



# INTRODUCING OVER-THE-COUNTER CASH WITHDRAWAL LIMITS

**KAMPALA, 3 June 2026** – As part of the financial sector’s e-payments strategy and in alignment with global trends, Bank of Uganda (BoU) will introduce limits on over-the-counter cash withdrawal effective **1 January 2027**. This is in line with the shift toward digital financial services which the BoU has observed, characterized by consumer preference for electronic payments.

Effective **1 January 2027**, the following cash withdrawal limits shall apply to all accounts held with supervised financial institutions:

Account type	Daily Cash Withdrawal Cap (UGX)	Weekly Cash Withdrawal Cap (UGX)
Individual Accounts	50 million	500 million
Corporate/ Business Accounts	250 million	2.5 billion

The above limits do not apply to digital payment channels such as the Real Time Gross Settlement System and Electronic Funds Transfers.

The BoU is conscious of the fact that some sectors remain heavily dependent on cash. Accordingly, the Bank has issued guidance to the Supervised Financial Institutions (SFIs) on exception management as follows;

- i. **Customer Risk Profiling:** SFIs are required to develop and implement comprehensive risk-based customer profiles based on which lower limits could be set.
- ii. **Exceptional Approvals:** The Bank of Uganda may discretionally waive the limits for certain transactions or sectors on the request of the SFIs.

- iii. **Promotion of Digital Alternatives:** SFIs shall advise their customers on the available alternative digital channels such as Real Time Gross Settlement, Electronic Funds Transfers, and Mobile Money Bank to Wallet transfers.

**Background:**

Based on the BoU's Automated Clearing House system transaction data, the payment landscape underwent a digital shift between Financial Year 2017/2018 and Financial Year 2025/2026. Electronic credit transfers have solidified their position as the primary engine of interbank payment transactions across all cleared currencies.

- **UGX Dominance:** The volume of transactions cleared through electronic credit transfers rose from 87.71% to 93.53%, while the value of transactions surged from 79.33% to 93.00%.
- **Mobile Money Growth:** Mobile money payments have continued to grow, averaging 25% of transactions annually since Financial Year 2020/2021.
- **Trend:** There is a sustained upward trajectory in both volume and value, indicating consumers trust and prefer the efficiency of electronic credit transfers.

**MANAGEMENT**