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NO LIMITS INVEST GMBH: evidence indicates no prospectus published

The Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bafin) warns consumers about investments supposedly offered by the company NO LIMITS INVEST GMBH. The investments in question are direct investments in walnut tree plantations. Under the German Capital Investment Act (VermAnlG), a prospectus is required in order to offer investments to the public. Bafin has not received a prospectus from the company.

Bafin has evidence suggesting that capital investments in the form of “other investments” as defined in the second alternative of section 1 (2) no. 7 of the VermAnlG are being offered to the public in Germany via the website nolimitinvest(.)de. No prospectus has been filed with Bafin relating to the investment product offered by No Limits Invest.

Background

In Germany, capital investments may be offered to the public only if a prospectus has been published. This prospectus must be approved by Bafin prior to publication. During the approval process, Bafin checks whether the minimum information required by law is included in the prospectus and whether its content is understandable, coherent and consistent. However, Bafin does not check whether the information contained in the prospectus is correct. Moreover, it does not check whether the issuer is reliable nor does it examine the product in question. Issuers of capital investments must ensure that this is clearly indicated in their prospectuses. The issuers are liable for the accuracy of the information contained in the prospectus.

No prospectus relating to the investment product offered by No Limits Invest has been submitted to Bafin for approval. You can check whether an approved prospectus for offers of capital investments to the public has been filed with Bafin by consulting the Prospectuses filed database on the Bafin website.

In addition, companies offering capital investments of other companies to consumers need prior authorisation from Bafin. Information on whether a particular company has been authorised by Bafin can be found in Bafin's database of companies.

Recognising financial fraud

Bafin has compiled information on its website that may help consumers to identify dubious or fraudulent providers. Warning signs include how providers communicate (via messaging apps such as Telegram or WhatsApp, for example) and other features, such as the promise of high returns at low risk or when providers pressure potential clients to act fast.

Bafin, the German Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) and the German state criminal police offices (*Landeskriminalämter*) recommend that consumers seeking to invest money online should exercise the utmost caution and do the necessary research beforehand in order to identify attempted fraud at an early stage.

What can you do if you suspect financial fraud?

If you are worried that you might be the victim of fraud, you should report the matter to the police or a public prosecutor's office as soon as possible. Such matters can be reported to any police station or to a public prosecutor's office. You can find the competent public prosecutor's office for your place of residence by consulting the following register at: ↗ www.justizadressen.nrw.de/en/justiz/suche. You can also refer them to Bafin's warnings.

Bafin advises anyone who has been affected to consult a lawyer if necessary. You can also seek assistance from a consumer organisation near you. More information can be obtained from the Federation of German Consumer

Organisations (*Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband e.V.* – vzbv)
(Markgrafenstraße 66, 10969 Berlin, phone: 030/25800-0, fax: 030/258000-518, website: ↗ www.vzbv.de).