

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

<u>PRESS RELEASE</u> For immediate release

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SECP Issues Warning Against Fraudulent Social Media and WhatsApp Groups

ISLAMABAD, October 4: In view of increasing number of complaints related to fraudulent social media and WhatsApp groups operating under the guise of investment training courses, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has issued an alert, warning the public to be vary of any such investment-related schemes.

It has been observed that these groups are impersonating well-known local and international business personalities or reputable international financial companies to deceive the general public. The operators/handlers of these groups are charging fees from individuals to grant them membership, promising exclusive access to insider tips and training on investments.

SECP urges the public to exercise extreme caution and verify the authenticity of any investment-related schemes before making any payments. In addition, SECP would like to advise the public not to share any personal or financial information with these unverified sources, as it could result in significant financial loss.

Public is advised that if they encounter any such deceptive practices, they should immediately report it to SECP via the official contact channels. Protect yourself and others by spreading awareness about this scam.