



OG/152/2020
12th April 2020

Chief Executive Officer/General Manager
All Retail Banks
Manama
Kingdom of Bahrain

Dear Sir,

Subject: Directive on Use of Salary Transfers to Bahrainis by the Government

The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken several measures to alleviate the adverse financial impact of the Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak on Bahrainis, companies and the national economy.

One of the initiatives is for the Government to cover the salaries of Bahraini employees who are currently employed by companies registered and operating in Bahrain. There will be three payments covering salaries of April, May and June 2020 separately. Accordingly, the Social Insurance Organization (“SIO”) will shortly start the transfer of salary amounts of April salaries to the employer companies’ accounts maintained by retail banks starting from 16th April, 2020.

All retail banks are therefore strictly directed not to utilize any such funds transferred by SIO for the above-mentioned purpose, towards the settlement of any financial obligations due from the subject companies to banks or other entities. Moreover, such funds must not be subject to any legal freeze orders.

Yours faithfully,

Rasheed M. Al-Maraj
Governor