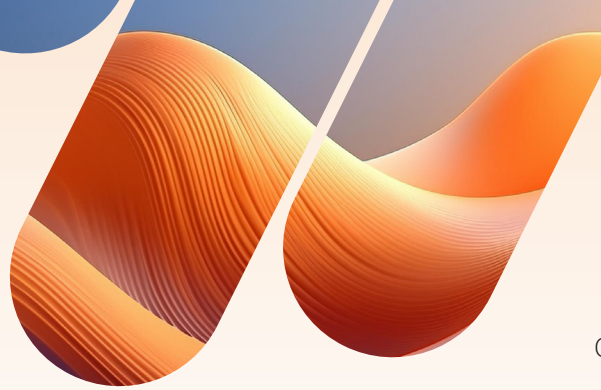


Regulatory horizon scanning



Own your ascent

FSRA publishes 2025 Annual Report

On July 13, 2026, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("FSRA") published its annual report outlining key supervisory, authorisation, policy, enforcement, and financial crime prevention activities undertaken during 2025. The report highlights the FSRA's continued focus on digital assets, cyber resilience, responsible innovation, market integrity, financial crime prevention, and risk-based supervision.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Tether Gold (XAU₪) recognised as an Accepted Spot Commodity

On July 20, 2026, it was announced that Tether Gold (XAU₪) had been recognised as an Accepted Spot Commodity under ADGM's framework. The recognition allows firms in ADGM to offer services involving XAU₪, subject to holding the relevant regulatory permissions and approval to use Accepted Spot Commodities. It builds on the FSRA's earlier recognition of USD₪ as an Accepted Fiat Referenced Token. The update reflects continued development of the digital assets ecosystem and supports innovation within a regulated environment.

[Click here to learn more](#)

FSRA updates its funds framework

On September 16, 2026, the FSRA finalised enhancements to its framework for funds and fund managers. The amendments introduce proportionate requirements for certain fund managers and simplify aspects of the framework applicable to institutional investor funds and foreign fund managers. The amendments introduce streamlined regulatory frameworks for Fund Managers of smaller funds (Sub Threshold Fund Managers) and for Fund Managers of funds targeting exclusively institutional investors (Institutional Fund Managers). Certain asset managers providing investment management services to institutional funds may also benefit from streamlined requirements. The amendments also facilitate employee investment in private funds managed by their employer and revise the framework applicable to Foreign Fund Managers. A transition period applies until March 31, 2027, in relation to the new rules as they apply to Venture Capital Fund Managers and Foreign Fund Managers. Existing Authorised Persons wishing to change their status may apply using the FSRA declaration forms.

[Click here to learn more](#)

ADGM Panel Takeover Regulations (Takeover Code) Rules 2026

On July 20, 2026, the ADGM Panel Takeover Regulations (Takeover Code) Rules 2026 came into force. The rules formally incorporate the Takeover Code which, together with the Takeover Regulations 2015 and any related directions issued by the Panel, constitutes the ADGM Takeover Regime. They introduce Core Takeover Principles, provisions for transactions subject to both ADGM and another regulatory authority's oversight (parties must consult the Panel as soon as practicable), and Panel powers to issue directions to prevent or restrain non-compliant conduct. Companies, offerors, and advisers involved in takeover transactions in ADGM should review the new requirements.

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Regulatory horizon scanning



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Updated countermeasures for high-risk jurisdictions (FSRA Notice FSRA/FCCP/147/2026)

On August 21, 2026, the General Secretariat of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting Financing of Terrorism and Financing of Illegal Organisations Committee approved an update to the countermeasures that financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions ("DNFBPs"), virtual asset service providers ("VASPs"), and non-profit organisations must apply when dealing with high-risk jurisdictions.

