

The FSCA warns the public against L'aggregation

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public against doing any financial services business with L'aggregation which is not authorised to render any financial advisory and/or intermediary services in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act No. 37 of 2002 (FAIS Act).

According to L'aggregation's [website](#), it was established in 2015 and is a trading platform that offers trading in Forex, Metals, Stocks, Exchange Goods, Stock Indices, Cryptocurrencies and Contract for Differences (CFD's) and has 256 500 open trading accounts, 84 million executed trades, more than 200 trading instruments and \$70 million daily trading volume. L'aggregation claims on its website to be regulated and authorised by the FSCA under licence number 27/927/TB/2S.

The Authority wishes to state that L'aggregation is not authorised as a financial services provider and is of the view that the entity is conducting financial services business and requires a South African financial services provider licence from the FSCA, to conduct business with South African citizens. It is therefore highly likely that they are conducting unregistered business, which is a criminal offence.

The website also claims that L'aggregation is regulated and has authorisation in foreign countries i.e. the Australian Securities and Investments Commission under licence number 352/11, Financial Conduct Authority under licence number 468/15s, Mauritius Financial Services Commission (FSC) under invest dealer's licence number C59534B32. It is stated that L'aggregation on their website state that it is a registered company at Icon Building, Office 1789, Belize City, Belize. The FSC has already informed the FSCA that L'aggregation is not authorised and/or regulated by the FSC.

The FSCA will also confirm with other foreign regulators. Of importance however is that L'aggregation still requires a South African licence to operate locally. A South African licence will subject L'aggregation to codes of conduct that are designed to protect the investors against fraud and misconduct of any financial service provider (FSP).

Members of the public should always check that an entity or individual is registered with the FSCA to provide Financial Advisory & Intermediary Services and what category of advice it is that the entity is registered to provide. There are instances where persons are registered to provide basic advisory services for a low risk product and then offer services of a far more complex and risky nature. The FSCA again reminds consumers who wish to conduct financial services with an institution or person to check beforehand with the FSCA on either the toll free number (0800 110 443) or on the website www.fsca.co.za as to whether or not such institution or person is authorised to render financial services, and in particular which financial products they are licensed for.

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