Financial Services Commission Consumer Outreach Programme 2013

Information session for Senior Citizens Associations

SSR Recreational Centre Belle Mare

Belle Mare 25 November 2013



Financial Services Commission
Consumer Outreach Programme
2012





Outreach Programme 2013

Awareness for All - Youth and Adults

January

- CAB / Social Welfare Officers
- Cooperative Union Ltd -North

April

Senior Citizens
 Associations – Pointe
 Aux Sables

August

 Women Centre – Rose Belle

February

 Launch of Young Talent Competition (YTC)

May

- Mun. of Curepipe
- NGOs & Consumer agencies
- Arya Sabha Vacoas
- Cooperative Union Ltd -South

October

• NGOs - APEA/Act together

March

• Briefing Session YTC

June

- Prize Giving YTC
- Ex Civil Servants Club Flamboyant

November

Senior Citizens
 Associations - SSR
 Recreational Centre Belle
 Mare

The Financial Services Commission (FSC) – Who We Are?



The Financial Services Commission – Who We Are?

Who we are

Set up in 2001 as an integrated regulator for financial services other than banking and global business

What we do

- Protect
 - the integrity and stability of the non-bank financial services sector
 - the interest of investors and consumers
- Regulatory activities to ensure integrity and financial soundness of licensees
- **Promote** the development, fairness, efficiency and transparency of financial institutions and capital markets in Mauritius;
- Sustain development of the financial services sector

(Objectives – Section 6 FSA)

Vision

"To be an internationally recognised Financial Supervisor committed to the sustained development of Mauritius as a sound and competitive Financial Services Centre"



The Financial Services Commission – Who We Are?

What sectors fall under the purview of the FSC?





What are the benefits of financial Services?

- Financial Services help us to use economic resources where they serve us best.
 - Financial Service companies help us to allocate resources as needed along economic cycles.
 - They contribute to economic growth
- Financial products provide protection to consumers
- Consumers must seek professional advice before subscribing / investing in any financial products/services



Buying Insurance – Things to Know.



Buying Insurance - Things to Know?



What is Insurance?

Transferring risks of meeting financial difficulties when an unpredictable event happens

Insurance policy

Contract between individual and insurance company

where in return for a premium

the company undertakes to provide specified benefits on occurrence of specified events (Accidents, illness, death)





People opt for insurance because of unpredictable events of life.

Why buy insurance?



Some types of insurance products are <u>compulsory</u>. (Ex Motor vehicle Insurance)



Other types of insurance are <u>optional</u> and you may consider different types of insurance at different stages in your life. (For example when you get married – Insure your house, belongings, health etc...)



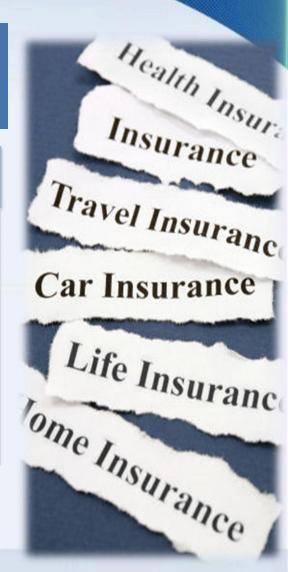
Types of Insurance

General Insurance

- Accident & health insurance policies
- Motor Insurance policies
- Property insurance policies

Long Term Insurance

- Life Insurance policies
- Pension policies
- Linked Long Term Insurance





How much does it cost to get an insurance cover?



Depends on a number of factors:



The type of insurance policy you wish to contract



Your risk assessment



Cost varies according to: Sum assured, duration of contract, health condition, age, past driving record etc.



What happens if I want to cancel my insurance policy?



What happens if I want to cancel my insurance policy?

It can be cancelled by mutual agreement as insurance policy is a contract

You must inform the insurance company who will assess if you are entitled to a refund

You will not receive full amount as part of premium would have been used to cover period insured



What happens when I face a problem regarding my insurance policy?



