compliance Report in accordance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining an effective governance framework, including risk management systems and internal controls from which the reported information is derived. Furthermore, the responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining management systems and processes relevant to the preparation of the Regulated Entity’s Compliance Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The information in relation to the activities described within the Regulated Entity’s Compliance Report is determined by the Management of the Regulated Entity to be appropriate and relevant to validate the degree of compliance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations.

Our Independence

We confirm that we have complied with the applicable requirements of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants, which includes independence and other requirements founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality, and professional behaviour. In conducting our engagement, we confirm that we satisfy the Minimum Criteria for Reviewers as set out in the MoE Due Diligence Regulations Annex I - Review Protocol (the “MOE Review Protocol”) to carry out the assurance engagement.

Our Responsibility

Our responsibility was to:

- perform a follow-up review of the Regulated Entity, in accordance with the ISAE 3000 standard, following the relevant guidance set out in the MOE Review Protocol.
- provide an opinion on whether the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report describes fairly the activities undertaken during the year to demonstrate compliance, and whether management's overall conclusion contained therein is in accordance with the requirements of the MoE Due Diligence Regulations.

We conducted our reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. A reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with ISAE 3000 involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the fairness of the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report and the fact that management's overall conclusion has been drawn in accordance with the requirements of the MoE Due Diligence Regulations and with the MoE Review Protocol. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the risk of material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, in the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report. In making those risk assessments, we considered internal control relevant to the Regulated Entity's preparation of the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report.

In conducting the follow-up review, we meticulously planned and implemented an approach to gather essential evidence, information, and explanations pertinent to our defined scope. The process encompassed several key steps, including the following:

- Develop a detailed follow-up review plan, outlining the scope, criteria, principles, and intended activities, which was then communicated to the Regulated Entity for full transparency and collaboration.
- Conduct an opening meeting onsite with the Regulated Entity's top management and key process owners to introduce the Review Plan, align on the review protocol, set the timeline, and emphasize the confidentiality essential to the process.
- Gather essential documentation including objectives, plans, procedures, standards, instructions, licences and permits, specifications, drawings, contracts, supply chain policies, and other pertinent policies and procedures that demonstrate the management systems, due diligence process and risk management practices. The process also included the collection of client details, transaction records, and origin data.
- Collection of documents relating to inventory controls, inspections of records, minutes of meetings, audit reports, records of monitoring programmes and results of measurements.
- Execute the onsite review phase, and engage in deep analysis to gather evidence supporting the review objectives. This included interviews with senior management, key process owners, and workers, visual inspections and physical walkthroughs of operational areas, and a comprehensive review of pertinent documents.
- Assessment of the evidence gathered during the review to evaluate the Regulated Entity's implementation of and compliance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations including:
 - Regulated Entity's Supply Chain management systems (with emphasis on compliance and risk management structures, related operating policies and procedures, reporting mechanisms, training and development programmes).

- Regulated Entity's due diligence measures (including KYC procedures, process and implementation and post-account opening and pre-transaction risk assessments including Red Flag assessment), and
- Minimum information recording to ensure track and trace i.e., date of gold receipt, physical form and weight of gold, source of origin, point of origin in transportation and/or customs documents (recording of seal numbers and/or packaging list).
- Conduct a closing meeting with the Regulated Entity's leadership and key process stakeholders to present the findings, conclusions, and actionable recommendations for enhancements, aimed at bolstering improvement.
- Review the statements made by the management in the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report as compared to the findings arising from the above procedures performed.

The procedures performed relate to the Review Period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 and do not extend to any assertions made in the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report regarding events subsequent to the Review Period.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our reasonable assurance report, including our opinion, has been prepared solely for the Management of the Regulated Entity and the Ministry of Economy to determine whether the Regulated Entity has complied with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations and for no other purpose.

Inherent Limitations of the Review Process

Whilst the Reasonable Assurance Report provides a rigorous assessment of the Regulated Entity's compliance with the MoE Due Diligence Regulations, it is crucial to acknowledge certain inherent limitations of the methodology and scope.

- **Subjectivity in Assessing Compliance:** Evaluating compliance with MoE Due Diligence Regulations often involves qualitative judgments and interpretations. Despite efforts to establish rigorous criteria and assessment tools, the evaluation of compliance may be subject to subjective biases or varying interpretations.
- **Scope of Document Review:** The testing of the accuracy and authenticity of selected documents, including management assertions and claims about its Due Diligence performance, was conducted through interviews and sample document reviews. However, the authenticity of these documents was not independently verified by contacting the respective government organizations or third-party entities.
- **Reliance on Information Provided:** The review relied on information provided by the Regulated Entity. While we have conducted its due diligence to verify the accuracy of this information, we did not independently validate the data or information provided. Thus, the conclusions are based on the assumption that the information provided is complete and accurate.
- **External Factors:** The Reviewer cannot predict or guard against future changes or factors arising after the review date, such as changes in legislation, regulatory focus, or the Regulated Entity's business model.
- **Timeliness of the Review:** Given the fast-moving nature of financial transactions, the findings of this review reflect the situation at a particular point in time. Issues of non-compliance could arise or be resolved in the intervening period between reviews.
- **Human Error and Fraud:** There is always an inherent risk of errors, omissions, and fraudulent acts not being detected,

regardless of the thoroughness of the procedures employed. This review cannot ensure the detection or prevention of all such issues.

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the Regulated Entity's Compliance Report dated 04 December 2024 for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 describes fairly the activities undertaken during the year to demonstrate compliance, and management's overall conclusion contained therein is in accordance with the requirements of the MoE Due Diligence Regulations for Responsible Sourcing of Gold, Version 1, August 2022.

AKW Tax Reclaim Accounting & Consultancy



Faisal Ahmed
Engagement Partner



04 December 2024
Dubai, UAE