

REGISTRATION AUTHORITY - POLICY STATEMENT

# **RESTRICTION OF REGISTRY SERVICES FOR UNPAID LATE FILING PENALTIES**

February 2025



## INTRODUCTION

### Introduction to ADGM

**ADGM** is a broad based international financial centre, established pursuant to federal decree no. 15 of 2013 and Abu Dhabi Law No. 4 of 2013 (“**ADGM Law**”) in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. With its own civil and commercial laws based on English common law, ADGM offers the local, regional and international business community a world-class legal system and regulatory regime.

The ADGM Registration Authority (“**RA**”) is the Registrar of companies as well as the commercial and audit regulator of ADGM. It is responsible for the licensing, registration and incorporation of entities seeking to establish a presence in ADGM, as well as the monitoring and enforcement of ADGM’s commercial legislation and facilitation of government related services, such as visas.

### Policy statement and application

Unless successfully appealed, a fine / late fee imposed by the RA must be paid in full and within the specified timeline. Effective 7 February 2025, the RA will restrict access to certain services on the ADGM Online Registry Solution for ADGM licensed entities and individuals continuing to operate in debt to the RA.

This policy statement applies to ADGM licensed entities:

- a) where the ADGM licensed entity and/or its officers have failed to pay any fines imposed on them by the RA within 30 days of issuing the fine, unless successfully appealed;
- b) who have failed to pay any late fees charged by the RA, within 30 days of being charged the late fee, unless successfully appealed; and
- c) not in ‘good standing’ with their filing obligations including expired licences, overdue annual accounts and/or overdue confirmation statements.

This policy statement does not limit any other options available with the RA to recover outstanding fines including the RA’s power to initiate court proceedings pursuant to section 992 of the Companies Regulations 2020.

This policy statement does not apply to fines imposed by the Commissioner of Data Protection for contraventions of the Data Protection Regulations 2021.

The RA considers that measures to encourage payment of outstanding fines or late fees mitigates the risk of non-compliant entities, contributes to fairness and enhances deterrence.

In order to unblock and restricted services all outstanding fines and any late fees must be paid in full.

## RESTRICTED SERVICES POLICY

Effective 7 February 2025, the services on ADGM's Online Registry Solution set out in the following table, will be restricted for any ADGM licensed entities and individuals that fall under the scope of this policy statement as per paragraph 0.

*Table 1 – List of RA services, filings and application types restricted for unpaid fines*

#	Service / Filing / Application
1	Continue a company/foundation from ADGM into another jurisdiction.
2	Change Entity Name
3	Corporate services requests, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Certificates of good standing</li> <li>- Certificates of incumbency</li> <li>- Document certification</li> </ul>
4	Reregistration - voluntary alteration of company status
5	Voluntary Strike-off applications
6	Variation of licence applications
7	Branch de-registration applications
8	Request for extension for account filing
9	Requests for 'No Objection Certificates' including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Certificate of Good Standing</li> <li>- Certificate of Incumbency</li> <li>- Zero Tax Certificate</li> <li>- Under formation certificate</li> <li>- Certified True Copy</li> <li>- Ad Hoc Certificate – NOC – Own Shares</li> <li>- Ad Hoc Certificate – NOC – Own Properties</li> <li>- Ad Hoc Certificate – NOC – Dual License</li> <li>- Ad Hoc Certificate – NOC – Dual License - Renewal</li> <li>- Ad Hoc Certificate – Notary Pack</li> </ul>
10	Applying for the CSP pre-application form

## **Related Documentation**

This policy statement should be read in conjunction with:

- the guidance on RA's Corporate Services available at [Microsoft Word - Guidance Notes R2 COS V1 20230505 \(adgm.com\)](#);
- RA's Decision Procedures, Disqualification and Enforcement Manual available at [decision-procedures-disqualification-and-enforcement-manual-december-2022.pdf \(adgm.com\)](#); and
- RA's guidance on waiver requests for late filing penalties.

**For more information, you may contact the Registrar:**

Email: [ra@adgm.com](mailto:ra@adgm.com)

## **Disclaimer**

This guidance is a non-binding indicative guidance and should be read together with the relevant legislation, in particular ADGM's Commercial Licensing Regulations 2015 and any other relevant regulations and enabling rules, which may change over time without notice. Information in this guidance is not to be deemed, considered or relied upon as legal advice and should not be treated as a substitute for a specific advice concerning any individual situation. Any action taken upon the information provided in this guidance is strictly at your own risk and the Registration Authority will not be liable for any losses and damages in connection with the use of or reliance on information provided in this guidance. The Registration Authority makes no representations as to the accuracy, completeness, correctness or suitability of any information provided in this guidance.