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Press Release on Misuse of IMF Name

Bucharest, April 12, 2011

Today, the IMF's Regional Resident Representative in Romania and Bulgaria, Tonny Lybek, made the following statement:

"We warn the general public about scams misusing the name of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Following a number of phone calls to the IMF Resident Representative Office in Bucharest to claim cash prizes supposedly won in lotteries or bonanzas organized by institutions with names reportedly associated with the IMF (for instance, IMF Fund Claim Unit, etc.), the IMF Resident Representative Office would like to warn the general public about these scams.

"We strongly recommend not providing any personal or financial information that may be requested by the sender of such messages.

"The IMF is an international financial organization, which deals directly with its member governments, providing technical and financial assistance."

For information about the IMF, please see: <http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

For information on Romania's precautionary Stand-By Arrangement, please see the following links:

Romania and the IMF: <http://www.imf.org/external/country/ROU/index.htm>

Key documents are also available in Romanian: <http://www.fmi.ro/>