

PRESS RELEASE

THE AMMC WARNS THE PUBLIC AGAINST FINANCIAL INVESTMENT SCAMS

In light of the increase in fraudulent offerings circulating across social media platforms and instant messaging groups, the AMMC calls on the public to exercise heightened vigilance and sets out the key precautions to take in order to protect their savings.

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As part of its statutory mandate to protect savings invested in financial instruments, the AMMC is once again calling on the public to exercise greater caution in view of the growing number of fraudulent investment platforms.

Promoted via social media and instant messaging applications, some of these platforms make unauthorised use of the AMMC's identity, including its logo, official seals, or purported licensing certificates, in order to lend an appearance of legitimacy to their offerings and mislead the public.

The fraudulent operations typically follow a standardized pattern: misleading advertisements or promotional content are circulated on social media, prompting individuals to join private discussion groups, notably on WhatsApp or Telegram, presented as spaces for discussion, advice, or investment literacy, and they are then encouraged to make an initial payment.

To incentivize further payments, these platforms often display fictitious or simulated capital gains. However, when investors attempt to withdraw their funds, they may find withdrawals blocked, often followed by a request for additional fees or alleged commissions required to release the invested funds.



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In response to these fraudulent schemes, the AMMC urges the public to exercise the utmost caution and recommends, in particular, that they:

- be wary of any promises of high or guaranteed returns;
- refrain from transferring funds before verifying the identity and regulatory status of the person or entity offering the investment;
- verify the authenticity of any documents purporting to originate from the AMMC (logo, stamps, certificates);
- exercise caution with regard to investment recommendations and unsolicited requests circulating across social media and private messaging groups;
- systematically check that any entity offering investment intermediation or advisory services is duly authorised.

The lists of authorised market participants and licensed entities are available on the AMMC's official website (www.ammc.ma).

The AMMC further notes that its financial literacy portal, "Le marché des capitaux pour tous" (The Capital Market for All), provides the public with educational resources designed to improve understanding of how the capital market operates, of investment products, and of the precautions to take before making any investment decision.

Finally, the AMMC points out that conduct liable to constitute a criminal offence falls within the jurisdiction of the competent judicial authorities, and urges anyone encountering such practices to report them to the AMMC and, where appropriate, to file a complaint with the relevant authorities.

