



# **BANK OF MAURITIUS**

website: <http://bom.intnet.mu>

## **COMMUNIQUÉ**

### **Cheque Truncation Project**

The Bank's attention has been drawn to a misleading report in the media, at 08:00 hours this morning, alleging that the Director of Sybrin Ltd, a South African company, has, in a letter addressed to the Governor of the Bank, lodged a formal complaint against the decision of the Bank to award a contract worth Rs100 million to a Swiss company which is alleged to have no experience in implementing cheque truncation systems.

The Bank would like to point out that the Governor of the Bank has not yet received the letter referred to in the media.

The Bank has, however, received a scanned copy of a letter addressed to the Governor as an attachment to an email sent to the First Deputy Governor of the Bank, on Monday 22 November 2010, received at 19:41 hours but seen by the First Deputy Governor the next morning. The e-mail and its attachment were also copied by the sender to several other persons outside the Bank.

The Governor only took cognizance of this email and its attachment at around 15:15 hours on 23 November 2010. Late that same evening, the Governor caused a reply to be issued to Sybrin Ltd by the Second Deputy Governor of the Bank, who has the responsibility for IT systems. The Bank replied to the Director of Sybrin Ltd at 19:36 hours on 23 November 2010.

The Bank would like to affirm that, contrary to the allegation made in the media, no contract has been awarded to any Swiss company in relation to the Cheque Truncation Project.

The Bank wishes to assure members of the public that all allocation of contracts by the Bank is carried out in strict compliance with the procurement procedures prevailing at the Bank, which has a robust process which is subject to scrutiny by both its internal and external auditors.

*24 November 2010*