

COMMUNIQUÉ



The Financial Intelligence Unit (“FIU”), has become aware of various scam schemes targeting individuals in Mauritius through social media platforms such as “Facebook”, “Whatsapp” etc. The schemes may involve,

- targeting of victims through social media with false promises of valuable items (e.g. jewellery, vehicles, mobile phones, perfume, foreign currency etc) or employment, in exchange of cash being deposited in local bank accounts of other individuals.
- requests/ instructions from persons befriended on social media to open bank accounts in Mauritius or share bank account details with them, receive funds from unknown sources on their behalf, send bank cards to overseas persons and transfer cash received in bank account/s to overseas persons.
- instructions received from purported “official authorities” to effect payment of “fees” into local bank accounts in exchange of “Money Laundering clearance certificate”, “Insurance certificate”, “Customs clearance” etc.

Members of the public are advised to be vigilant and refrain from participating in such schemes.

Please be informed that the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2002 (“FIAMLA”) clearly sets out the functions of the FIU as a central authority which gathers, collects, analyses and disseminates its findings in respect of information on suspected money laundering offences to the competent authorities. As such, the FIU does not issue any “money laundering clearance certificate” and will never contact members of the general public through social media platforms.

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