

ACRION

Navigating Compliance, Managing Risk • *Differently*

2025: THE COMPLIANCE RESET

A TURNING POINT FOR MAURITIUS





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1.

FROM BOX-TICKING TO ACCOUNTABILITY

Compliance is no longer a procedural exercise

In 2025, it became unmistakably clear that compliance obligations extend beyond policies and manuals. Accountability has shifted upward placing governance, culture and decision-making firmly under scrutiny.





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2.

ENFORCEMENT BECAME REAL

Enforcement in 2025 was not symbolic, it was consequential.

Regulatory action by the Financial Services Commission resulted in the revocation of 31 licences, reinforcing the reality that persistent non-compliance carries tangible consequences. These actions underscored a broader message: supervisory tolerance has narrowed and regulatory expectations must now be met not only in design but in execution.



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3.

FINANCIAL CRIME RISK IN NUMBERS



The scale of financial crime risk was laid bare.

Statistics published by the Financial Crimes Commission revealed the magnitude of exposure facing the financial system, with approximately MUR 20 billion in assets under investigation, 1,595 investigations initiated and 90 arrests effected. These figures reinforced the importance of proactive risk identification, robust controls and early escalation mechanisms within institutions.





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4.

A LEGAL TURNING POINT



The legal framework around money laundering reached a critical inflection point.

In FCC v Patel [2025], the Court confirmed that money laundering may be established through circumstantial evidence alone, applying the “irresistible inference” approach. Crucially, the offence was affirmed as a primary offence, removing the need to prove a specific predicate crime. This judgment significantly raised the legal and evidentiary stakes for organisations and individuals alike.



5.

CLEARER RULES, HIGHER EXPECTATIONS

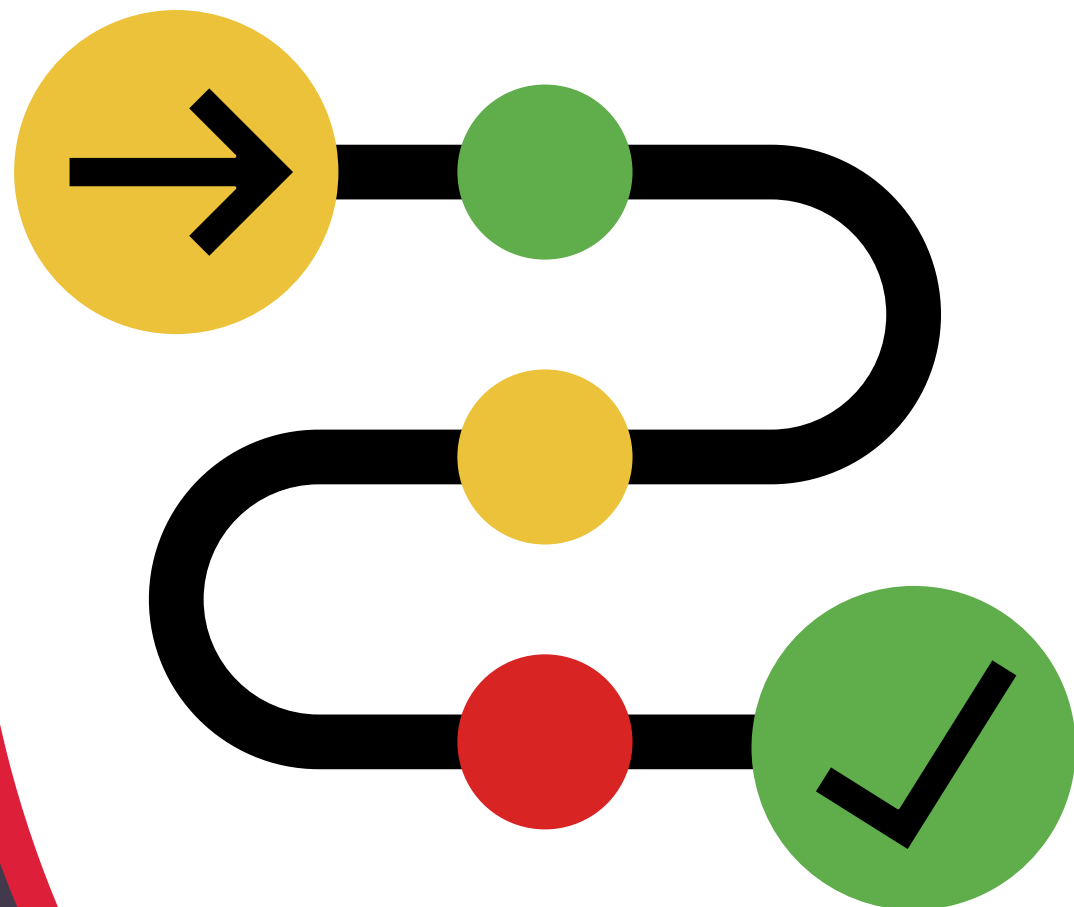
Regulatory expectations were clarified and strengthened.

Beneficial ownership requirements were reinforced, with companies, partnerships, and foundations now required to maintain written declarations from beneficial owners. Existing entities have until 30 June 2026 to comply. In parallel, the FCC issued Guidelines on Legal Persons, emphasising top-level commitment, documented risk assessments, internal controls, monitoring, training and the adoption of a mandatory Gifts, Hospitality & Promotional Expenditure Policy.



6.

ROAD MAP TO ESAAMLG



2025 also looked forward.

The National Budget announcement confirmed the development of a National Roadmap to prepare the Mauritius International Financial Centre for the ESAAMLG Mutual Evaluation scheduled for 2027. This strategic shift makes clear that regulatory readiness is no longer a last-minute exercise, but a multi-year effort requiring early planning, remediation and alignment.





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7.

AGAINST THIS BACKDROP, ACRION WAS LAUNCHED

Acron was created for precisely this environment..

As regulatory expectations evolve rapidly and enforcement becomes more assertive, organisations require support that goes beyond technical interpretation. Acron partners with institutions to design proportionate, risk-based compliance frameworks; translate laws, guidelines and enforcement trends into practical controls; strengthen governance, policies, procedures, and training; and prepare organisations for inspections, enforcement scrutiny and future mutual evaluations.





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8.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

The test of compliance will increasingly be practical, not theoretical.

As we move into 2026, compliance will continue to be assessed not by what exists on paper, but by how effectively it operates in practice. At Acrion, our focus remains clear: helping organisations move from compliance as an obligation to compliance as a strategic safeguard building resilience, credibility and long-term sustainability.



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