

Biography Frans Thierens - KBC Global Services

Frans Thierens
Head KBC Group Ethics & Fraud Unit
KBC Global Services

Since April 1, 2008 Frans Thierens has been appointed as Head of the Ethics and Fraud Unit within Group Compliance in KBC Group, the Belgian bancassurance group with offices worldwide and in particular with a comprehensive representation in Central and Eastern Europe.

In this role he is responsible for the organization and management of "ethics" and the fraud risk management in KBC Group. This includes the draft and implementation of codes of conduct, setting up the organization and reporting lines, developing and implementing anti-fraud strategy and policies and perform concrete investigations.

After a 5-year stay at the University of Ghent, in June 1988 Frans succeeded to obtain his law degree.

Shortly after, in August 1988 he was hired by KBC Bank (formerly "Kredietbank", merged with CERA Bank in 1998).

After a 6 month internship, he worked for 5 years as legal counsel in the legal department in the unit, specialized in loans and securities. Meanwhile he published a number of comments on the Belgian mortgage law and followed some evening courses and gave a number of external trainings.

In 1993, Frans became assistant chief legal officer, in the unit, specializing in civil law, computer law and social law. In this role he got more and more interest in the issue of combating money laundering and prevention of (internal) fraud.

In September 1998 Frans joined the Directorate Compliance in KBC Bank and was appointed head of the Financial Ethics Unit. In order to get more familiar with some elements of this new challenge, he followed a one-year evening course in VAT, personal and corporate taxation in Brussels.

On January 1, 2005 Frans was subsequently appointed as Compliance Officer at KBC Bank. In this role, he was co-responsible for the management and coordination of the compliance function in KBC Bank and KBC Group.

On May 1, 2006 Frans took the post of Compliance Officer in Merchant Banking and Shared Services Group and assistant compliance officer at KBC Group.

In this capacity he was responsible for the organization, management and coordination of the compliance function in the Merchant Banking business unit and business unit Shared Services. This includes both the "local" entities, like the dealing room, corporate, securities, asset management, etc., and international offices in U.S., UK, France, Netherlands, Asia Pacific, etc ...

Frans also published a commentary on the Belgian "model" to report suspicious transactions regarding money laundering and financing of terrorism to the Financial Intelligence Processing Unit. He also acts as an instructor in the course IT Forensics (private aspects) and in the Belgian professional association Febelfin (the compliance function, special (tax) mechanisms and combating money laundering) and participated as speaker participated in a number of national and international seminars (internal audit, the organization of the compliance function, ...).

Frans is a member of the Board of the Institute for Forensic Auditors (IFA) and a Certified Forensic Auditor.

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