

MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

COMMUNIQUE

The Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance wishes to, again, draw the attention of the public at large and more particularly of operators in the SME sector, of a google link emanating from a fake Facebook account entitled *"Resource Centre of Mauritian entrepreneurs for economic and SME's development*" which is still spreading news purporting to the provision of financial grants to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Mauritius by this Ministry and is inviting operators to submit their application accordingly.

The Ministry reiterates its appeal to the public not to fill in any forms linked to the above captioned matter or disclose any personal information. Furthermore, they are advised not to respond to any email being sent by one **Mrs Elisabeth Binta Yaro** describing herself as "*Director, Business Local Development Department of this Ministry*" which post does not exist at the level of the Ministry.

The said Mrs Yaro, is also circulating a forged letter supposedly signed by the Honourable Mahen Kumar Seeruttun, Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance. The matter has been reported to the relevant authority for investigation.

The Ministry again draws the attention of the public that it is crucial to rely on verified and official sources for accurate information regarding government initiatives, financial grants or schemes which the Ministry responsible would announce through official channels.

The Ministry strongly advises everyone to remain vigilant, verify the authenticity of any request or information received, refrain from sharing personal information or engaging with suspicious forms or pages and to report such cases to the relevant authority.

25 July 2023