

**To:** The Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation

**Cc:** The Data Protection Commissioner

**Cc:** The officer in charge of the MNIC

**Cc:** 'No to biometric data on ID Card' platform

Sir/Madam,

I \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of Mauritius,

came to the MNIC office on \_\_\_\_\_ to apply for an ID card,  
but refused to sign my consent for the retention of my biometric data.

I do not feel safe or secure about my sensitive biometric data being taken from me and retained by the State of Mauritius and deem that no safety assurances given by the State can adequately secure my sensitive biometric data from potentially being duplicated, misused or abused.

I am also aware that there is a registered question in Parliament from the previous Minister of Information, Communications and Technology, The Honourable Second Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Mr Bhadain), under which the central data base of biometric minutiae was deleted. This question raises doubts as to whether the central biometric minutiae data base has, in fact, continued to be adequately deleted and whether a copy has been retained of the same causing another database to be created. Consequently, this increases the doubts that I have, pertaining to my security in relation to the biometric ID card project. In fact, this lack of security represents a permanent threat for all Citizens of the Republic of Mauritius who have already given their biometric minutiae.

Subsequently, if the giving and retention of my biometric data is a pre-condition to receiving an identity card for the purposes of my status as a Citizen of the Republic and the ability to receive services from the State and further, that this is done under duress of criminal proceedings being taken against me, I recommend that:

- (a)** I am able to use other forms of identification as is done in many other countries;
- (b)** that the draconian laws pertaining to the identity card are repealed further to promises made from successive Ministers in Government including the present Minister of ICT and the many objections that have been expressed and actions taken by organizations, political parties and individuals of the Republic of Mauritius to date.

I trust that these recommendations will be favourably acknowledged and accepted in the spirit of which it is being made; from that of a responsible Citizen, a conscientious objector, for concern not only for myself, but for all Citizens of the Republic of Mauritius.

Signature

