

COMMUNIQUÉ



MAURITIUS BANKERS
ASSOCIATION LIMITED

BANKS WARN AGAINST FAKE TRAVELLER'S CHEQUES AND FOREIGN BANKER'S CHEQUES

The Mauritius Bankers Association (MBA) wishes, on behalf of its member banks, to draw the attention of the public to attempts which have been made by international fraudsters to defraud the public through the use of fake traveller's cheques and foreign banker's cheques.

These fraudsters are using tactics such as giving job offers to internet users through emails and advertisements on the internet and inviting the public to apply for jobs on-line. Once the applicants have applied for the jobs, they are then informed that they will receive an advance payment by means of either traveller's cheques or banker's cheques drawn by foreign banks. These traveller's or banker's cheques are meant to be either payment for services rendered by the employees so "recruited" or alternatively to be used for the purchase of certain equipment/s that will allow them to perform their duties as per the terms of employment. However the cheques sent will normally be of higher amount than what is required to conduct the business.

These "employees" are then instructed by their "Employers" to remit the excess money to a specific person outside Mauritius by using money transfer services. Once these "employees" cash these traveller's or banker's cheques and carry out the instructions of their "Employers", they fall into a crime net, as all the traveller's cheques and foreign banker's cheques used in these cases are fake.

In view of the above, members of the public are advised to exercise caution in relation to such offers effectively emanating from criminally intent e-mails and internet adverts and which can lead to criminal prosecution.

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