

2025

ABA NEWSLETTER

April Issue



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About ABA

The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) began when it took the first step toward forging closer regional links when 217 representatives of 139 banks met in Taipei in May 1981 to establish the Asian Bankers Council (later known as ABA) as one of the Product and Service Councils of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI). The countries represented included Australia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Thailand.

The Taipei meeting was the largest gathering of bankers with Asian presence to be convened in the region at that time. CACCI sponsored the meeting with the view to exploring banking opportunities in Asia and to enhance the role of bankers in the economic development of the region.

The ABA aims to provide a forum for advancing the cause of the banking and finance industry in the region and promoting regional economic cooperation. Its primary objectives include the following:

- To serve as a venue for an exchange of views and information on banking opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region;
- To facilitate the meeting of bankers in the region in an atmosphere of fellowship and friendship;
- To encourage joint activities that would enhance the role of its members in servicing the financial needs of their respective economies and in promoting regional development; and
- To undertake projects that will encourage trade, industrial, and investment cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

41st ABA General Meeting and Conference to be held in Bhutan on September 15-16, 2025

The Asian Bankers Association invites members and associates to the 41st ABA General Meeting and Conference, taking place on September 15-16, 2025, in the Kingdom of Bhutan.

This year's Conference will be held at Dungkar Dzong in Paro, a setting that is truly exceptional. Nestled in the Himalayas, Bhutan offers a rare and serene environment – one that invites both reflection and forward-thinking dialogue. It is a fitting venue for the Conference theme: **"Financing the Future: Banking for Sustainable Growth."**

Discussions will focus on:

- Digital Transformation in Sustainability Banking
- Enhancing Customer and Employee Experience Through Technology
- Innovations in Cross-Border Payments
- Adapting Regulations for a Changing Financial Landscape

We are looking for speakers and moderators for the conference, please contact the Secretariat at aba@aba.org.tw / teresaliu@aba.org.tw should you have any suitable suggestions for any of the above-mentioned sessions.



We sincerely hope you will join us in the annual event in Bhutan!

New Member

BPC joins ABA as Associate Member



as an Associate Member.

BPC is a proven industry leader that is shaping the world of transactions with quick, safe and easy payment processing. With a focus on exceptional technology development and customer service, BPC helps financial institutions and businesses to deliver innovative and best-in-class proven solutions that fit with today's consumer lifestyle when banking, shopping, or moving in both urban and rural areas. With more than 500 customers across 140 countries, BPC collaborates with all ecosystem players to deliver services for the digital world. Its

The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) is pleased to share with you that BPC has joined ABA

core product SmartVista suite comprises cutting-edge banking, commerce, and mobility platforms that enable innovative solutions for digital banking, ATM and switching, payments processing, card, and fraud management, financial inclusion, merchant portals, transport, and smart cities. www.bpcbt.com.

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Training Programs

Invitation to webinar on “Taiwan’s AI-Driven Financial Innovation & Digital Transformation”

The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) invites members and friends to the upcoming webinar on “Taiwan’s AI-Driven Financial Innovation & Digital Transformation,” co-hosted by Z/Yen and the Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance (TABF). The event will take place on April 30, 2025, at 5:00 PM (Taipei time).

As an active Associate Member of ABA, TABF has pioneered various initiatives in Taiwan, including research, training, proficiency testing, and publication services for banking and finance professionals.

The event is free of charge. We encourage members to take advantage of this opportunity to explore Taiwan’s leadership in AI-powered finance and discover potential investment opportunities in this dynamic market.



[Register here](#), if you have any questions or need assistance with registration, please reach out to overseas@tabf.org.tw.

ABA invites members to Fraud and Financial Crime Asia 2025



The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) would like to invite members and associates to participate in the Fraud and Financial Crime Asia 2025 forum to be held on May 15, 2025 in Singapore.

Organized by Regulation Asia, the annual Fraud & Financial Crime Asia forum remains a vital gathering for public and private sector leaders, experts, and stakeholders to address the evolving threats and regulatory challenges facing financial institutions. This event has become a cornerstone for fostering collaboration, offering a unique platform to share insights, discuss emerging risks, and explore innovative solutions crucial to protecting the integrity of financial systems across Asia.

Providing an invaluable opportunity to engage with thought leaders, hear from industry experts, and contribute

to building a more resilient and secure financial sector, the forum can foster a more informed, responsive approach to the challenges of financial crime, ensuring that the financial services ecosystem remains robust, transparent, and secure for all.

