## URGENT COMMUNIQUE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, SME AND COOPERATIVES

The Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives wishes to draw the attention of the public at large, more particularly operators of the SME Sector in Mauritius of a fake news on 'CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – Grant Funding' on behalf of US African Development Foundation-USADF in collaboration with USAID and the Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives. This fake news is being disseminated on social media soliciting applications for Grant Funding with regard to MSMEs in Mauritius.

The Ministry reiterates its appeal to the public not to fill in any form linked to the above captioned matter or disclose any personal information.

The Ministry draws the attention of the public that it is crucial to rely on verified and official sources for accurate information regarding government initiatives, financial grants or schemes which the Ministry communicates through official channels.

The Ministry strongly advises everyone to remain vigilant, verify the authenticity of any request or information received, refrain from sharing personal information or engaging with suspicious forms or pages and to report such cases to the relevant authority.

The public is advised to refer only to the official sources for updated news and events.

09 January 2025