

NOTIFICATION OF A DATA BREACH

Johannesburg / 30 November 2023

We would like to advise our stakeholders that on 23 October 2023, the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) experienced a data breach incident whereby one of our employee's email account was hacked and used to disseminate several communications to third parties.

The emails transmitted to third parties purported to have been sent from the South African Revenue Service (SARS). Those communications are not legitimate emails from either the IRBA or SARS.

Accordingly, should you have received any of these purported emails from kcwala@irba.co.za in the past few weeks and unfortunately clicked on the links or entered your credentials, we advise that you immediately change your relevant passwords and/or credentials.

Should you receive similar emails in the future, we urge you to:

- a. **Exercise Caution:** Refrain from clicking on links, downloading attachments, or sharing sensitive information if you receive emails that appear unusual or unexpected.
- b. **Contact Us:** If you have any doubts or concerns regarding the authenticity of an email from the IRBA domain, please reach out to us directly using trusted contact information to validate its legitimacy.

We are currently investigating the incident in line with the IRBA's Protection of Personal Information Policy and Procedures and upon completion, the incident will be reported to the Information Regulator, in line with the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act.

The IRBA would like to assure all its stakeholders and members of the public that it continues to employ all necessary measures to protect third-party personal information within its control. Specifically, in relation to the current incident, we are pursuing all conceivable actions to minimise possible third-party exposure.

Imre Nagy

Information Officer

About the IRBA

The objective of the IRBA is to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.