



REVISED EXCHANGE CONTROL REGIME GOVERNING CAPITAL ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS – EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2016

ARRANGEMENTS	ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
1. SPECIAL CRITERION INVESTMENTS <sup>1</sup>	
<p>For direct (i.e., not portfolio) investments both in The Bahamas' offshore sector as well as abroad, residents are permitted to purchase <b>up to \$2,000,000 per person or entity via the official market (i.e. from ADs), with the prior approval of CBOB, subject to an overall limit of \$10,000,000 per investor group, per transaction.</b> This facility may be accessed once every three (3) years.</p> <p>Foreign currency financing will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Application must be made to the Central Bank in writing, with the full particulars and documentation of the proposed investment.</li> <li>▪ Approvals granted by the Central Bank are used to purchase the required foreign currency from Authorised Dealers.</li> </ul>
2. PUBLICLY TRADED FOREIGN SECURITIES LISTED ON BISX AS BAHAMIAN DEPOSITORY RECEIPTS (BDRS)	
<p>On an annual basis, <b>up to 5% of the external reserves at previous year's end, but not to exceed \$35 million</b>, will be allocated for funding the structuring of BDR products, at the official rate of exchange.</p> <p>The operational framework, established in 2006, will continue to apply; and offerings would be subject to appropriate approvals from the Central Bank, the Securities Commission and BISX.</p>	<p>Local broker/dealers will structure and market these BDRs, allowing resident investors, including individuals, pension funds and institutions, the ability to buy, in Bahamian dollars, stocks traded on overseas exchanges.</p> <p>Offerings would be subject to appropriate approvals from the Central Bank, the Securities Commission, and BISX.</p> <p>A separate communication is to be issued on the operational framework.</p>

<sup>1</sup> These are investments which are expected to yield positive returns to the Balance of Payments, within a specified period of time.



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3. BAHAMIAN DOLLAR CREDIT FACILITIES FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENTS

Mortgage Loans

- Temporary Residents, borrowing jointly with their resident Bahamian spouses, may borrow in Bahamian dollars without limit, without reference to CBOB, to finance owner-occupied residential dwellings.  
**Note: Borrowing for investment purposes, including purchase of vacant property, duplexes, and second homes, requires prior CBOB approval.**
- Temporary Residents, who have resided and worked in The Bahamas for at least three (3) years, may borrow up to \$400,000 in Bahamian dollars, to finance owner-occupied residential dwellings. Where the residency requirement is not met, reference must be made to CBOB.

**Note: Temporary residents should register his/her investment with Central Bank, by providing a copy of the Investments Board Certificate of registration, recorded conveyance, a copy of the satisfaction of mortgage document, as soon as received.**

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