What happens when I face a problem regarding my insurance policy?

Contact my insurance company

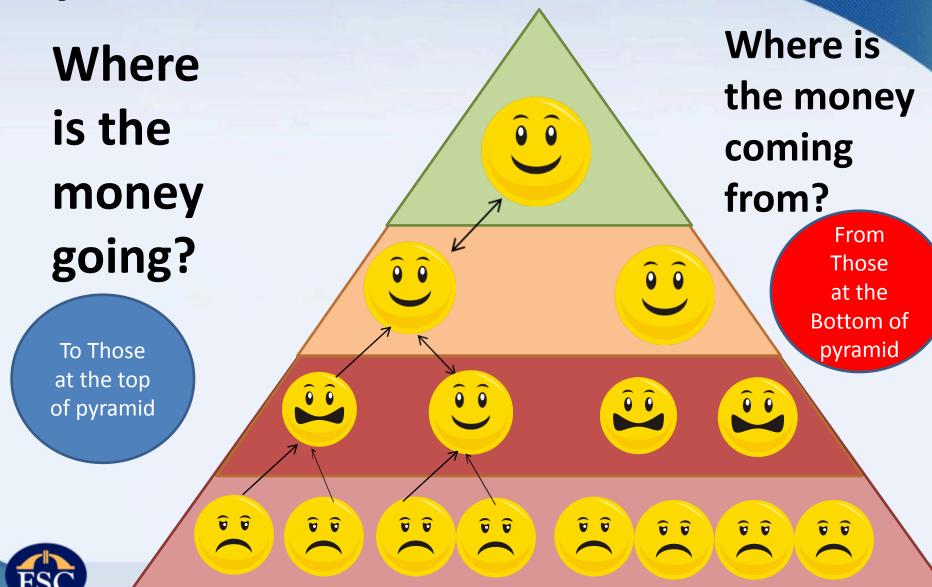
Contact the FSC and follow the normal complaints procedure



Unregulated Schemes



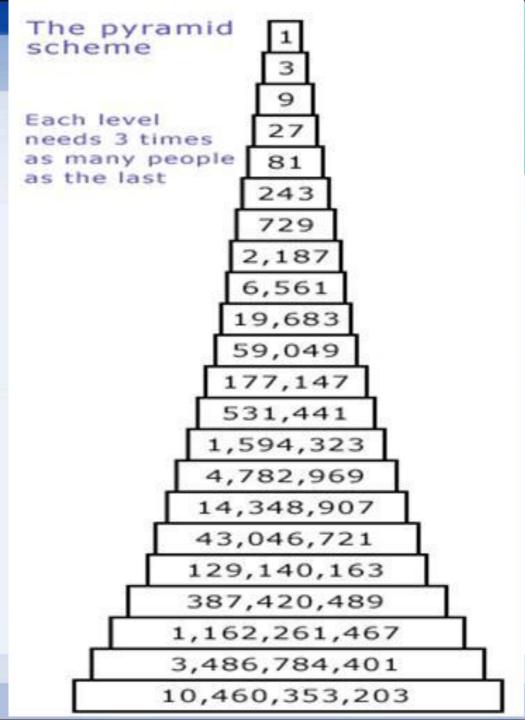
Pyramid Scheme



Pyramid Scheme

- Assume that fraudsters must recruit 3 new investors for each existing investor
- Top of Pyramid:
 Scheme starts with
 One Investor
- Bottom of Pyramid:
 Over 10 billion people





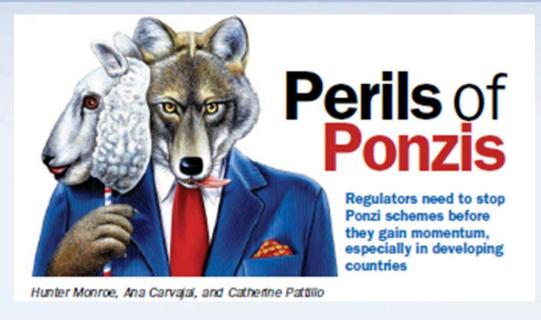
This was not investment.

