



Thailand Tightens the Net on Stablecoin Transactions

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Bank of Thailand (BOT) are preparing a new regulatory framework for stablecoin transactions, with the rules expected to be endorsed by the end of 2026. The initiative follows discussions with licensed digital asset operators and the rapid growth of major stablecoins such as USDT and USDC. The proposed measures are intended to reduce the use of digital assets for money laundering, technology-related crime and the circumvention of cross-border fund transfer controls, while remaining workable for legitimate digital asset businesses.

The initiative builds on a broader enforcement framework already being developed by Thai authorities. Since May 2026, the SEC, the BOT, Anti-Money Laundering Office and Central Investigation Bureau have been sharing financial information and suspicious transaction patterns. Licensed operators are also subject to stronger know-your-customer procedures, customer profiling, risk-based withdrawal limits and enhanced due diligence for high-risk customers. Blockchain analytics, transaction-tracing tools and screening of high-risk wallets are increasingly becoming part of this compliance framework.

The focus on stablecoins reflects their growing importance as a means of transferring value. Because stablecoins are designed to maintain a relatively stable value, they can be used efficiently for payments and transfers across digital platforms and borders. Those same characteristics can make illicit financial flows more difficult to detect when funds move rapidly through digital wallets. The regulatory response therefore appears to be moving beyond scrutiny of individual transactions toward an integrated model combining customer due diligence, transaction monitoring, blockchain tracing and inter-agency information sharing.

A key part of this shift will be the planned Travel Rule. The SEC is expected to issue the relevant rules in August 2026, with implementation scheduled for February 2027. The Travel Rule will require relevant information on parties to digital asset transfers to be identified and verified, improving transaction traceability between digital asset service providers. Operators are

therefore likely to face additional investment in compliance systems, data-sharing processes and common enhanced due diligence standards, particularly for higher-risk customers, counterparties and wallets.

From a legal and business perspective, the development signals that stablecoin activity in Thailand is moving closer to the compliance expectations applied to regulated financial transactions. Digital asset operators should prepare for closer scrutiny of transaction flows, customer identification and cross-border transfers, while businesses using stablecoins for legitimate payments or treasury purposes may face additional verification and documentation requirements. Although stronger oversight may increase compliance costs, clearer and more consistent standards could also improve market confidence and support the sustainable development of Thailand's digital asset ecosystem.

Should you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact us via info@bgloballaw.com

