

CABINET DECISIONS – 10 JUNE 2016

1. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority has received the award of “*Meilleur Office du Tourisme*” at “*Les Victoires du Tourisme*”, a competition which aims at rewarding by categories, the best contributions of tourist professionals to the travel agents’ activities on the French market. “*Les Victoires du Tourisme*” is carried out by the most influential professional press targeted towards the Tourism Industry, namely “*Le Quotidien du Tourisme*”. Some 50 Tourism Boards were in competition.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation preparing an Action Plan for the development and adoption of the “Internet of Things”. The “Internet of Things” is a system of interrelated computing devices to provide value-added services via intelligent data processing and management for different applications. The “Internet of Things” can, *inter alia*, assist people in reinforcing their safety and security, offer various benefits to the business community, and be used to monitor waste and improve overall productivity in agriculture and farming.

3. Cabinet has taken note that the Prime Minister’s Office and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly would sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Revisiting the Linguistic and Ethnographic Specificities of Rodrigues with the University of Mauritius. The project aims at revisiting the linguistic and ethnographic specificities of Rodrigues with a view to, among others, -

- (a) providing a state-of-the-art scientific description of Rodriguan Creole;
- (b) giving an impulse to research dynamics within the scientific community, e.g., researchers of Social Studies and Humanities; and
- (c) diffusing knowledge on the findings of the research works.

4. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection signing a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of consumer protection and legal metrology with the Government of the Republic of India. The Memorandum of Understanding provides, *inter alia*, for -

- (a) collaboration in the establishment of periodical exchange of information and documents relating to legal metrology, consumer protection, welfare and awareness of consumers;
- (b) the exchange of officials, experts and professionals; and
- (c) cooperation to ensure the alignment of national standards to international standards.

5. Cabinet has taken note that the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) Examinations 2016 would be held as follows -

Date	Subject
Tuesday 25 October 2016	French
	Science
Wednesday 26 October 2016	English
Thursday 27 October 2016	History & Geography
	Asian Languages/Arabic
Friday 28 October 2016	Mathematics

Some 21,043 pupils would take part in the Examinations. The results are expected to be announced by 05 December 2016. The CPE Resit Examinations are scheduled for 20 December 2016, and the results expected by 29 December 2016. The CPE Examinations will be held for the last time as with the introduction of the Nine Year Continuous Basic Education, pupils would take part in the Primary School Achievement Certificate Assessment as from 2017.

6. Cabinet has agreed to the Second Global SIDS Conference on Anti-Corruption Reform being held in Mauritius from 02 to 04 August 2016. The theme of the Conference is "*Prevention of Corruption in the Public Procurement Process.*" The Conference would help identify strengths and weaknesses in the public procurement process, and disseminate international best practices that are being adopted in public procurement.

7. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation to Estonia where he participated in the EU ICT Week and the Estonia e-Governance Conference 2016. The Estonia e-Governance Conference 2016 offered a platform for decision makers, development partners, international donor organisations, civil society and business representatives to meet and discuss the impact of e-Governance on the economies and societies of countries.

8. Cabinet has taken note that the following activities are being organised to mark the Day of the African Child -

- (a) a roving photo exhibition on the uprising in Soweto;
- (b) an official commemoration on 16 June 2016 at the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture;

- (c) a “16 Days 16 Rights” campaign on the Rights of the Child; and
- (d) a fun day at Mahebourg Creativity Centre.

The theme chosen by the African Union is “*Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all Children’s Rights*” and the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare has chosen the theme “*Pou Nou Zanfán, Eski Nou Pe Fer Asé?*”.

9. Cabinet has taken note that, according to the last monthly report published by the Statistics Unit of the Ministry of Tourism and External Communications, 94,830 tourists visited Mauritius in May 2016 as compared to 87,067 in May 2015, i.e., an increase of 8.9%. For the period January to May 2016, tourist arrivals reached 514,658 as compared to 468,723 during the same period in 2015. Growth had been registered in arrivals from Germany (+52.1%), UK (+13.0%), India (+2.1%), France (+1.1%), Italy (+38.7%) and Reunion Island (+1.1%).

10. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Revenue Authority would host the following events of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development - Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes -

- (a) the 8th Automatic Exchange of Information Group Meeting on 5 and 6 July 2016; and
- (b) the 5th Annual Competent Authority Conference on 7 and 8 July 2016.

The Global Forum is the leading multilateral body in the area of transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes. The main activity of the Forum is to conduct peer reviews of countries to assess their compliance with the international standard on transparency and exchange of information.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security to Papua New Guinea where he participated in the 8th Summit of the ACP Heads of State and Government. The theme of the Summit was “**Repositioning the ACP Group to respond to the Challenges of Sustainable Development**”. The objectives of the Summit were to -

- (a) review the impacts of the recent key international developments on the development of ACP States, including UN Agenda 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals, issues of migration, climate change and the fight against terrorism; and
- (b) provide guidance on the future of the ACP Group as a revitalised cohesive force in advocating the interests of its Member States in the international arena.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent missions of the Minister of Arts and Culture to France and Tanzania. The Minister participated in the 6th Session of the General Assembly of State Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. Mauritius was elected Member on the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In Tanzania, the Minister of Arts and Culture participated in the International Conference on “Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development”. The Conference provided an opportunity for the sharing of experiences in the safeguarding of cultural heritage.

13. Cabinet has taken note that Mrs Marie Veronique Leu-Govind has been appointed Chairperson of the Board of Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund.

14. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Board of Visitors of the Rehabilitation Youth Centre with Mrs Premila Balgobin as Chairperson.
