

Republic of Malawi

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

PRESS RELEASE

WARNING AGAINST SOLAR GRANTS SCAM ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Ministry of Energy has become aware of a fraudulent Facebook page impersonating the Ministry in an attempt to steal from unsuspecting members of the public. The fake Facebook page claims to offer solar power grants to individuals in partnership with International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), but this is a scam designed to extract personal information for unknown reasons.

The Ministry of Energy wishes to inform the public that it is not giving out any solar power grants through Facebook or any other social media platforms. Any page or platform claiming to be the Ministry and offering such grants is a fake and fraudulent account designed to deceive the public.

The Ministry takes this issue very seriously and has already reported the fake page to Cyber Security Authorities for immediate action. We urge members of the public to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity related to this scam to the police.

The Ministry of Energy is committed to ensuring that the public is well-informed and protected against such scams. We would like to remind the public that official information from the Ministry is only available through the official website <u>www.energy.gov.mw</u> and social media pages.

The Ministry encourages the public to exercise caution when providing personal information online and to only engage with official pages and accounts of government entities and agencies.

For further information or to report any suspicious activity related to this scam, please contact the Ministry of Energy through their official Facebook page **Ministry of Energy-Malawi** or email <u>info@energy.gov.mw</u> or call the Public Relations Officer on 0999792910.

Eng. Alfonso Chikuni

SECRETARY FOR ENERGY