



Computer Emergency Response Team of Mauritius
Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation

CERT-MU Security Alert

Date of Issue: 6 February 2026

Beware of WhatsApp Scams in Circulation

Severity Level: High

Description:

CERT-MU wishes to alert the public that various WhatsApp scams are currently circulating and targeting mobile users, resulting in financial losses. Scammers are using the WhatsApp application to send fake messages to impersonate:

- Family members or friends claiming they have a new phone number
- Bank officials, government officers, or service providers
- Employers, colleagues, or known organisations
- Online sellers or buyers offering "too good" deals

These fake messages are sent to WhatsApp users to

- Request urgent money transfers
- Ask for one-time passwords (OTP) or verification codes
- Obtain personal or banking information
- Trick users into clicking malicious links or installing harmful applications

CERT-MU advises WhatsApp users to be careful to the above-mentioned type of messages and to verify the authenticity before proceeding.

How do you protect yourself?

1. Pause and think

Look out for suspicious behaviour:

- Are they using an unknown number?
- Are they rushing you?
- Are they being threatening or asking you to trust them?
- Are they asking you to transfer money or share a password, pin, or personal information?

2. Stop the conversation

- Hang up a call or stop replying to the user.
- If you cannot verify the contact's identity, do not share any personal or financial information.

3. Block and report

- Block the user to stop them from contacting you, and report them to WhatsApp.

4. Update your privacy and security settings

- Adjust your privacy settings to control who can see your personal information and contact you.
- You can also enable two-step verification to better secure your account.

5. Report the incident

- Report the incident on MAUCORS+ (<http://maucors.govmu.org/>) or to the Cybercrime Unit of the Mauritius Police Force on 210 4653.
- Contact your Bank immediately in case you have done any money transfer.

Contact Information

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Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation

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