



Financial Services Commission
Mauritius

Alert - Phishing Attempt by Mr. Andrew Lincoln

The Financial Services Commission, Mauritius (the “FSC Mauritius”) would like to alert members of the public of a phishing email from Mr Andrew Lincoln, purportedly the Public Information Officer of the Financial Intelligence Centre (“FIC”) of South Africa.

Phishing refers to emails, text messages, letters and phone calls that seem to emanate from legitimate businesses that trick people into disclosing their personal and banking information. These scammers are generally looking for information like your bank account numbers, passwords and/or credit card numbers, which they will use for their own benefit.

Mr Andrew Lincoln claims that further to the last G8 Summit meeting regarding the settlement of all Winning/ Inheritance funds to the Beneficiaries, the Financial Intelligence Centre of South Africa has been authorised by Mr Pravin Jamnadas Gordhan, the Honorable Minister of Finance of the Republic of South Africa and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Secretary General to contact the beneficiary for its overdue payment.

The beneficiary is invited to contact Dr W. R. Marshall, allegedly the Director of the ATM VISA CARD Issuance Department of the HSBC Bank Plc London UK to receive its Winning/ Inheritance Funds, a sum of USD\$1.5Million dollars (One Million Five Hundred Thousand United State Dollars). The beneficiary is requested to revert within three (3) banking working days or else the funds would be handed over to Ms Anne Engelbrecht, who claims to be a true representative of the beneficiary.

The FSC Mauritius urges members of the public to exercise appropriate caution in respect of such emails and to avoid providing details of their bank accounts, credit card numbers, etc. in their own interest.

The following could be used as a guideline to “protect yourself” from phishing scams:

- Never send money or give credit card or online account details to anyone you do not know and trust.
- Do not open suspicious or unsolicited emails (spam)—ignore them.
- Do not click on any links in a spam email or open any files attached to them.
- Never dial a telephone number that you see in a spam email or SMS.
- If you want to access an internet account website, use a bookmarked link or type the address in yourself—NEVER follow a link in an email.
- Check the website address carefully. Scammers often set up fake websites with very similar addresses.
- Never enter your personal, credit card or online account information on a website if you are not certain it is genuine.
- Never send your personal, credit card or online account details through an email.

You may also wish to refer to the [Social Media and Fraud Alert](#) issued by the FSC Mauritius on 11 July 2013.

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