Key Themes

The Forum will focus on the following Key Themes:

- Regulatory shifts and geopolitics
- Payments and digital ecosystems
- Bridging traditional & Token native
- Ghost laundering & Shadow networks
- Capital markets & Complex financial crimes
- Synthetic identities, deepfakes and non-face to face KYC/KYB
- Proliferation financing and sanctions
- Entity risks & Complex structures
- Cyber: Laundering and Financial security

We are pleased to inform you that participating ABA members will benefit from a 15% discount from the listed price. Interested ABA members please write to the ABA Secretariat at aba@aba.org.tw to obtain the discount code.

For more details about the Forum, please visit <https://www.financialcrimeasia.com/>.

Training Programs

ABA Members Invited to Join the 3rd Chief Risk Officer Summit in Bangkok on May 14-15, 2025

The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) invites members and friends to participate in the 3rd Chief Risk Officer Summit to be held on May 14-15, 2025 in the Carlton Hotel Bangkok Sukhumvit.

Organized by [Trueventus](#), the two-day Summit is aimed at equipping risk professionals with relevant and actionable information since they play a pivotal role in current world industries, with over 75% of global companies reporting that risk management significantly impacts their success, according to PwC. The challenge to maintain operational continuity has also increased further in the finance industry where 86% of organizations have faced cyberattacks.

The Summit will gather business leaders from different industries and world-class companies, including banks and related financial institutions, who will present case studies and share experiences in the latest technology to improve data quality and operations.

The Summit will discuss the following issues:

- Integration of risk management into strategic planning, decision-making, and major



transformations.

- Implementation of strategies to streamline processes and cut unnecessary risks.
- Monitor information across the organization for better risk management.

Understanding the use of advanced tools and technologies to gain a comprehensive view of risks.

- Understanding the various risk perspectives and related analyses.
- Mitigating information flow across the organization for better risk management.

For more details about the Summit, [download the brochure](#) or visit <https://www.trueventus.com/chief-risk-officer-bangkok/>.

We are pleased to inform you that participating ABA members will benefit from a 10% discount from the listed price shown in the application form included in the brochure. Please contact the ABA Secretariat at aba@aba.org.tw for any questions.

ABA and Fintelekt to hold "Certified AML/CFT Professional Training Programme" on June 19-20, 2025 in Bangkok



The Asian Bankers Association (ABA) is pleased to announce the upcoming Fintelekt Certified AML/CFT Professional (FCAP) training programme to be held in person on 19-20 June 2025 at the Hotel Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11 in Bangkok, Thailand.

FCAP is a 2-day comprehensive and practical masterclass to learn and stay updated with latest tools, techniques and developments in anti-money laundering (AML) and combating terrorist financing (CFT).

Fintelekt's training initiatives are reviewed and supported by regulators in many countries and are known for their quality and relevance to AML/CFT compliance. Over the years, employees from a large number of banks, non-banking finance companies, insurance companies, mutual funds, money services businesses, casinos, and remittance houses have successfully undergone FCAP.

Participants who attend all sessions and pass the assessments are entitled to receive the Fintelekt Certified AML/CFT Professional (FCAP) certificate. FCAP members earn the right to use "FCAP" as a designation against their name, signifying specialist knowledge, industry leadership and commitment to AML/CFT compliance.

The training will cover the following:

- International AML/CFT framework
- AML governance and risk-based approach
- National framework and national risk assessment
- Enterprise risk assessment
- Correspondent banking risks
- Sanctions and screening
- Trade-based money laundering
- Terrorist financing & proliferation financing
- Ultimate beneficial ownership
- Cryptocurrency risks
- Evolving risks in the digital age
- Risks from new payment systems
- Technology developments
- Transaction monitoring
- Quality of reporting
- Expectations of FIUs/LEAs
- Regulatory/ LEA interactions
- Co-ordination within the AML/CFT ecosystem
- Preventive measures

This will be a non-residential training programme (i.e., accommodation costs will be borne by participants). Fintelekt worked out a special rate with Hotel Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11 which participants can avail of. Further details will be made available upon registration.

Training Programs

Regular price: US\$675 per participant. Seats are limited, and we therefore request you to send your nominations at the earliest. Registrations will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Fees include:

1. Course material,
2. FCAP Certification,
3. Lunch & refreshments.

ABA is glad to offer its members 30% Early Bird Discount, until April 30. ABA members will pay only US\$472.

Please contact ABA Secretariat at aba@aba.org.tw for more information.