

Directive 10

What accountable institutions need to know



Financial
Intelligence Centre

The Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) issued Directive 10 which took effect on Friday, 31 July 2026. Directive 10 sets out the geographic location information that specified accountable institutions must provide when registering with the FIC or when updating their existing registration details.



1. What is Directive 10 about?

Directive 10 requires certain accountable institutions to submit to the FIC clear information about where they operate. This includes their head office, branch offices, subsidiaries and the branches of those subsidiaries, whether they are in or outside South Africa.

This applies across the entire corporate structure and covers:

Head offices: Full particulars of the primary head office

Local branches: Details for each branch operating in the Republic of South Africa

Foreign branches: Details for each branch operating outside South Africa

Local subsidiaries: Head office details for each subsidiary located in South Africa

Foreign subsidiaries: Head office details for each subsidiary located outside South Africa

Sub-branch operations: If a subsidiary has its own branches outside South Africa, details for each of these foreign branches must also be provided.

2. Which accountable institutions must comply?

Schedule 1 item	Accountable institution category
Item 1	Legal practitioners (including attorneys, conveyancers, notaries, advocates practising with a trust account, commercial legal practices)
Item 2	Trust and company service providers
Item 3	Estate agents
Item 9	Gambling institutions
Item 11	Credit providers, excluding banks, mutual banks, and co-operative bank credit providers
Item 14	The South African Post Bank
Item 20	Dealers in high-value goods where any transaction is equal to or more than R100 000 per item, whether the payment in any form, is made in a single or in multiple operations that appear to be linked
Item 21	The South African Mint Company
Item 22	Crypto asset service providers

Note: Directive 10 applies to items 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 14, 20, 21 and 22 of Schedule 1 to the FIC Act. For item 11, banks, mutual banks and co-operative bank credit providers are excluded.

3. What does Directive 10 mean for you?

If your institution operates from more than one location, you must ensure the FIC has accurate information about each head office, branch or subsidiary from which your institution physically offers products and service to its clients. This includes locations in and outside South Africa. This information will help the FIC understand your business structure and apply risk-based supervision more effectively.

4. What information must be provided?

- Name of the head office, branch, subsidiary or subsidiary branch
- Licence number, where applicable
- Registration number, where applicable.
- Business address of each relevant location
- Name and contact details of the person responsible for the compliance function.

5. What is expected of you?

You are expected to keep your FIC registration information complete, correct and up to date. Existing registered institutions must update their details within 90 days after Directive 10 takes effect. Any later changes must also be updated within 90 days.

Check: Does Directive 10 apply to your institution?

Identify: List all relevant locations.

Collect: Gather the required details for each location.

Update: Submit or amend your FIC registration information within the required timeframe.

Maintain: Keep the information accurate whenever details change. You are expected to keep your registration information complete, accurate and up to date. The information must show where your institution operates and who the FIC may contact about compliance at each relevant location.

6. How to submit geographic location information to the FIC?

Step 1

Log into accountable institution's head office goAML profile

Step 2

Navigate to the active organisations tab

Step 3

Choose to create a "new delegating organisation"

Step 4

Provide geographic location information of the specific branch or subsidiary.

7. What is expected of you?

Accurate location information helps the FIC understand group structures and supervise accountable institutions in a more targeted, risk-based manner. Failure to comply could result in administrative sanctions, which may include financial penalties.

Need help?

Call +27 12 641 6000 or [submit an online compliance query](#)

Submit or update your geographic location information today.

Visit www.fic.gov.za for more information.

