

EN
E-002801/2025
Answer given by Ms Albuquerque
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.11.2025)

The 2020 Methodology for the identification of high-risk third countries¹ provides a transparent and predictable framework underpinning EU listings and de-listings. While the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) lists constitute the baseline for the EU list, the Commission also has the possibility to put forward a listing based on an autonomous assessment.

The Commission always strives to reflect FATF decisions as soon as possible, by proposing an amendment to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/1675². It is noted that a limited number of jurisdictions, while de-listed by FATF, are required to implement additional actions in the form of 'EU benchmarks', the completion of which is a pre-requisite for their de-listing from the EU list.

The Delegated Regulation is then submitted to co-legislators for their scrutiny. Beyond this legal requirement, the 2020 Methodology also provides for structured engagement with Member States experts, reporting to the European Parliament and Council, as well as exchanges with the country under assessment.

¹ https://finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/f745b6e8-735b-4855-b050-f52276356fe6_en?filename=200507-anti-money-laundering-terrorism-financing-action-plan-methodology_en.pdf.

² OJ L 254, 20.9.2016, pp. 1–4.