



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Bank of Mauritius cautions members of the public against Counterfeited Foreign Currency Banknotes

2 December 2024

It has been brought to the attention of the Bank of Mauritius (Bank) that counterfeited foreign currency notes are currently in circulation in Mauritius.

Members of the public are hereby informed that the Bank of Mauritius is the sole issuer of currency banknote and coins in Mauritius and may determine whether a Mauritius currency banknotes and coins is genuine or counterfeited. The security features on our banknotes may be consulted on the website of the Bank at <https://www.bom.mu/bank-notes-coins/bank-notes/security-features/security-features-25> .

However, counterfeited foreign currency banknotes do not fall within the remit of the Bank of Mauritius and as such the Bank is not mandated to make a determination on the genuineness or spuriousness of a foreign currency banknote or coin.

The Bank, moreover, draws the attention of the public to section 100(2) of the Criminal Code which stipulates as follows:

100. Counterfeiting seal, mark or bank note

(2) (a) Any person who –

- (i) forges or counterfeits any bank note, or any word, letter, figure, mark, sign, signature or facsimile upon or attached to any bank note.*
 - (ii) utters any forged or counterfeit bank note, knowing it to be forged or counterfeit; or*
 - (iii) introduces into Mauritius or, without lawful authority or excuse (the proof of which shall lie on him), purchases, receives or obtains from any other person, or has in his custody or possession, any forged or counterfeit bank note, knowing it to be forged or counterfeit, shall be punished by penal servitude.*
- (b) In paragraph (a), 'bank note' includes any note of any bank or person carrying on the business of banking in any part of the world, and includes any currency note issued by or on behalf of the Government of Mauritius or of any other country.*
- (c) For the purposes of paragraph (b), 'currency note' includes any notes which are legal tender in the country in which they are issued.*

The Public is therefore requested to remain vigilant and to report any counterfeited banknote or coin to the Police