

PUBLIC NOTICE

Panama Improves Its Rating in the 2025 Basel AML Index and Is Classified as a “Medium-Risk” Country

The 2025 Basel AML Index, prepared and published by the Basel Institute on Governance, indicates that Panama has improved its overall rating and is now classified as a “medium risk” country under the new methodology applied as of this year.

Panama’s score decreased from **5.90 in 2024 to 5.83 in 2025**, reflecting progress in the country’s efforts to strengthen the prevention of money laundering, terrorist financing, and other financial crimes. The “medium risk” classification applies to jurisdictions with scores ranging from 4.70 to 6.08. Jurisdictions with lower risk record scores of 4.70 or below, while those with higher risk exceed 6.08.

The improvement observed is mainly attributable to progress in two of the five domains assessed by the Index:

- **Domain 4 – Public transparency and accountability:** showed improvements in the availability of government information and institutional controls.
- **Domain 5 – Political and legal risks:** reflected a slight improvement in state stability, judicial independence, and the strength of the rule of law.

The remaining domains remained stable, including the quality of the AML/CFT/CFP framework, corruption and fraud risks, as well as financial transparency and standards.

The Basel AML Index is an annual assessment that does not measure the actual volume of money laundering occurring in each country. Rather, it evaluates the degree of vulnerability of jurisdictions to these risks and the effectiveness of their institutions in preventing and combating them.

The Index aggregates data from multiple international sources, including FATF assessments, corruption indicators, fiscal transparency, and governance metrics, to produce a score ranging from 0 (lowest risk) to 10 (highest risk). In its most recent edition, the Index covers 177 jurisdictions, providing a global overview of progress and ongoing challenges in the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

Panama’s improved performance demonstrates that the strategies and actions implemented by the Superintendency of Banks of Panama (SBP), together with efforts at the national level, are moving in the right direction, helping to consolidate a more transparent, secure, and reliable financial environment.

December 15, 2025