Money is not earned from profit but rather transferred from one party to another.

- Returns which are abnormally high are paid to earlier investors, entirely out of money paid into the scheme by newer investors
- This is deceit ... taking from Paul to pay Peter



Beware of Wolves disguised as Sheep



- •Always be accompanied by relatives/friends who have necessary knowledge when it comes to financial transactions.
- •Be on your guard, even with people to whom you are very familiar.
- Appearance can be deceitful



All investments have risk

No one can guarantee the future....





- Invest with professional market leaders
- Earn money <u>risk free!</u>

Beware of promises Always verify





This was an example of illegal, fraudulent activities.

If you heard or know about this, contact FSC, BOM or the Police.



Investments

- Things to know?



Is the Company authorised to raise money through

- a) Equity FSC
- b) Loan / Deposit **BOM**
- c) Private



Company

- Business Plan
- Work Activities
- Make Profit
- Pay dividends to investors

Licensing Conditions

Monitoring & Supervision

Disclosure of information





RETURN

What are Capital Markets?

Markets in which individuals/institutions trade (buy or sell) financial securities.

Ex. Shares on the Stock Exchange





Who can invest in Capital Markets?

 Any member of the public who has legal capacity (example - an individual over 18, a company etc...)



Shareholder/Investor is entitled to monetary benefits:

Dividends

Bonus

Rights Issue

Capital Growth

*Provided the company

- makes profit and
- is solvent

Note you also have **risks** – such as company may fail





How to invest in Capital Markets?

- Enter a contract with a licensed investment dealer (formerly known as stockbroker) and settle the relevant fees.
- A List of different categories of investment advisors available on the FSC website.
- Open an account with the central depository and settlement system (CDS) to settle the trades.





Who are the parties to Capital Markets?



Investment dealers

Market Intermediaries



Investment advisors and intermediaries



CIS Managers, CIS Administrators and/or custodians



How else can I invest?

- I can invest in Collective Investment Schemes (CIS).
- In a collective investment vehicle, I invest money alongside other investors in order to benefit from group advantages such as ability to
 - hire a professional investment manager
 - benefit from economies of scale cost sharing among others
 - diversify more and so theoretically, reduce risk.
- Collective investment vehicles are often referred to as mutual funds, investment funds, managed funds, or simply funds



Who regulates the Capital Markets sector?



Who regulates the Capital Markets sector?

The Financial Services Commission:

Licenses, Regulates, Monitors and supervises all activities in the Capital Markets sector

Promotes participation and improves protection of consumers

Fosters fair, efficient, transparent and informed markets



What happens when you are not satisfied with the services provided?



What happens when you are not satisfied with the services provided?

- Complaints must be addressed to investment dealers, advisors, intermediaries, the Exchanges and then the FSC.
- FSC assists consumers in following the normal complaints procedure.



Importance of consumer education for Senior Citizens Associations

Insurance of assets

Take the right financial decisions

Budget planning



Assistance of Senior Citizens Associations

Interface with consumers/public

Basic initial counselling on complaints procedure and budget planning

Streamline to appropriate authorities

Act as partners for disseminating information

Help in gathering field intelligence



Points to remember

1

Read the contract / documents thoroughly / Read small prints

7

Seek assistance from knowledgeable people (family member / professional)

3

 Check whether entities are licensed /authorised by the Financial Services Commission (FSC) / Bank of Mauritius (BOM)

4

 Remember that the rate of return of the investment is linked to its level of risk

5

Beware of appearances, when in doubt - don't sign. Take your time



How do I contact the Financial Services Commission?





Financial Services Commission Mauritius



The Chief Executive Financial Services Commission

FSC House

54 Cybercity Ebene

Mauritius

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