

**CABINET DECISIONS - 14 JULY 2017**

1. Cabinet has taken note of the Schemes that would be managed by the Cooperative Development Fund, operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives, to assist cooperatives societies, namely -

- (a) the Upgrading of Cooperative Societies Scheme to provide assistance for the purchase of equipment and other relevant tools; the promotion of bio and green products, eco-packaging, quality and attractive labelling, barcode certification and value-added activities; and the provision of consultancy services;
- (b) the Scheme for Market Fair for Cooperative Societies to provide assistance for the organisation of market fairs;
- (c) the Scheme for Acquisition of IT Facilities to provide assistance for the procurement of a computer or a laptop; and
- (d) the Education Scheme for Cooperative Societies to assist members of Societies to attend a training course locally or abroad.

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2. Cabinet has taken note of the status of the new Modern Terminal Project at Victoria Bus Station, Port Louis. The Terminal would accommodate, among others, bays for alighting and egress of passengers; space for commercial and retail activities, including a food court and a supermarket; a hawkers zone; a dedicated taxi stand; parking space, and an overhead connection linking the Victoria Terminal to the other side of the motorway. The Concept Design of the Project would be presented to Cabinet by the Consortium led by Transinvest Construction Ltd on 21 July 2017.

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3. Cabinet has taken note that a Task Force, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, has been set up to look into arrangements to be made so that the Ganesh Chaturthi Festival is celebrated in the best possible conditions.

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4. Cabinet has taken note that a Task Force, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, has been set up to ensure that the Père Laval Pilgrimage is held in the best possible conditions.

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5. Cabinet has taken note that, according to the last monthly report published by the Statistics Unit of the Ministry of Tourism, 78,188 tourists visited Mauritius in June 2017 as compared to 71,806 in June 2016, i.e., an increase of 8.9%.

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6. Cabinet has taken note that Mauritius will participate in the *VIIIèmes Jeux de la Francophonie*, scheduled to be held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast from 21 to 30 July 2017, in six sports discipline, i.e., Athletics, Judo, Basketball, Football, Table Tennis and Wrestling, and six artistic categories, i.e., *Chanson, Danse de Création, Littérature, Photographie, Peinture et Sculpture*.

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7. Cabinet has taken note that the Hon Mrs Aruna Devi Narain, Puisne Judge, has been appointed Member of the Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal for the period 2017-2020. The Tribunal is the sole organ that arbitrates on matters related to the Secretariat's operations in the United Kingdom, and has jurisdiction to hear and determine any application brought by –

- (a) a member of staff of the Commonwealth Secretariat;
- (b) the Commonwealth Secretariat; and
- (c) any other person who enters into a contract with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

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8. Cabinet has taken note of arrangements that have been made by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life to assist Hadj pilgrims who would proceed to Saudi Arabia as from 15 August 2017. Vaccination against meningitis with vaccine ACYW 135 would be carried out, free of charge, in all regional hospitals on 22 July 2017. Medical examination of pilgrims would also be carried out in Area Health Centres, and Community Health Centres.

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9. Cabinet has taken note that the First International Conference on Next Generation Computing Applications (NextComp 2017), organised by the University of Mauritius, would be held in Mauritius in July 2017. The aim of the Conference is to address development in the state-of-the-art computing technologies through the participation of academia, and public and private institutions of various related sectors. Some 60 participants from the United Kingdom, India, South Africa, Pakistan and Reunion Island would attend the Conference.

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10. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research to Kenya where she participated in a Consultative Meeting for Ministers of Education. The main objective of the Meeting was to consider the setting up of an African Community of Practice for Ministers of Education as a platform for high level dialogue to guide Ministers' efforts towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals on Education.

In the margins of the Meeting, the Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research had discussions on cooperation with the Minister of Education of Kenya, and Dr Luis Benveniste, Director for the Education Global Practice of the World Bank.

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11. Cabinet has taken note of the recent mission of the Minister of Tourism to the Seychelles where he participated in the Cruise Tourism Workshop. The main objectives of the Workshop were to review progress, devise appropriate cruise strategy, share benchmark on regional tourism plans and tourism-related infrastructure development plans, and obtain feedback and updates from cruise liners.

In the margins of the Workshop, the Minister of Tourism had discussions, among others, with -

- (a) Mr Pascal Viroleau, Chief Executive Officer of Vanilla Islands Organisation, and Mr Alain St Ange, former Minister of Tourism and Culture of the Seychelles, on the Vanilla Islands Projects; and
- (b) the Hon Maurice Loustau-Lalanne, Minister for Tourism, Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine of the Seychelles, on collaboration on the promotion and development of tourism.

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12. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Motor Vehicle Insurance Arbitration Committee with Mr Didier Dodin, Barrister-at-Law, as Chairperson, and Mr V. Rampootab, Mr S.K. Auchoybur and Mr Z. Nazurally as Vice-Chairpersons.

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13. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Stamp Advisory Committee with Mr Louis Roland Edmond as Chairperson.

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