

CABINET DECISIONS – 4 SEPTEMBER 2009

1. Cabinet has taken note that attendances in hospitals and Health Centres due to Upper Respiratory Tract Infection have considerably decreased.

Cabinet has further taken note that pre-primary schools and nurseries would resume normally on 7 September 2009.

2. Cabinet has taken note of activities which would be organized to celebrate Eid-UI-Fitr at national level, viz., -

- (a) Eid Gathering at Taher Bagh, Port Louis.
- (b) A Family Gathering on 26 and 27 September 2009 at Port Louis Waterfront where various activities, inter alia, cultural items, mehendi display and application and exhibition of muslim dress, would be organized.
- (c) Programmes by Talat Aziz, famous Ghazal singer from India, and his group, from 24 to 28 September 2009.
- (d) Programmes of Ghazal by Ahmad and Muhammad Hussein, Ghazal singers from India, from 30 September to 5 October 2009.
- (e) An exhibition on calligraphy at the Islamic Cultural Centre and the China Cultural Centre by a Calligrapher from the People's Republic of China.
- (f) Broadcast by the MBC of a special programme on the theme 'Muslim in Mauritius', as well as a 'Naat' Recital by local 'naatkhangs' during the week 21 to 25 September 2009.

3. Cabinet has taken note that Divali would be celebrated at national level on 16 October 2009 at Esplanade Sir Gaëtan Duval, Mahebourg. Cabinet has further taken note that, on the occasion, a popular show with the participation of Krishna Kumar Kunnath, known as Kay Kay, would be held and an expert team from Lyon, France would provide special light effects. Buildings in Port Louis, Quatre Bornes, Curepipe, as well as Clarisse House, would be illuminated.

4. Cabinet has taken note that, as recommended by the Ministerial Committee set up to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Fact Finding Committee on ex-Lola Flooding, the Drains Management Committee has been established under the Chairmanship of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands to –

- (a) monitor progress in the construction and maintenance of drains;
- (b) ensure the effectiveness of land drainage projects; and
- (c) recommend preventive measures to mitigate flooding.

Cabinet has further taken note that the Drains Management Committee met the Chief Executives of local authorities on 28 August 2009 and directed them to –

- (a) carry out a survey of existing drains; and
- (b) prepare a list of all flood prone areas and recommend any remedial works.

The Committee would meet regularly, particularly in view of the forthcoming cyclonic season.

5. Cabinet has taken note of developments in the implementation of the Project for the Strengthening of the NGO Sector in Mauritius, which enables NGOs to play a more effective role as development partner. The outputs of the Project are, inter alia, to –

- (a) make a comprehensive assessment of the NGO Sector in Mauritius, with specific reference to its structure, performance and impact, legal and policy challenges and capacity development needs, including a complete review of MACOSS;
- (b) review the Corporate Social Responsibility policies in Mauritian enterprises, including partnerships between NGOs and the private sector; and
- (c) develop a Social Partnership Policy Framework to enhance Government-NGO-Private Sector partnership in development processes.

In this context, the Registration of Association Act would be reviewed to improve the legal and regulatory framework for the NGO sector.

6. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the visit of Ms Marie Laure Harel of Mauritian origin holding the post of *Chargé de Mission* at the Office of the President of the Republic of France at Elysée Palace and *Conseillère de Paris*. During her visit, Ms Harel met Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP, Prime Minister, with whom she discussed a project of collaboration between Mauritian doctors and retired French Professors and Consultants in various fields of medicine. In this connection, an *Accord de Coopération* would be signed shortly between *L'Assistance Publique des Hôpitaux de Paris* and the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. The French doctors would provide their services in our hospitals on a voluntary basis.

7. Cabinet has taken note of the setting up of the National Cybercrime Prevention and Protection Committee, under the aegis of the Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA), with a view to enhancing the national approach for combating cybercrimes. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are to:

- (a) provide advice for and support the promotion of a national culture of cybersecurity to minimize cybercrimes;
- (b) facilitate the establishment of international cooperation on cybercrimes;
- (c) streamline roles, responsibilities, linkages, procedures and cooperative arrangements necessary for an enhanced national approach for combating cybercrimes in collaboration with the law enforcement communities; and
- (d) strengthen Government-Industry partnerships to effectively combat cybercrimes.

8. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives would promulgate the Consumer Protection (Trade Fair and Exhibition) (Amendment) Regulations to provide for the prior approval of the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives to be obtained by organizers for the holding of trade fairs/exhibitions for even one day or two days.

9. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Industry, Science and Research would promulgate the Mauritius Standards Bureau (National Management Systems Certification Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations to provide for a legal framework for the operation of the National Occupational Health and Safety Management System Certification Scheme based on the MS OHSAS 18001 standard and aiming at supporting and promoting good occupational health and safety practices in organizations wishing to eliminate or minimize risks to personnel exposed to Occupational Health and Safety hazards associated with their trade.

10. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Labour Advisory Council with the Director, Labour and Industrial Relations as Chairperson.
