

**CABINET DECISIONS – 24 JUNE 2016**

1. Cabinet agreed to the setting up of a Ministerial Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, to look into and make recommendations on the repercussion of the exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

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2. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of the Independent Police Complaints Commission Bill in the National Assembly as announced in the Government Programme 2015-2019. The object of the Bill is to provide for the establishment of an Independent Police Complaints Commission to investigate into complaints made against police officers in the discharge of their functions, other than complaints of acts of corruption or money laundering offences.

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3. Cabinet has agreed to the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection reconsidering the conditions for the importation and sale of second-hand motor vehicles to better protect the interests of consumers, following representations received to the effect that damaged and accidented motor vehicles are being imported. The current regulations would be reviewed to provide for more restrictive conditions and other additional measures, including –

- (a) the revision of the upper limit of the age criterion of the different categories of vehicles;
- (b) the imposition of new conditions in regard to the Pre-shipment Inspection Certificate;
- (c) the provision of additional certificates and information from the country of origin on vehicle imported, e.g., road worthiness certificate, certificate of identity, vehicle identification, complete history of vehicle, deregistration certificate; and
- (d) the importation and sale of second-hand vehicles to be only through an authorized dealer.

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4. Cabinet has taken note that the private Vehicle Examination Centres at Plaine Lauzun, Forest Side and Laventure would be operational as from 16 August 2016.

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5. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the round of air services negotiations held with the Republic of Madagascar on 15 June 2016. The provisions of the existing Bilateral Air Services Agreement was reconsidered and a new Memorandum of Understanding signed. The Memorandum of Understanding provides, *inter alia*, for -

- (a) the capacity entitlement of 1,350 seats per week on any type of aircraft being changed to 7 weekly frequencies per direction with any type of aircraft;

- (b) the designated airlines of each country to operate cargo services between their respective territories without capacity restrictions with third and fourth freedom traffic rights;
- (c) a new route schedule whereby the designated airline(s) of Mauritius can access to one or more points in Madagascar, one or more intermediate points, and one or more beyond points; and
- (d) the designated airlines of each country to enter into code-sharing arrangement with an airline of the same Contracting Party.

Air Mauritius will introduce a sixth weekly schedule flight to Antananarivo as from 12 July 2016.

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6. Cabinet has taken note of the arrangements that have been made by the National Property Fund Ltd (NPFL) for the repayment to policyholders of Super Cash Back Gold (SCBG) and investors of Bramer Asset Management Ltd. As from 22 June 2016, the NPFL has started paying some 1,509 policyholders of SCBG with total investments of less than Rs1 million, their total outstanding balances, without deduction of bonus and in one single payment. The remaining 4,348 SCBG policyholders would be repaid the outstanding balances in five equal instalments payable on 30 June 2016, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2019 and 30 June 2020.

As regards policyholders of SCBG having invested an amount of Rs1 million or more, various repayment options have been offered. A registration process would start on 27 June 2016 for policyholders to confirm their preferred repayment option.

Some 1,888 investors of Bramer Asset Management Limited would be repaid their outstanding amount in full and final settlement, subject to a deduction of 20%.

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7. Cabinet has taken note that the National Wage Consultative Council Act would be proclaimed on 1 September 2016. The Act provides for the establishment of the National Wage Consultative Council, which will, mainly, be responsible to make recommendations to Government on the introduction of a national minimum wage in the private and public sectors.

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8. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Health and Quality of Life would promulgate the Private Health Institutions (Fees) Regulations to review the fees payable by private health institutions, i.e., clinical laboratories, health care units, hospitals and nursing homes, for the issue and renewal of licences. The fees were last revised in 2012.

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9. Cabinet has taken note that the weighbridges, used for the weighing of sugarcane, at Mon Trésor and Rose Belle Cane Transit Sites would be closed with effect from crop 2016 in compliance with the Weighbridge Control Regulations 2012 and the Mauritius Cane Industry Authority Act and in view of future developments in the region, i.e., the Smart City Development Project at Mon Trésor, and the proposed extension of the Commercial Centre at Rose Belle.

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10. Cabinet has taken note that, on the occasion of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, in collaboration with the Municipal Town Council of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill, would, on 26 June 2016, organize a march from Beau Bassin Taxi Stand to Plaza, Rose Hill. The march aims at raising awareness about the changes of illicit drugs or drug trafficking. The theme for this year is **“Listen first, Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe.”**

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11. Cabinet has taken note that the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of Africa Regional Platform and the 5<sup>th</sup> High-level Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction would be held in Mauritius in November 2016. The Africa Regional Platform is a biennial forum that brings together African Member States, intergovernmental organizations and development partners to review progress in the implementation of the continental and global disaster risk reduction frameworks, share good practices and lessons learnt with a view to enhancing coordination, increase awareness and mobilize commitments to disaster risk reduction across Africa. The High-level Meeting of African Ministers considers and adopts the outcomes of the Regional Platform and the Africa Working Group through a Declaration, which is transmitted to the African Union Summit for endorsement.

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12. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training to Geneva, where he participated in the 105<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Conference. The Conference voted, among others, amendments to the Code of Maritime Labour Convention 2006.

In the margins of the Conference, the Minister had meetings, among others, with the Hon Deepak Vohra, Minister of Labour and Employment of the Government of Nepal, and the Hon Ms Idith Alexander, Minister of Labour and Human Resources Development of Seychelles, on bilateral issues.

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13. Cabinet has taken note that Mauritius Telecom Ltd would host the 11<sup>th</sup> ICTs for Human Capital Development Workshop for the Southern African Telecommunication Association (SATA) from 13 to 15 July 2016. The objectives of the Workshop are to provide a regional forum for Human Resources Experts to network, discuss, share knowledge on latest thinking, and come up with the way forward and future programmes for managing and developing human capital within the context of the challenges facing the ICT sector.

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14. Cabinet has agreed to the appointment of Dr Das Mootanah as Officer-in-Charge of the Road Development Authority. Dr Mootanah is the holder of a PhD in Project Management and an MSc in Civil Engineering and Project Management with distinction. He is also a fellow of the United Kingdom Institution of Civil Engineers. He has over 25 years' experience in, *inter alia*, Project Management, Strategic Management and Risk Management in major infrastructural programmes in the UK and Australia. He is currently Head of Risk for the £50 billion High Speed Rail Infrastructure programme in the United Kingdom. Mr Mootanah is also a Member of the Council of Registered Professional Engineers of Mauritius.

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15. Cabinet has taken note of the constitution of the following Committees set up under the Native Terrestrial Biodiversity and National Parks Act 2015 –

- (a) the Native Terrestrial Biodiversity and National Parks Advisory Council with Mrs Medhavi Bhowon as Chairperson;
- (b) the Scientific Authority with Mr M. Puttoo, former Director of the National Parks and Conservation Service as Chairperson;
- (c) the Invasive Alien Species Committee and the Special Technical Committee with Mr V. Bachraz, Acting Director, National Parks and Conservation Service as Chairperson; and
- (d) the National Parks and Conservation Fund Committee with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security as Chairperson.

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