The committee adopted the Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") list of high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action, with the countermeasures set out in the Interpretive Note to Recommendation 19, and the FATF list of jurisdictions under increased monitoring, for which procedures that may include enhanced due diligence proportionate to risk must be applied. The FSRA communicated the decision to Relevant Persons through FSRA/FCCP/147/2026. Firms should regularly review the current FATF and committee lists and reassess due diligence for jurisdictions removed from the lists.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Consultation papers

FSRA Consultation Paper No. 2 of 2026 – transfer schemes

On July 27, 2026, the FSRA published Consultation Paper No. 2 of 2026 proposing enhancements to the Transfer Schemes framework. The proposals seek to establish a more proportionate framework for business transfers while maintaining appropriate client protection.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Matters of clarification

ADGM alert concerning misleading claims by Vibrafund FZLLC

On August 10, 2026, ADGM issued an alert regarding misleading claims made by Vibrafund FZLLC suggesting an association with or presence in ADGM. ADGM reminded market participants to independently verify licensing and regulatory status before engaging with firms.

[Click here to learn more](#)

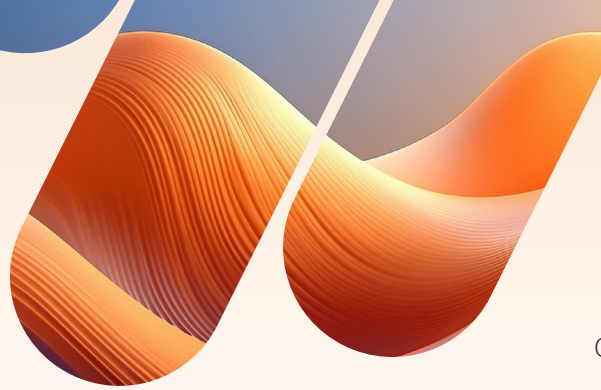
Key updates / media updates

Bitcoin Suisse receives FSRA Financial Services Permission

On July 7, 2026, Bitcoin Suisse Group's subsidiary BTCS Middle East Ltd. announced that it had received Financial Services Permission from the FSRA to provide regulated digital asset services within ADGM. The development highlights ongoing growth in the regulated virtual assets sector.

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Regulatory horizon scanning



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ADGM Registration Authority enhances commercial permits framework

On July 23, 2026, the ADGM Registration Authority announced enhancements to its commercial permits framework through the introduction of new regulations and guidance governing sales and promotional activities within ADGM. The framework aims to improve transparency, strengthen consumer protection, and provide additional clarity regarding permit requirements for promotional campaigns and marketing activities. It covers activities such as temporary sales and discount campaigns, clearance sales, instant prize campaigns and prize draws, product launches, and promotional stands, and gives the Registration Authority supervisory and enforcement powers. While primarily relevant to ADGM-registered businesses, the update may be of interest to firms conducting marketing and promotional activities within the jurisdiction.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Coinbase establishes tokenisation hub in Abu Dhabi following FSRA approval

On August 11, 2026, Coinbase announced the establishment of its tokenisation hub in Abu Dhabi following receipt of Financial Services Permission from the FSRA. Coinbase stated that the permission allows it to arrange deals in investments and provide custody to facilitate the launch of tokenised securities. The development highlights continued growth in ADGM's regulated digital asset ecosystem and demonstrates ongoing international interest in Abu Dhabi as a jurisdiction for digital asset and tokenisation-related activities.

[Click here to learn more](#)

FSRA signs regulatory cooperation MoU with GCGRA

On August 14, 2026, the FSRA announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") with the General Commercial Gaming Regulatory Authority ("GCGRA"). The MoU establishes a framework for information sharing and regulatory cooperation between the two authorities and reflects the FSRA's continued focus on supervisory coordination and regulatory engagement. The announcement does not introduce any new compliance requirements for FSRA-regulated firms.

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ADGM reinforces Abu Dhabi's standing as a global financial hub

On September 8, 2026, ADGM reported a 54% increase in assets under management and almost 14,000 active licences. The announcement reflects continued growth across ADGM's financial ecosystem and growing international participation.

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